

Quarterly Issues/Programs Report

Station Call Letters: **WZZM**
Location (City, State): **Grand Rapids/Battle Creek/Kalamazoo**
For quarter beginning: **July - September 2023**

January 1, 2023

April 1, 2023

July 1, 2023

October 1, 2023

Attached are descriptions of issue-responsive programming broadcasts by this station during the reporting period on the days and times indicated. Each program regularly provides information or addresses current local issues of concern to viewers in the area where our station is located.

LOCAL ISSUES ADDRESSED DURING THE QUARTER

The following are local issues of concern to the community. Programs that addressed these issues during this reporting period are listed on the following pages.

1. **Community** – The West Michigan region is comprised of several cities, each with its own identity and a real sense of community. WZZM is dedicated to covering the kinds of stories that allow each community to maintain its unique identity, while also focusing on the issues and stories that bind us all together.
2. **Crime/Safety** – With growth come challenges. The West Michigan region has experienced tremendous economic growth, bringing with it concerns about crime and personal safety.
3. **Diversity/Social Justice** – As the country grapples with issues of race and ethnicity, the movement toward greater social justice is very much a part of the conversation in West Michigan. Issues such as fair housing, racial reconciliation, diversity, equity, and inclusion are all being addressed.
4. **Economic Development** – Grand Rapids and several lakeshore communities continue to experience healthy economic growth. From new businesses to expansion of long-standing community institutions, there is tremendous potential for further growth. At the same time, employers in certain fields are challenged to find qualified or willing workers. Families are looking for ways to make their personal economies healthier, becoming smarter consumers and spending their money wisely.
5. **Education** – Among the many concerns are funding for education, the achievement gap, declining test scores, Michigan's third grade reading law/falling literacy rates and preparing our future work force.
6. **Health** – West Michigan is home to the Michigan State Medical School, the VanAndel Research Institute and many local health care providers. Changes in healthcare and developments in disease research and treatment are breaking news in this medical community.
7. **Family/Youth** – Issues and stories that will strengthen the lives of children and families are critical to the health and well-being of our community.

ISSUE: COMMUNITY

| PROGRAM | DESCRIPTION | DATE | TIME | DURATION |
|----------------|---|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| WZZM 13 | A celebration of life for former Kent County deputy Marcelo Aranda will be held this afternoon. Aranda died after a brief illness on June 10th while in Mexico. The celebration will take place at Terra Square on Chicago Drive in Hudsonville from 1 to 4 pm on Sunday. Earlier this year Aranda was found not guilty of allegedly beating a driver at a rest stop in August of 2022. | 7/8/2023 | 6am | 0:29 |
| WZZM 13 | An event this weekend is celebrating new parents while also helping them get care for their newborn babies. The Great Start Collaborative is throwing a community baby shower. Each guest will receive free diapers, wipes, and other infant essentials. As well as get connected to other community resources. | 7/21/2023 | 6am | 0:21 |
| WZZM 13 | The National Baby Food Festival is underway in Fremont. The four-day festival features many activities including the popular baby crawl and baby food eating competition. There are also two parades, a car show and an arts and crafts show. Gerber has been a major part of the Fremont Community for nearly a century. A new exhibit at the Chamber of Commerce showcase, gives the community a closer look at what goes on behind the scenes at Gerber. | 7/21/2023 | 11pm | 0:24 |
| WZZM 13 | 22 veterans a day commit suicide, and one local group is helping bring awareness to this statistic. 22aday.org is partnering with multiple American Legion Posts within West Michigan. 2 large white crosses will be planted each day at noon in a field south of LMCU Ballpark to honor veterans. | 7/22/2023 | 630pm | 0:23 |
| WZZM 13 | The beach at Wabasis Lake in Kent County is back open just in time for the weekend. The beach closed Thursday after tests revealed high levels of E-Coli. New tests came back showing the water is safe for swimmers. It is the second busiest of the four beaches the county monitors. | 7/29/2023 | 11pm | 0:16 |

