

Quarterly Issues Programs List for Station WUEZ-FM
October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022
Placed in the Public File January 7, 2023

Section I -- Issues

The station has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community in this quarter:

- A. Public Safety**
- B. Mid-term Election**
- C. Economy**
- D. Health/Wellness**
- E. Tourism**

Section II -- Responsive Programs

The station has broadcast programming dealing with each of the above-referenced issues. Programming dealing with each issue is set out below.

A. Public Safety

Week in Review | Broadcast: November 20, 6:24 a.m. | Duration: 6 minutes
Residents of Williamson County have a new sheriff. Republican Businessman Jeff Diederich ran unopposed in both the primary and general election. In this interview with Diederich, conducted after the election, but before he was sworn in as sheriff, listeners hear his concerns about the implementation of the SAFE-T Act, a controversial reform of the Illinois criminal justice system.

B. Mid-term Election

Week in Review | Broadcast: October 3, 6:05 a.m. | Duration: 20 minutes
After redistricting following the 2020 U.S. Census, all of southern Illinois now finds itself in the 12th congressional district. The region had most recently been split in to the 12th and 15th Districts. Republican incumbent Mike Bost has represented the 12th district since 2015. He faced Democratic challenger Homer “Chip” Markel in the general election. Listeners hear from both candidates in this pair of similarly structured interviews, aired back-to-back.

Week in Review | Broadcast: October 16, 6:00 a.m. | Duration: 30 minutes
For the first time in over 20 years, Jesse White was not be on the ballot for Illinois Secretary of State. White, who is 88, retired at the end of his term. Listeners hear from both candidates, Democrat Alexi Giannoulias and Republican Dan Brady, in this pair of similarly structured interviews, aired back-to-back.

Week in Review | Broadcast October 30, 6:00 a.m. | Duration: 20 minutes

One of the few competitive local races in the mid-term election in southern Illinois was in the newly drawn 118th House District between Republican Paul Jacobs and Democrat Van Ikner. Listeners hear from both candidates in this pair of similarly structured interviews, aired back-to-back.

Week in Review | Broadcast: November 13, 6:20 a.m. | Duration: 10 minutes

Voters in Williamson County chose a new county commission this year. The longtime incumbent Democrat to Republican newcomer Jim Rasor. Rasor had wide-spread name recognition through his past work as the local television meteorologist. In this interview with Rasor, after election day, listeners learn what his goals are for the new board and upcoming new year.

C. Economy

Week in Review | Broadcast: October 30, 6:22 a.m. | Duration: 8 minutes

As inflation pushes prices up, more and more people are turning to their credit cards to make ends meet. Debt can be a slippery slope. In this interview with Wallethub analyst Jill Gonzalez, listeners learn how to avoid going into debt and how to consolidate debt to lower monthly payments.

Week in Review | Broadcast: November 20, 6:02 a.m. | Duration: 13 minutes

Thanksgiving Dinner cost more than ever in 2022 as inflation drove the price of groceries through the roof. In this interview with “Supermarket Guru” Phil Lempert, listeners learn shopping strategies to help them save money and stretch their food dollar at the grocery store.

Week in Review | Broadcast: December 4, 6:02 a.m. | Duration: 20 minutes

Temperatures plummeted in southern Illinois in December. For many, the cold weather couldn't have come at a worse time; over the summer, home energy prices increased, in some cases doubling. In this interview with Ameren Illinois' Tucker Kennedy, listeners learn about ways to save money and stay warm at the same time.

D. Health/Wellness

Week in Review | Broadcast November 20, 6:15 a.m. | Duration: 9 minutes

Informally called a “triple-demic,” doctors in southern Illinois, as well as across the nation, were dealing with waiting rooms full of people suffering from respiratory infections, primarily COVID-19, influenza, and RSV. In this interview with local family physician Dr. Jeff Ripperda, listeners learn the sometime subtle differences in the three illnesses, what populations are most at risk, and when to seek treatment.

E. Tourism

Week in Review | Broadcast: December 4, 6:23 a.m. | Duration: 5 minutes

For nearly 50 years politicians and policymakers have advocated for a four lane highway, perhaps an interstate expansion, connecting southern Illinois to the St. Louis Metro region. Now, thanks to federal funding from the recently passed infrastructure deal, the long planned road may soon be a reality. In this interview with Murphysboro Mayor Will Stephens, listeners are updated on the progress. Stephens was also recently chosen as the new chairman of the four county highway coalition, a group advocating for the highway.