

# **WITN-TV**

# **Washington, NC**

## **QUARTERLY LISTING OF COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS**

April 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016

## Community Action

*Program: WITN News at 5:00pm*

*Length: 2:16*

*Date: April 1, 2016*

*Time: 5:13pm*

WITN News anchor Lindsay Oliver spoke with representatives of Greene County Child Protective Services about Child Abuse Awareness month. Sharonne Harrell, supervisor of department and Shalisa Baker, social worker informed viewers about the upcoming Child Abuse Prevention Carnival on April 4<sup>th</sup> in Snow Hill that will include information booths and a chance for residents to meet departmental staff.

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise*

*Length: 1:58*

*Date: April 20, 2016*

*Time: 6:24am*

WITN News at Sunrise meteorologist Jim Howard conducted a live interview with representatives of the Plymouth Living History weekend planned in Washington County. Breatte Garrison with the group talked about how the scheduled events would allow visitors to reconnect with history through historical reenactments and displays.

*Program: WITN News at 5:00pm*

*Length: 2:04*

*Date: June 1, 2016*

*Time: 5:14pm*

WITN News anchor Lindsay Oliver hosted a live interview to discuss tips for avoid tragic outcomes with children in hot cars. Lisa Woolard with the Beaufort/Hyde Partnership for Children offered parents several tips to prevent heat stroke that included vowing to never leave children alone in a car, even for a few minutes and setting a routine of always checking the backseat anytime that one parks a car. Lisa offered several additional tips to ensure that such a tragedy never occurs.

## Crime & Public Safety

*Program: WITN News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 2:11*

*Date: April 28, 2016*

*Time: 6:03pm*

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WITN News anchor/reporter Dave Jordan offered a sobering report for viewers to show what happens to personal records when disabled and damaged automobiles are towed to salvage yards. Dave spoke with Rusty Mills of Mills Auto Salvage and then examined several abandoned autos to find personal records including blank checks, pay stubs, W2 forms, billing statements left in these vehicles. Dave then visited with one individual whose personal information was left in her abandoned vehicle and help point out the importance of removing records from vehicles prior to salvage.

*Program: WITN News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 1:54*

*Date: May 16, 2016*

*Time: 6:04pm*

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WITN News reporter McKenzie Roberts provided a report about active shooter training incorporated by the Greenville Police Department and Pitt County Sheriff's Department. McKenzie spoke with Russell Needel of the Kellum Law Firm who recounted an incident in which an active shooter fired shots at the law firm and then crossed the street into a busy shopping center. Greenville Deputy Chief of Police Ted Sauls and Detective Michael Stroud of the Pitt County Sheriff's Department reviewed the yearly training in which officer's stage and practice their responses to such an incident.

*Program: WITN News at 5:00pm*

*Length: 1:48*

*Date: May 17, 2016*

*Time: 5:02pm*

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WITN News anchor/reporter Ariel Placencia rode along with a pair of Greenville Police officers as they discussed how they would respond in the light of recent ambushes on law enforcement officers. Officers Brian Grady and Jesse Fisher explained the precautions they take while approaching stopped vehicles and criminal suspect while Ted Sauls, Greenville Police Department Deputy Chief reviewed procedures taught to the department's officers.

## Education

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise - Sunday*

*Length: 1:51*

*Date: April 3, 2016*

*Time: 8:04am*

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WITN News anchor/reporter Lynnette Taylor reported on a visit to East Carolina University by the new President of the UNC system Margaret Spelling. Lynnette spoke with President Spelling about challenges facing the University of North Carolina system. Meanwhile, Amy Bright president of the LGBT Student Union at ECU expressed her group's dissatisfaction at the Spelling hire, citing her associations with President George W. Bush and For Profit educational institutions while Kieran Shanahan, Board of Trustees Vice-Chair pointed out that Spelling is a leader willing to engage in dialogue with all parties.

*Program: WITN News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 1:39*

*Date: April 8, 2016*

*Time: 6:02pm*

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WITN News New Bern Bureau Chief Staci Strong reported on a program at HJ McDonald Middle School in New Bern that is providing educational grants to the school. Pam Collins a 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts teacher explained how her students were assisting in writing grants for technical funding. Michael Haynes, Stem Leader at the school said this provided his students with funds to engage in a robotics program in which his students built and coded robotic devices.

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise*

*Length: 2:18*

*Date: June 5, 2016*

*Time: 6:45am*

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WITN News at Sunrise anchor Heather King introduced viewers to this week's WITN/NCEL "Teacher of the Week". Heather spoke with Kady Long of North Lenoir High School about her teaching philosophy and accomplishments. Long is a teacher in World History, Civics and Economics and serves as a mentor in the NEST program for at-risk students. Ms. Long talked about having high expectations for her students while also forming a deep connection with them to show concerns for success.

WITN ISSUE/PROGRAMS LIST

DATE: 4/01/16 - 6/30/16

## Environment & Weather

*Program: WITN News at 5:30pm*

*Length: 1:46*

*Date: April 6, 2016*

*Time: 5:42pm*

WITN News anchor/reporter Dave Jordan conducted a live interview with a representative of Pitt County for National County Government month. Dave spoke with Paula Clark, the recycling coordinator for the county and Paula advised viewers about an upcoming shred event and also explained the various items that can be deposited at the various recycling centers located throughout the county.