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| WZZM 13 | A nature trail in Grand Rapids dedicated to helping people heal and find peace, is getting a new feature. The Saint Francis Sculpture Garden held a groundbreaking ceremony for a new pedestrian bridge. The bridge and garden trail are fully ADA compliant and open to the public. It is at the Marywood Campus of the Dominican sisters on Fulton Street. | 7/29/2023 | 11pm | 0:19 |
| WZZM 13 | It anchors away at the 99th annual Coast Guard Festival. 125-thousand people packed the city on Saturday alone. That is not even half of the number of people organizers expect to attend the rest of the festival. From ship tours to concerts, there is something for everyone. This is the 99th annual Coast Guard Festival. It started as a picnic and has grown into a celebration of Coast Guard service men and women. | 7/31/2023 | 6am | 0:28 |
| WZZM 13 | Today is the last day of Bissell Pet Foundation's July Empty the Shelters event. Adoption fees are reduced to 50 dollars or less at shelters across West Michigan, including Harbor Humane Society. They are hoping to entice people to take home a furry friend today with some inspiration from Barbie. On Instagram, the shelter is pairing adoptable pups with barbie dolls. Elsa is the "swimming barbie", Chef is the "perfect ken", CeCe is the "adventure Barbie" and more. The doll descriptions coordinating with each dog. All of them are looking for their "fur-ever" homes. | 7/31/2023 | 6am | 0:43 |
| WZZM 13 | Beyonce was in Detroit nearly a week ago, but she is leaving a lasting impact on the community. Beyonce announced that she would be donating 1-million dollars in scholarships to colleges along her tour. The Detroit School for Digital Technology is now one of those recipients. | 7/31/2023 | 6am | 0:30 |
| WZZM 13 | An Ottawa County man just finished a 500-mile bike ride across Iowa to help raise money to support his granddaughter. Enna has Spinal Bifida, a condition that impacts her spine and makes mobility difficult. Her family is looking to make that a little easier by | 7/31/2023 | 6am | 0:32 |

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| | getting a wheelchair accessible van which costs 70-thousand dollars. | | | |
| WZZM 13 | Corewell Health has achieved two milestones that have given hundreds of people a second chance at life. There was a celebration tonight on the medical mile in Grand Rapids for those milestones. The Richard DeVos Heart and Lung Transplant Program has done 200 heart transplants since the first one in 2010. It has also placed 500 ventricular assist devices, which help pump blood from the heart to the rest of the body. The first procedure was in 2009. Melissa Rockey from Allendale says her husband received his new heart in May of 2020. She calls the care at Corewell "impeccable." | 7/31/2023 | 11pm | 0:33 |
| WZZM 13 | 13 On Your Side is working to help children go back to school with the supplies they need. We are partnering with 'Heart of West Michigan United Way' to "Stuff the Bus". We want to fill a school bus with supplies to give to local schools, but we need your help! On Wednesday, August 9 th , we will have a school bus in the 13 On Your Side parking lot, and we will have 13 hours to fill it. So please drive by and drop off supplies. | 8/1/2023 | 6am | 0:25 |
| WZZM 13 | There is lots to do in West Michigan this weekend. Today, the Grand Rapids Hispanic Festival is kicking off. There is food, live music, dancing, and a wide range of cultures to enjoy. It is at Calder Plaza all weekend long and kicks off tonight at 5. You can visit the Hispanic center's website for more details. | 8/4/2023 | Noon | 0:19 |
| WZZM 13 | Among the thousands to be driven out of their homes, a West Michigan native and her loved ones. Kayleigh Orr Anacleto and her family were living in Lahaina when the Hawaii fires broke out. Today, they are safe with friends at a distance. Her mother here in Grand Rapids says because of almost no cell phone reception on that side of the island, it is hard to get updates. | 8/12/2023 | 6am | 3:46 |
| WZZM 13 | Plainfield Township is welcoming hundreds of athletes and volunteers this weekend. Versluis Park is home to the | 8/12/2023 | 11pm | 0:24 |

