

**QUARTERLY ISSUES  
AND  
PROGRAMS REPORT**

**WNEM TV5  
WNEM-DT  
BAY CITY/FLINT/MIDLAND AND SAGINAW**

**OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2021**

## **PROBLEMS AND NEEDS**

### **OVERVIEW**

Based on WNEM's ascertainment of community leaders and from data gathered from community organizations, the highest-ranking problems and needs of the Bay City/Flint/Midland and Saginaw markets are:

1. Jobs/Economy
2. Crime
3. Weather
4. School/Campus
5. Politics

## **ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT**

### **OVERVIEW**

The following is the quarterly “Issues and Programs” Report placed in the public file of WNEM at the open of business day January 10, 2022. The report covers the period from October 1 thru December 31, 2021. The report is based on significant problems and needs determined by WNEM’s community ascertainments. Below each problem/need is a brief description of some news segments broadcast during the quarter designated to call attention to or address the problem or need.

## WNEM

### BAY CITY/FLINT/MIDLAND AND SAGINAW

October 1 – December 31, 2021

*DATE/PROGRAM    ISSUE /TITLE    SOURCE*

#### 1. JOBS & ECONOMY

**10/1/2021 – 6:00 pm - Priority Waste takes over trash pickup in Flint – Local-  
Runtime: 1:46**

After controversy surrounding waste pickup in the city of Flint, a new waste contractor started rolling out in Flint on Friday. Priority Waste will be picking up garbage throughout the city, under a three-year contract worth nearly \$20 million.

**10/5/2021 – 6:00pm - Bronner’s Struggles to Find Employees – Local -  
Runtime: 1:51**

Pandemic worker shortages are traveling to the North Pole as the world’s largest Christmas store is struggling to get employees. Bronner’s Christmas Wonderland said there about 150 to 200 positions that need to be filled.

**11/ 10/2021 - 6pm - Allegiant Receives \$200K to Support Operational Base at Flint Bishop Airport –  
Local - Runs 2:10**

Allegiant’s forthcoming operational base at Flint Bishop International Airport is receiving a \$200,000 grant to support new jobs and a new aircraft. Allegiant plans to begin base operations in Flint in mid-February 2022, generating nearly \$77 million in private investment and creating 88 new high-wage jobs. Michigan was chosen for the project over other competing sites across the country.

**11/22/2021 - 6pm - \$1 Million Investment into Owosso Business – Local- Runs 1:39**

The governor’s office announced Monday that 100 new jobs and a \$1 million investment that will highlight Michigan’s travel and tourism industries. Michigan was chosen for the project over competing sites in Florida, Mississippi, and Tennessee. The project will expand Crest Marine’s Owosso Township facility.

**12/20/2021 – 5:00pm – New law paves way for more school bus drivers – Local -  
Runtime: 2:22**

School districts across the state have been dealing with several different issues during the pandemic, but one consistent issue has been finding enough school bus drivers to get students into classrooms. A bill recently signed into law expands the pool of candidates who can legally become a bus driver.

**12/24/2021 – 6:00pm – Gift Card Program Helping Bay City Businesses – Local -  
Runtime: 2:33**

A buy one get one gift card program in a local county is injecting tens of thousands of dollars into small businesses in the area. The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, Bay Future, and Consumers Energy teamed up recently to give residents a reason to shop small. Within ten minutes of opening up orders for "Buy BC's" buy one get one gift card program, everything was sold out.

## **2. Crime**

**10/15/2021 – 11:00pm – Father of son shot tired of seeing violence in Saginaw – Local -  
Runtime: 2:34**

A mid-Michigan father is opening up after his son was gunned down in a drive-by shooting. Early Sunday morning, a 21-year-old Darius Jackson was shot in the back seat of a car.