*Program: WITN 7 News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 1:12*

*Date: April 18, 2016*

*Time: 6:09pm*

WITN News anchor Lynnette Taylor and meteorologist Matt Engelbrecht discussed the River Guardians Environmental Symposium at River Park North in Greenville. Matt shared visuals from the event and spoke about his participation as one of several guest speakers at the event that brought together more than 350 students from seven counties to talk about environmental concerns and programs in eastern North Carolina.

*Program: WITN News at 11:00pm*

*Length: 1:47*

*Date: April 22, 2016*

*Time: 11:05pm*

WITN News anchor/reporter Lindsay Oliver reported on an Earth Day project manned by marines from the Combat Engineer School at Camp Lejeune in conjunction with Onslow County Solid Waste and Keep Onslow Beautiful. The marines worked to clean up the beaches and shoreline along the New River and in the process collected several hundred pounds of trash.

WITN ISSUE/PROGRAMS LIST  
DATE: 4/01/16 - 6/30/16

## Health

*Program: WITN News at 5:00pm*

*Length: 1:43*

*Date: April 4, 2016*

*Time: 5:05pm*

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WITN News anchor/reporter Lindsay Oliver hosted a live interview with representatives of an upcoming City of Greenville Senior Health Fair. Barbara Avery, Emily Sniezek and Kathleen Shank from the city explained that the event would take place at the city's Aquatics & Fitness Center and would offer several free health screenings from local healthcare providers.

*Program: WITN News Early Sunrise*

*Length: 2:02*

*Date: April 11, 2016*

*Time: 5:55am*

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WITN News at Sunrise anchor Heather King spoke two instructors from the Nursing and Health Sciences Departments of Pitt Community College about another free Health Fair at the community college. Lynne Braxton and Tami Flynn explained to viewers that the Health Fair would include free screenings for Blood Pressure, a Pulse Oximetry analysis, a Carotid Artery screening and CPR demonstrations.

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise*

*Length: 2:1*

*Date: June 6, 2016*

*Time 6:24am*

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WITN News at Sunrise anchor Heather King reviewed a Diabetes Prevention Program with Robin Tank, Joan Mansfield and Shirley Gibson of the Pitt County Health Department. The guests explained that the department was starting a new program to encourage high risk persons to get more active and adjust their diets. The program is being designed to assist, inform and motivate those with a risk of diabetes.

WITN ISSUE/PROGRAMS LIST  
DATE: 4/01/16 - 6/30/16

## Local Economy

*Program: WITN News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 1:39*

*Date: April 18, 2016*

*Time: 6:05pm*

WITN News reporter Stacia Strong filed a report about concerns on the Crystal Coast regarding the tourism impact of North Carolina's HB2 legislation. Stacia interviewed Carol Lohr, Crystal Coast Tourism Director about potential vacation rental cancellations by out-of-state visitors while Joel Fortune, Indian Beach commissioner said he fully supported the Governor's position on the legislation and feels that the negative reactions are minor and only temporary.

*Program: WITN News at 5:00pm*

*Length: 1:51*

*Date: May 18, 2016*

*Time: 5:05pm*

WITN News reporter McKenzie Roberts reported on the impact of cold and rainy weather on local agriculture. Rod Gurganus, Beaufort County Extension Agent said that the wet crops were impacting local farmers, a \$120-million industry in the county, and that wheat fields were damaged caused local farmers to face low prices and low yields.

*Program: WITN News at 5:30pm*

*Length: 1:48*

*Date: May 26, 2016*

*Time: 5:41pm*

WITN News anchor/reporter Elise Ramey filed a report discussing Kinston's shortage of hotel space as a weekend baseball tournament was set to get underway. Tyler Potter, Tournament Director explained that the National Junior College Athletic Association World Series at Grainger Stadium was providing a boost to the local economy, but that a shortage of hotel rooms was impacting participants. Jan Parson the Director of Visit Kinston said that the city was adding 2 additional hotels by 2017 and that would help in future efforts to secure this type of event.

WITN ISSUE/PROGRAMS LIST  
DATE: 4/01/16 - 6/30/16

## Substance Abuse & Education

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise - Sunday*

*Length: 2:11*

Date: April 17, 2016

Time: 8:02am

WITN News New Bern Bureau Chief Stacia Strong provided the tragic story of a mother dealing with the heroin overdose death of her son. Cindy Patane of Sneads Ferry wanted to share her tragic story about her son, a high school athlete that ended on heroin after becoming addicted to painkillers following an injury. Ms. Patane talked about the high cost of rehabilitation and difficulties of getting treatment.

*Program: WITN News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 2:22*

Date: May 3, 2016

Time: 6:04pm

WITN News anchor/reporter Lynnette Taylor provided a targeted special report on the heroin epidemic occurring in the east. Lynnette shared the testimony of “Merle” a local heroin addict who mentioned that growing up in that environment and then treating a knee injury with painkillers led him down the path to heroin addiction. Lynnette also interviewed Lee Avery a Greenville EMS worker who talked about how local emergency personnel had been responding to a growing number of opiate overdoses.

*Program: WITN News at 5:00pm*

*Length: 1:58*

Date: May 9, 2016

Time: 5:12pm

WITN News anchor/reporter Dave Jordan filed a targeted special report that addressed the issue of synthetic drugs and the ease with which they can be obtained. Dave spoke with Yvonne Tetterton of Washington whose son had recently died as the result of a synthetic drug overdose. Yvonne spoke about the years of rehabilitation that her son experienced as a result of dealing with mental health issues. She then explained that she was surprised to find out how easily her son was able to obtain these synthetic drugs over the Internet using a credit card. Yvonne warned viewers to the danger of these cheap synthetic drugs.