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| | 2023 Michigan Titanium triathlon. It kicked off today with a kids race. But the main event is tomorrow. It is a full triathlon with 2.4 miles of swimming, 112 miles of biking, and 26.2 miles of running. | | | |
| WZZM 13 | The community is coming together after Thursday's tornado ripped through Kent County. Everyone lending a hand to one another, as they piece together what was lost. We spotted a group of Comstock Park children, helping a neighborhood cleanup the debris. For many of these kids, the tornado was unlike anything they had seen before, but that didn't stop them from lending a hand to the community. | 8/27/2023 | 11pm | 0:24 |
| WZZM 13 | It is going to take up to 7-million dollars to repair damage to the 'Boys and Girls Club of the Muskegon Lakeshore.' This comes after a fire was set last month, just weeks before the club was to re-open. Officials say repairs and clean up could take up to a year to complete. There is now an investigation into arson of the building. A 20-thousand-dollar reward is being offered for information leading to an arrest. | 9/9/2023 | 7am | 0:32 |

ISSUE: CRIME/SAFETY

| PROGRAM | DESCRIPTION | DATE | TIME | DURATION |
|----------------|--|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| WZZM 13 | 30-year-old Christopher Byrom was shot and killed during a fireworks celebration near the corner of Sycamore Street and Jefferson Avenue. Detectives are still trying to figure out if the gun was fired as part of the celebration or whether it was targeted. Byrom was the father of 2 children. | 7/8/2023 | 6am | 0:25 |
| WZZM 13 | Rick Monetza had about 50 people over for fireworks on July 3rd. He said they were lighting fireworks in the road when his neighbor showed up with a cannon. He said he was walking to his barn when the explosion happened, killing Jana Daniels of Holland, and injuring 9 others. He believed the cannon was packed with gun powder but that has not been confirmed by investigators. | 7/8/2023 | 6am | 2:22 |

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| WZZM 13 | The man accused of kidnapping and killing a 2-year-old is now facing federal charges. A US attorney announced those charges against Rashad Trice yesterday. Investigators say he broke into a home on Sunday, stabbed the mother of Wynter Cole-Smith, and took the child. He was arrested Monday and Wynter's body was found Wednesday night. | 7/8/2023 | 6am | 0:21 |
| WZZM 13 | The US Army Corps of Engineers is pausing dredging in Grand Haven after E. Coli was detected at an Ottawa County beach. A no-contact order was issued for North Beach Park in Ferrysburg. A Holland based contractor is working to remove sediment from the Grand Haven Harbor navigation channel. The material is being placed north of the Harbor including North Beach Park. The dredging will be on hold until E. Coli levels have naturally dissipated. | 7/8/2023 | 6am | 0:32 |
| WZZM 13 | West Michigan's skies will soon be filled with aircrafts for Wings over Muskegon. Wings over Muskegon takes place today at the Muskegon County airport. The airport grounds will open at 9 this morning. A teaser will follow at 11 a.m. with the show starting at 1 p.m. Today's show is sold out, but you can still get tickets for Sunday. You can find a link to those on our website 13onyourside.com . | 7/8/2023 | 6am | 0:11 |
| WZZM 13 | Investigators are looking into a plane crash in Newaygo County. The plane crashed on Hardy Pond in Big Prairie Township this morning. Police say everyone on board was safely rescued from the water. We are working to learn more about their conditions. The Federal Aviation Administration is now looking into what caused the plane to go down. | 7/8/2023 | 630pm | 0:21 |
| WZZM 13 | Police are searching for 2 teenagers accused of stealing a car and causing a crash. Deputies say 5 teens were inside, wearing surgical masks. When deputies attempted to pull them over, the stolen car ran a red light, crashing on East Beltline near Burton. 3 teenagers were arrested, but 2 escaped. Deputies say they also found a loaded gun inside the car. | 7/21/2023 | 6am | 0:40 |
| WZZM 13 | A school bus driver in Muskegon is facing Criminal Sexual Conduct charges involving | 7/21/2023 | 11pm | 0:20 |