**10/22/2021 -5:00pm – Suspect arraigned after 4 killed in Clare County – Local -  
Runtime: 2:09**

A woman is facing eight felony charges in connection with the deaths of four people in Clare County. Judy Boyer, 54, was arrested after two people died from a shooting at a residence on S. Harrison Avenue on Wednesday, Oct. 20. Two other people were later found dead on the property. The victims include a 39-year-old man, a 36-year-old man, an 85-year-old man, and a 61-year-old woman. The Clare County Prosecutor said all four victims were shot and died on the same day.

**11/12/2021, 11pm, Saginaw County Using Thermal Imaging Drone Technology to Fight Crime – Local -  
Runs 2:05**

A huge presence of law enforcement that culminated with the arrest of a man suspected of a break-in was done with the help from drone technology. Saginaw is taking to the air to fight crime, but not with a helicopter like it's southerly neighbor Flint."We have the drone locally, we can put it up in the air fast, and we've got all the technology with forward looking infra-red, everything that the helicopter has, but it's a quicker response and you won't even know it's up above you," Federspiel said.

**11/30/2021, 6pm, Oxford High School Shooting- Local - Runs 2:02**

Three students are dead, and eight other people injured when a 15-year-old opens fire inside Oxford High School in Oakland County. The shooter was taken into custody.

**12/20/2021 – 11:00pm - 23 kids face charges for making copycat threats – Local -  
Runtime: 1:58**

A local prosecutor is hoping for a safer new year for students after dozens of fake threats have been made following the deadly shooting at Oxford High School. Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton said he hopes the copycat threats die down after the holidays.

**12/21/2021 – 5:00pm – Suspect killed, 2 officers injured in officer-involved shooting – Local -  
Runtime:2:30**

A suspect was killed and two police officers were injured following an officer-involved shooting in Burton on Tuesday. It happened in the area of Saginaw Street and Bristol Road Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 21. Central dispatch put out a call about 1:56 p.m. for a person with a gun in the area of Columbine and Bristol.

### **3. Weather**

**10/10/2021 – 10:00pm - Farmer says rain is damaging pumpkin crop – Local -  
Runtime: 1:51**

A bleak outlook for a fall favorite this year as the weather is affecting the pumpkin harvest. Pumpkins are very popular in the fall, but the glorious gourds are going through a rough patch.

**10/18/2021 – 5:30pm – Task force begins work stabilizing Sanford Dam – Local -  
Runtime: 1:54**

The Four Lakes Task Force will soon begin work on stabilizing the most complex structure in its post-flood restoration process - the Sanford Dam. The work includes demolishing parts of the spillways and reinforcing the embankments.

**11/ 2/2021, - 5:30pm - Lawmakers Push for More Solar Energy in Homes – Local – Runs 2:36**

A bipartisan bill introduced by Michigan lawmakers is allowing more residents to install roof-top solar panels as the state continues the push for more renewable and sustainable energy. The legislation removes the cap on installing solar panels at homes to lower energy costs and keep the power on even during big outages.

**11/10/ 2021 - 6am - A Look Back at the Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald – Local – Runs 4:34**

TV5 Meteorologist Chris Easlick takes a look back at the historic sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald on Lake Superior in 1975. The ship went down during heavy gale wind advisories.

**12/15/2021 – 10:00pm – Roofing business busy after recent severe weather – Local -  
Runtime: 1:45**

Recent blasts of high winds caused damage across mid-Michigan by snapping trees, utility poles and tearing shingles off roofs. The damage has kept one mid-Michigan roofing business busy as calls continue.

**12/27/2021 – 5:00pm – Snowboarders, skiers take advantage of snowfall – Local - Runtime: 1:49**

Monday morning's snow was welcome news for skiers and snowboarders across the state who were waiting for some fresh snow to hit the slopes. Mt. Holly stayed busy as customers hit the slopes.

#### **4. School/Campus**

**10/07/2021 – 6:00pm - School districts trying to stop social media 'slap a teacher' challenge – Local- Runtime: 2:33**

A local school district is putting the hammer down when it comes to new social media trends encouraging students assault their teachers. Last month, the "Devious Licks" challenge went viral encouraging students to steal and vandalize school property. This month, teachers across the country are on alert for the slap a teacher challenge. New Lothrop Area Public Schools Superintendent, Anthony Berthiaume, is not mincing words about the latest tik-tok challenge.

