

WKQS FM

Issues/Programing

1st Quarter – 2021

Quarterly Issues Program List

WKQS

Compiled by: Abigail Ferguson, Administrative Assistant

The following is a listing of some of the significant issues responded to WKQS, NEGAUNEE, MI along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of October through December. The listing is by no means exhaustive, and additional air time not noted was devoted to serving our community. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance. All times are Eastern.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/04/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Local Heroes Recognized By Lake Superior Community Partnership

Coverage:

Megan O'Connor, Outreach Coordinator with the Lake Superior Community Partnership, joined Mark andamp; Walt in the Morning today to talk about their new Local Heroes Project.

O'Connor says it's a simple 'thank you' to remind coronavirus pandemic front line workers that they, and their services, are appreciated.

She said that the project shows appreciation to the local front liners with products sourced from local businesses also impacted by the virus.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 01/05/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: UPHP Update: Social Determinants of Health And Connected Communities For Health

Coverage:

Katie Poston, Community Health Worker at Upper Peninsula Health Plan , joined Mark and Walt in the Morning to discuss social determinants of health and the UPHP Connected Communities For Health program.

Poston explained what the social determinants of health are and what they mean to the general health of people in the U.P. and beyond.

She discussed the UPHP program Connected Communities for Health and how it addresses the issues related to the various social determinants.

Poston said UPHP members can call them at (906) 225-5964 , and their Community Health Workers will work to get you connected with the needed resources.

For individuals needing this kind of assistance who aren't UPHP members, a great resource is Community Action Alger-Marquette at (906) 228-6522.

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WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 01/07/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Home Builders Association Of The U.P. Holding Scholarship Fund Raffles

Coverage:

The Home Builders Association of the U.P. is going ahead with special raffles to raise funds for their scholarship program.

Sarah Foster with the HBA of the UP spoke about the raffles this week with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Foster said there will be cash and firearm raffles and all proceeds go into their scholarship fund that assists U.P. students who are going into the construction and building fields.

Foster also talked about the organization's plans for their annual Wild Game Dinner as well as the latest plans for their upcoming springtime builders showcase event.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 01/07/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: U.P. Regional Blood Center In Need Of Several Blood Types

Coverage:

The UP Regional Blood Center continues to have a need for several types of blood due to seasonal and COVID-19 related issues.

Rachel Heath, Blood Collection Coordinator with the Blood Center, joined Mark and Walt in the Morning this week to encourage you to give the gift of life.

Heath said the Marquette Center at 427 West College Avenue is open Monday through Friday, and you can call (906) 449-1450 to set an appointment.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:00:00 AM on 01/10/21 and was discussed for 60 Minutes

The 8th Day: Governor Whitmer COVID-19 Briefing and Press Conference - January 8

Coverage:

Governor Whitmer held a press conference and gave a briefing on the state of COVID-19 in Michigan currently She spoke about the domestic terrorism that occurred at the Capitol earlier this week, and urged everyone to leave the election behind us and work together against the COV-19 virus. Gretchen Whitmer: Good afternoon, and thank you for tuning in. It is Friday, January 8th. And of course I'm with Dr. Khalidun. First, I want to start out by saying how grateful I am that all of Michigan's congressional delegation, their staffs, and so many who work at the Capitol are safe. The events that unfolded two days ago, just two days ago, were appalling and scary. Over the summer last year, when millions of Americans peacefully protested the deaths of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd and countless other Black Americans, they were responded to with tear gas and rubber bullets and called thugs and

criminals by leaders like President Trump. And Wednesday, much like when he stood on the national debate stage and told white supremacists to 'stand back and stand by,' the president spoke directly to the group of domestic terrorists, who stormed the Capitol, and he doubled down on his dangerous election day conspiracies and said, 'We love you, and you're very special.'

Gretchen Whitmer: Had the group of people who stormed our nation's Capitol been Black Lives Matter protestors, it's logical to conclude they would have been treated very differently. Wednesday was a dark day in our country, and unfortunately it's a site that was too familiar, especially to us in Michigan. We saw events like this play out here months ago in our own state. Some of these same people that were in DC were the same that were here at our Capitol, coming in with weapons to intimidate lawmakers. Some of them were even implicated, some of the people that were at our Capitol, were implicated in the plot to kidnap and kill me. They stormed the United States Capitol this week to intimidate lawmakers at our federal level.