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| | a child. Richard Elliot works for Dean Transportation which is contracted by Muskegon Public Schools for bus service. According to court documents, the eight-year-old victim, lived in the same home as Elliot where the assault took place. The boy told his father who called police. | | | |
| WZZM 13 | The Oxford School Shooter is back in court today, where a judge will decide if he will spend the rest of his life in prison. The now 17-year-old shooter, killed four of his classmates inside his high school in 2021. | 7/31/2023 | 6am | 0:39 |
| WZZM 13 | The Michigan Supreme Court has ruled in favor of auto accident victims who called for change to the state's 2019 no fault insurance reform. That decision is said to provide relief to thousands of drivers across the state. In this 5:2 decision, the supreme court stated that ongoing benefits could not be stripped away from survivors. | 8/1/2023 | 6am | 1:08 |
| WZZM 13 | A Grand Rapids neighborhood is yet again falling victim to car theft. The city of Grand Rapids has an online dashboard for several crimes and if we look at the year-to-date average from the past three years for motor vehicle thefts, we are right now surpassing that average. Just this week, a woman had her Kia stolen in a neighborhood near the corner of Pine and Walker avenues. This is an area where people have already been spotted rummaging through unlocked cars. | 8/3/2023 | 6am | 1:06 |
| WZZM 13 | The woman accused of hitting three teens in a hit and run, killing one, is now facing felony charges. 14-year-old Jamison Lafferty was killed Tuesday night in Greenville. Two other teens are still recovering. | 8/12/2023 | 6am | 1:39 |
| WZZM 13 | The man charged with inappropriately touching children at Michigan's Adventure water park will head to trial. Benjamin Koche of Lansing faces two felony charges of criminal sexual conduct. Police say it happened July 24 in the park's wave pool. According to court documents, at least six young girls approached the park's security staff. A trial date has not been set yet. | 8/12/2023 | 6am | 0:23 |
| WZZM 13 | The National Weather Service has confirmed 7 tornados in Michigan. They range in strength from E-F0 to E-F2. The one in Kent County touched down in Alpine Township and traveled east to Rockford. The others happened in Ingham, Livingston, | 8/26/2023 | 6am | 0:21 |

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| | Wayne, and Monroe Counties. The storm contributed to at least 5 deaths including three in Kent County. | | | |
| WZZM 13 | Several police departments in Kent County are trying to crack down on overnight car meet ups. They say they start as events to admire cars but can often turn dangerous. Police say the meet ups can result in drag racing, gun fire and even death. Last weekend, a 19-year-old girl was shot and killed at a meet up in Grand Rapids. They are still looking for a suspect, but police tell us they expect to find them at the next event. | 9/9/2023 | 7am | 0:26 |

ISSUE: DIVERSITY/SOCIAL JUSTICE

| PROGRAM | DESCRIPTION | DATE | TIME | DURATION |
|---------|--|-----------|------|----------|
| WZZM 13 | Grand Valley State University is celebrating a new record. GVSU leaders say this year's incoming class is not only its largest, but also the most diverse. | 9/12/2023 | Noon | 2:06 |

ISSUE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

| PROGRAM | DESCRIPTION | DATE | TIME | DURATION |
|---------|---|-----------|------|----------|
| WZZM 13 | Governor Whitmer signed a bill allowing public universities like Michigan State and the University of Michigan to apply for liquor licenses for their arenas and sporting venues. The idea is to reduce binge drinking before games and bring in more revenue for schools. Central Michigan University has been serving alcohol at games through a special license since 2022. Leaders there say it has been a smooth transition. | 7/22/2023 | 7am | 0:27 |
| WZZM 13 | Drivers may experience some shock at the pump for the next few days. Gas prices across the state are on the rise, some stations charging nearly 50 cents a gallon more. Industry experts say the spike in prices could be related to an issue at the BP refinery in Indiana. The current average gas price in West Michigan is around \$3.71 a gallon. In some places it has hit \$3.99 a gallon. | 8/12/2023 | 11pm | 0:22 |

