

PERIOD COVERED: OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2023

WEFM HAS CONTINUED TO AIR NEWSCASTS AND INTERVIEWS, AS WELL AS LIVE BROADCASTS, DURING THE PERIOD SHOWN ABOVE, THAT ADDRESS IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING AREA RESIDENTS. WEFM HAS IDENTIFIED THOSE ISSUES THROUGH A SERIES OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONE INTERVIEWS, AS WELL AS INPUT FROM WEFM LISTENERS. WEFM KEEPS IN TOUCH WITH THE COMMUNITY, THROUGH ATTENDANCE AT NUMEROUS MEETINGS AND LOCAL EVENTS. WEFM CONDUCTS MONTHLY LIVE INTERVIEWS ON THE AIR WITH NUMEROUS LOCAL LEADERS, INCLUDING MICHIGAN CITY MAYOR DUANE PARRY, AND LAPORTE MAYOR, TOM DERMODY; LAPORTE COUNTY PROSECUTOR, SEAN FAYGON; MICHIGAN CITY'S SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, DOCTOR BARBARA EASON WATKINS; AND LAPORTE COUNTY SHERIFF, RON HEEG. WEFM AIRS BOTH LIVE AND RECORDED PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS DAILY, USING INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY LOCAL AND AREA GROUPS, ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS. WEFM AIRS MORE THAN 60 LOCAL NEWSCASTS EACH WEEK, WITH MATERIAL GATHERED BY STAFF MEMBERS, CORRESPONDENTS AND VARIOUS NEWS SERVICES.

SOME OF THE IMPORTANT ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY WEFM DURING THE PERIOD SHOWN ABOVE INCLUDE:

1. LAW ENFORCEMENT IS AN IMPORTANT LOCAL ISSUE. A 10/4-10/5/23 STORY (7 MINUTES) REPORTED ON A SALUTE OF FOUR LAPORTE POLICE OFFICERS BY THE LAPORTE CITY COUNCIL, WITH LIFE SAVINGS AWARDS. TWO 11/8 – 11/10 STORIES (28 MIN) REPORTED ON A DRIVER KILLED IN A SERIOUS ACCIDENT, AND THREE ARRESTS FOR THEFT. TWO STORIES 12/6 – 12/8 (13 MIN) REPORTED ON THE SHOOTING DEATH OF A CHILD, AND THREE PERSONS INJURED IN A SERIOUS ACCIDENT.

2. THE HEALTH OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY IS VERY IMPORTANT, LOCALLY. TWO STORIES 10/2 - 10/5 REPORTED ON A LOCAL FIRM DOING MAJOR RESTORATION WORK IN SOUTH BEND, AND A POPULAR LOCAL RESTAURANT HAS RE-OPENED. A 11/1 – 11/2 STORY (7 MIN) ANNOUNCED THE OPENING OF A NEW RESTAURANT. A 12/6 - 12/7 STORY (7 MIN) REPORTED ON SENATOR MIKE BRAUN'S CONCERNS ABOUT HOW ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ARE IMPACTING THE STATE'S ECONOMY.

3. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IS AN IMPORTANT LOCAL ISSUE. A 10/3 – 10/4 STORY (14 MIN) OUTLINED THE PROGRESS IN THE LOCAL EXPANSION OF SOUTH SHORE RAILROAD PASSENGER SERVICE. GOVERNOR ERIC HOLCOMB ANNOUNCED THAT NUMEROUS AREA GOVERNMENTS WERE AWARDED STATE TRANSPORTATION GRANTS. 11/8 – 11/10 (11 MIN). A 12/4 - 12/6 STORY (7 MIN) REPORTED THAT SOUTH SHORE TRACK CONSTRUCTION IN MICHIGAN CITY IS COMPLETED.

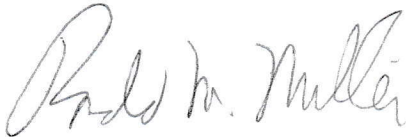
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4. EDUCATION IS VERY IMPORTANT LOCALLY. A 9/29 – 10/2 STORY REPORTED THE MICHIGAN CITY PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2023 – 2024. SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, DOCTOR BARBARA EASON WATKINS, ANNOUNCED THAT FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS ARE TAKING PLACE AT THREE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. 11/1 – 11/3 (15 MIN). A 12/4 – 12/6 STORY (6 MIN) OUTLINED ATTEMPTS TO STOP SOME COLLEGES FROM ENROLLING STUDENTS WHOSE P ARENTS ARE DONORS.

5. PUBLIC SERVICE IS IMPORTANT LOCALLY. A 10/6 – 10/9 STORY (7 MIN) OUTLINED A GRANT APPLICATION WORKSHOP FOR LOCAL NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. MAYOR DUANE PARRY PRESENTED CHECKS TO THREE LOCAL NOT-FOR-PROFITS USING PROCEEDS FROM THE RECENT MAYOR'S BALL. 11/7 – 11/9 8 MIN). A 12/6 – 12/7 STORY (6 MIN) REPORTED ON A PLAN FOR NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN MICHIGAN CITY.

6. PUBLIC HEALTH IS VERY IMPORTANT. A 10/10 – 10/14 STORY (17 MIN) OUTLINED THE ENRTOLLMENT PERIOD FOR MEDICARE HEALTH AND DRUG COVERAGE. A 11/15 – 11/16 STORY (9 MIN) REPORTED FREE FOOD BEING DISTRIBUTED FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON. A 12/4 – 12/6 STORY (6 MIN) PROVIDED DETAILS ABOUT A FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION.

PREPARED BY:



RONALD M. MILLER
MANAGER
JANUARY 8, 2024