Gretchen Whitmer: 'Eight months ago, I called on President Trump, I spoke with Vice President Pence. I reached out to the Republican leadership here at our Capitol and asked them to help bring down the heat. None of them did a darn thing, and here we are a really tough moment as a nation. While some Republicans have spoken out in the last 24 hours, we need more everywhere to stand up and say domestic terrorism will not stand, whether it is directed at a governor or Dr. Fauci or Secretary of State Benson, or the Georgia secretary of state or the United States Congress. This nation was founded on democracy and honoring the will of the people. We cannot forget that we are Americans first. It's time to come together and to put this election behind us once and for all and focus on our common enemy: this virus, COVID-19. As Americans, there is no problem we cannot solve if we work together, so let's get to work working together.'

Gretchen Whitmer: Today, my administration is announcing a goal that all school districts offer an option for in-person learning no later than March 1st and earlier if possible. The value of in-person learning for our kids is immeasurable, and we must do everything we can to help our kids get the great education they need and to do so safely. Over the last nine months, medical experts and epidemiologists have closely been following the data and know now that schools can establish a low risk of transmission by ensuring that everyone wears a mask and adapting careful infection prevention protocols. It's critical that we take a fact-based approach by doing things like wearing masks, washing hands, and practicing social distancing. As rapid testing access expands, we have even more tools to make school safer for students and educators and other staff.

Gretchen Whitmer: My administration has worked with the Michigan High School Athletic Association to pilot a testing program in 200 state high schools that has largely been successful, and on Wednesday, I announced that school and childcare staff will be eligible to receive the COVID vaccine beginning this upcoming Monday. My administration is working closely with school officials and community leaders to ensure schools can operate as safely as possible. I strongly encourage school districts to provide as much face to face learning as possible, especially for our youngest students, especially for economically disadvantaged students and students with special education needs and English language learners. Some families will choose to send their kids to school when that's an option. Others will choose for their children to continue learning remotely. And some educators meet the CDC definition of high risk, and we will continue to support these groups that wish to continue teaching and learning at a distance. We know that in-person learning provides a key benefit for many parents who rely on their children to be at school so that they can do their work and participate fully in our economy. Many students and families have struggled with remote learning and need opportunities for face-to-face interactions with educators, even if it is a hybrid schedule to allow for smaller groups together. Every parent deserves to know that their child will be safe and learning in the classroom. Every educator and every member of our school support staff deserves to know that they are safe at work. On top of testing and vaccinations, we will work with districts to ensure that when schools begin in-person learning, safety protocols like mask wearing, hand washing, and social distancing remain in place. Many districts across our state have been largely open for face-to-face instruction since the beginning of the school year and they should not stop

now. These schools have demonstrated that they can provide a safe learning environment for their students and safe workplaces for their staff. The plans that these schools developed with teachers include strong infection control measures, and those plans are working. So I encourage these schools to continue implementing their plans and operating safely to the greatest extent possible.

Gretchen Whitmer: I have incredible respect for our teachers. The teachers and educators who've been working in-person over the last several months are true frontline heroes. And we are grateful. Since day one of this pandemic, educators have stepped up and led providing our students with the best support and best education under the circumstances. They've managed to continue lunch programs for those who rely on them. They've provided emotional counseling for the countless students in need of that. And they've ensured that our students received the academic support necessary, whether that was being done remotely, in-person, or both. I want to, again, thank all the educators who've worked tirelessly to serve our children. I will not stop working for you.

Gretchen Whitmer: So this is good news for our students and our educators and their families. My administration will continue working around the clock to distribute the safe and effective COVID vaccines, but we need help from the federal government to get it done. Yesterday, I with seven other governors from across the country sent a letter to the Trump administration requesting that they distribute the millions of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines that they are currently holding back in freezer farms like the one in Portage, Michigan. According to publicly reported information, the federal government currently has upwards of 50% of current produced vaccines held back by the administration.