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| WZZM 13 | Gas buddy has released its annual Labor Day report. The report revealed that this year should look about the same as last year. A Gas Buddy Expert says prices in Grand Rapids could fall to the low 3-dollar range by the end of the year. | 9/2/2023 | 7am | 0:24 |
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ISSUE: EDUCATION

| PROGRAM | DESCRIPTION | DATE | TIME | DURATION |
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| WZZM 13 | The Kent County Prosecutor has announced charges against a student captured on video beating up another student. The video, which is hard to watch, shows a male student repeatedly kicking a female student in the face and head, and it all happened at East Kentwood high school. Today, prosecutor Chris Becker announced the charges of assault and battery against the male student. | 8/29/2023 | Noon | 0:36 |
| WZZM 13 | Happening today in Grant, school board members are set to meet and are expected to update the community on the middle school health center. This comes months after board members voted to close the health center. | 9/11/2023 | 6am | 0:32 |
| WZZM 13 | Grand Valley State University is celebrating a new record. GVSU leaders say this year's incoming class is not only its largest, but also the most diverse. | 9/12/2023 | Noon | 2:06 |
| WZZM 13 | A deal has been reached between the Grant School Board and Family Health Care to keep the child and adolescent health center at Grant Middle School open. A parent says that they are thrilled that the health center will be staying but are also still concerned over some of the new conditions that are included in this new contract. | 9/12/2023 | 6pm | 2:18 |

ISSUE: HEALTH

| PROGRAM | DESCRIPTION | DATE | TIME | DURATION |
|---------|---|-----------|------|----------|
| WZZM 13 | The Ottawa County Health Officer is speaking out after county administrator | 8/26/2023 | 11pm | 0:32 |

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| | <p>John Gibbs asked her to cut her department's budget in half. Ottawa County is asking its health department to operate on 2.5 million dollars, down from the requested 6.4 million dollars. Gibbs says he expects the budget and general fund contribution to resemble what it looked like before the pandemic. Health director, Ademline Hambley, says the department could be terminated shortly after the new fiscal year begins in October.</p> | | | |
| WZZM 13 | <p>As the season changes, cases of COVID-19 are on the rise again in Michigan. The latest numbers from the CDC reported 3,629 confirmed cases across the state, and tests are becoming harder to find in stores. However, there is a place you can get them for free, Kent District Library branches. You are not required to be a member of the library, but it is suggested you call ahead before you go.</p> | 9/2/2023 | 9am | 0:29 |
| WZZM 13 | <p>September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and yesterday was World Suicide prevention day. Suicide is a major public health issue with more than 700-thousand suicides every year.</p> | 9/11/2023 | 430am | 0:13 |
| WZZM 13 | <p>The American Red Cross is facing a national shortage. Between recent climate disasters like Hurricane Idalia and low donor turnout during the summer months, the organization says blood levels have fallen critically low. Dropping nearly 25 percent since early August. Not having enough blood is dangerous for emergency patients and those with critical conditions like cancer and/or sickle cell.</p> | 9/12/2023 | 6pm | 0:38 |
| WZZM 13 | <p>Americans will soon be able to get updated COVID-19 vaccines. About an hour ago, a CDC panel voted 13 to 1 to recommend a new booster for all Americans 6 months and older. Just Monday, the FDA approved and authorized both Pfizer and Moderna's versions of the updated shot.</p> | 9/12/2023 | 6pm | 1:37 |
| WZZM 13 | <p>Therapy is beneficial to nearly everyone. However, for some, traditional therapy does not always break through their</p> | 9/13/2023 | 6pm | 2:28 |

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| | barriers. That is why bringing in horses can help. | | | |
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ISSUE: FAMILY/YOUTH

| PROGRAM | DESCRIPTION | DATE | TIME | DURATION |
|----------------|--|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| WZZM 13 | Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed a historic 25-billion-dollar education budget over the summer. It includes millions of dollars to support school safety and student mental health. One West Michigan school already using a proven and effective mental health program with students called "Be nice", is also taking advantage of the new funding. | 9/12/2023 | 6pm | 1:37 |