**10/13/2021 – 6:00pm – Saginaw Public Schools enrollment up for first time in more than 10 years – Local - Runtime: 2:03**

Saginaw Public Schools' Count Day revealed some good news after a rough year and a half of pandemic issues and virtual learning. The district's total student numbers increased reversing a decade plus trend of decline.

**11/ 15/2021 - 5pm - Mask Mandate to be Lifted in Genesee County Schools – Local – Runs 1:54**

The Genesee County Health Department announces the School Masked Mandate will be lifted for some students in the month of December.

**11/30/2021 - 11pm - Local Expert Talks About What Training He Gives School Leaders to Prepare for School Shootings – Local – Runs 1:50**

Tom Mynsberge is the critical incident manager for multiple local school districts.

"This is what we set our schools up for, this is what we do training for. If the shooting is spontaneous and it takes off, then it's up to our staff to react immediately by the training that I give them, to ensure that the kids are in a sheltered or safe area. Then the administration and the other groups make sure they get ahead of responders,"

**12/13/2021 – 5:00pm – Hemlock Public Schools offering promotional benefits to get more substitute teachers – Local - Runtime: 2:11**

School staffing shortages continue to put more burdens on school districts across the country and in mid-Michigan. Hemlock Public Schools is upping the ante to address the substitute teacher shortage.

**12/15/2021 – 6:00pm - Mt. Pleasant mother accuses school of strip searching son – Local -  
Runtime: 2:16**

A Mt. Pleasant Middle School parent is accusing the district of strip searching her son and placing him in isolated suspension. On Monday, the sixth grader joined a protest against the school with the National Parents Union. The group said they have filed complaints with the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice.

## **5. Politics**

**10/18/2021 – 10:00pm – Flint City Council discusses COVID relief funds – local-  
Runtime: 2:20**

The Flint City Council's special meeting with residents was a time for community members to voice their opinion on how the \$47 million in covid-19 relief funds should be spent. The money is designated for state and local governments to invest in assets and rebuild financial stability, but it's ultimately up to each jurisdiction to decide where the money goes.

**10/20/2021 – 10:00pm – Former Flint mayor on water settlement – local -  
Runtime: 2:46**

The more than \$641 million settlement in the Flint water crisis is going to shrink. This is the result of a ruling by a federal judge that will keep one of the parties involved, even if it is for a smaller amount. A prominent figure since the early days of the crisis calls the decision insulting.

**11/1/2021 - 11pm - Flint Residents: Change Needed in Leadership of Flint City Council – Local – Runs  
2:36**

Voters and city leaders are preparing for election day on Tuesday. Several city council seats are up for grabs, with three seats needing to be filled and four incumbent city council members facing challengers. Flint City Council meetings are notorious for lasting into the early morning hours and being dysfunctional.

Many Flint residents share a craving to change the city's leadership.

**11/ 15/2021 - 6pm - New Flint City Council Ready to Get to Work After False Start – Local – Runs 2:01**

After a false start, the new members of the Flint City Council are ready to get to work. The council's first meeting didn't count, because the Flint Votes were not validated in time by the Flint City Clerk.

**12/15/2021 – 5:00pm - Legislation aims to lower alcohol serving age – local -  
Runtime: 2:14**

Restaurants are scrambling to hire workers headed into a busy holiday season as they wrestle with unprecedented staffing shortages. But now, legislation in Lansing aims to tap into a new group of potential hires.

**12/20/2021 – 6:00pm - County official investigating potential petition fraud – Local -  
Runtime: 2:41**

A new chapter in the drama over the attempted recall of a local school board member. Matthew Smith was censured after pleading guilty to making a malicious phone call. A petition aiming to remove him from the Davison School Board needs signatures to take effect. Attempts to recall Matthew Smith from his seat on the Davison Board of Education are hitting a road block, after an alleged fraudulent signature made its way onto the petition.