

Issues/Programs Report WQPC/WPRE

QTR 1 2021

Prepared by: Gabe Buch (Operations Manager)

WQPC airs produced news reports at 7am, 8:00am, 8:30am, 12:30pm and 5:00pm. A community affairs/interview program airs weekdays at 9am.

WPRE airs produced news reports at 7:15am, 8:15am, 8:45, and 12pm. A community spotlight interview program airs at 10am.

A number of significant local news stories were covered. Some of the highlights include:

January

4-Crawford County Public Health Department Goes to Stage 2 of COVID Plan

With over half of the 8 metrics being in the clear Crawford County Public Health Department determined the county was ready to move forward to phase 2 which includes: 50% occupancy rate, indoor gathers 50 people or less, outdoor 100 people or less, and continue social distances practices.

A) News Stories January 4 and 5: 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

6-Sheriff Dreckman Becomes the Badger State Sheriff Association President

The Grant County Sheriff's office announced that Sheriff Dreckman became the President of the Organization that represents all 72 sheriff and their needs and resources. Dreckman has been a member of the organization since 2012.

A) News Stories January 6 and 7: 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

12- Senator Brad Pfaff Announces Applications for 2021 Senate Scholar Program

A student from each of the 32 district will be represented in the virtual program. Students get the opportunity to attend roundtable sessions with capital staff and senators, have educational sessions on research/development of legislation and bill drafting. The application was open for a months time.

A) News Stories January 12, 13, and 14: 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

19- Lancaster Common Council Approves Hunting on City Land

A 6-1 vote approved public hunting on city land known as Lancaster Trail. The proposal was sent to the City Attorney to draft a City Ordinance. A member of the Police Department would get the ultimate say on who can hunt on the land.

A) News Stories January 19,20, and 21: 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

25- Names Released of Dead in Grant County House Fire

Two were killed in an overnight house fire in Blue River. One was a 33 male and the other was a 12 year male. Two additional children were in critical care at Madison and Milwaukee hospitals.

A) News Stories January 25,26, and 27: 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

February

3- Representatives from Senator Baldwin, Representative Kind, Brad Pfaff to Hold a Covid 19 Vaccine Roundtable.

Crawford County requested a roundtable with these representatives in regards to the lack of supply of vaccines being offered to the county. Residents are asked to send any questions or concerns prior to the meeting. All representatives were receptive to the issue and were working to find solutions.

A) News Stories February 5,6, and 7: 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

5- Governor Tony Evers announce 2021-23 Wisconsin State Budget

Evers announced a 43-million dollar budget that is designed to help the state's rural economy. The next couple of months will be used to refine the budget and will be passed in the summer.

A) News Stories February 5,6, and 7: 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

18-The Great River Road Byways Designated as an “All American Road”

The Great River Road the runs along the Mississippi had 8 of its byways designated as an All American Road. With certain perimeters needing to be met the road. The Great River Claims 8 out of the 15 awards this year.

A) News Stories February 18 and 19: 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

26- US Senator Tammy Baldwin Supports the Restaurants Act 2021

Baldwin is in support of the reintroduction of the bipartisan bill that would bring 120 billion revitalization funds to restaurant and small franchisee's as they term long term effects of the COVID 19 shut down. Owners will be able to apply for grants if passed.

A) News Stories February 26,27, and 28: 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

March

2- Governor Evers adds a Johnson and Johnson Vaccine to Wisconsin's Vaccine Plan

With the FDA authorization of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine 47,000 doses of the vaccine were added to Wisconsin's roll out plan. Governor Evers called this a game changer because it will help with the supply shortage in the state.

A) News Stories March 2,3, and 4:7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

8- Crawford County Stays in Phase 3

The County announces that they will stay in this phase until widespread protections are available. They are hoping vaccines continue to come to the county to get the widespread protection to the majority of the community. They also remind the community to keep safety in mind with upcoming holidays.

A) News Stories March 8,9, and 10:7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

18- US Representative Ron Kind on 2021, American Rescue Plan, and COVID Vaccinations.

Representative Ron Kind talked about the start of 2021 including the events at the capitol on Jan 6th and the days following it. He also discussed how the American Rescue Plan would be a great thing for everyone in South West Wisconsin. He also urged everyone to get the COVID vaccine when they were able to get it.

A) News Stories March 18,19,20, and 22 : 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

B) This was a taped interview and replayed on air.

25- US Senator Tammy Baldwin Discusses the Importance of the American Rescue Act on the 11th Anniversary of the Affordable Care Act

Senator Baldwin talked about the improvements in the American Rescue Act that will be able to help many Wisconsinites in the midst of a global pandemic by lowering premiums and having a new enrollment period.

A) News Stories March 25,26, and 27 : at 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

B) This interview was taped and replayed.

In addition to the coverage of significant news stories and community issues, WQPC/WPRE continued to broadcast interviews with local and regional elected officials, candidates, including (but not limited to):

- Brad Pfaff
- Travis Tranel

Interviews with people from various departments, such as:

- Kristin from Clayton County Pork Producers

- Amanda Griswold – UW Extension – Aging Mastery Class
- Crawford County Dairy Royalty
- Dan Shickert- Legion Baseball Fundraiser
- New Business Spotlight- “Funky Zebra”
- Kari Sanding – For Pete’s Sake Sober Living
- Kendra Jentz- National FFA Week
- Tom Nelson & Chad Abram- Heart & Cancer Telethon
- Wonder Workers 4-H Club Food Drive
- Troy Moris – Grant County Health Department- Radon Testing
- Weekly Interview with Prairie du Chien Police Chief Kyle Teynor

Report prepared on April 8, 2021 by Gabe Buch