Gretchen Whitmer: Today, the incoming Biden administration announced that they will release available vaccine doses that the Trump administration is holding back. I'm hopeful that the Trump administration will do it sooner rather than waiting for the new Biden administration, because it will mean that we can get more vaccines distributed and put an end to this pandemic sooner. My colleagues and I across the nation are grateful that the Biden administration is committed to this and hopeful that the Trump administration will take this action. Michigan and states across the country are ready to work around the clock to continue ramping up distribution, to get more shots in arms, and to save more American lives, but we need the federal government to take action.

Gretchen Whitmer: Over the past year, Michigan has emerged as a nationwide leader, fighting this pandemic, getting our economy back on track and saving lives. And now we're working to cement our status as a national leader in vaccine distribution. On Wednesday, the CDC released new data that shows Michigan in the top 15 states when it comes to vaccine distribution. Dr. Khaldun and I will continue working 24/7 along with our incredible teams in state government and in local government and across the state and hospital systems, et cetera. It's going to take hard work and it's going to take collaboration, state, local, federal government, businesses, local health departments, and everyday Michiganders. But this is Michigan and I know we're going to finish what we started. Thank you. And with that, I'll hand it over to Dr. Khaldun.

Dr. Khaldun: Good afternoon. Thank you governor. So as of yesterday, the State of Michigan had 512,751 cases of COVID-19 and 4,015 deaths due to this virus in the state. So here's where we are with the key metrics that we are tracking. Our case rate is at 222 cases per million people, and that's an increase of eight cases per million in the past week. Our percent positivity is now 9.3%. It has continued to increase over the past week and was 8.2% on December 27th. 12.8% of available inpatient beds are now filled with patients that have COVID-19, and that number continues to trend downwards.

Dr. Khaldun: So our metrics overall tell me that we are at a pivotal moment. The declines we were seeing prior to the holidays seem to be reversing. And I'm concerned that there were gatherings over the winter holidays, and we're starting to see the results of that. And I'm very concerned that it's only a matter of time until we see a new variant of this virus in Michigan that originated in the UK and has caused a dangerously fast increase in cases there. This variant is transmitted more easily raising a significant increase in cases, hospitalizations and deaths. But it's not too late. There's still time for people to do their part to stop the spread of this virus in Michigan.

Dr. Khaldun: Even if you traveled over the holidays, you can be quarantining at home for at least 10 days after you return so that if you do have the virus, you don't

spread it to others. If you've traveled over the holidays and if you know you've been exposed or if you're having symptoms, please get a test. And you should mask up and mask right. Wear a mask properly over your nose and mouth anytime you will be around anyone outside of your household. This protects you and it protects others.

Dr. Khaldun: Today, as the governor mentioned, we're releasing guidance for schools to help them understand how to bring children and staff back to school in the safest manner possible. As a parent, I know how hard it has been to not have children engaged in in-person learning. This can have negative impacts on children's academic achievement, their mental and their physical health. And is especially challenging when parents have to figure out how to work and take care of children who are home all day. We want every school district to be working with their local health department to identify the safest way possible to provide in-person learning. And we've set a goal, as the governor mentioned, for every student in the state to have this option before or by March 1st. Things like appropriate spacing of desks, wearing masks, a cohorting of students and adequate ventilation significantly decrease the risk of virus spread in schools and is how many students across the state are already engaging in in-person learning today.

Dr. Khaldun: Starting Monday, K-12 teachers and childcare staff will be able to start getting vaccinated. And this is another important tool to help prevent spread of the virus and to keep our kids in in-person learning. And our updated guidance for schools can be found on our website at michigan.gov/coronavirus. So, vaccinations. Vaccinations are accelerating across the state. Through the end of the day on Wednesday, there were 174,749 doses of vaccine administered across the state. Over 24,800 doses were recorded on just Wednesday alone, which is our highest number yet since we started this effort. And I know many more have occurred since then. I am pleased that I was actually able to get my second dose of the vaccine yesterday. These vaccines are safe and effective, and I have comfort now. And knowing that I am now highly unlikely to bring this virus home to my family, which has spread this infection to my colleagues in the Health Department or in the Emergency Department.

Dr. Khaldun: Today I'm actually feeling well. My arm's a little sore, and I know it's possible especially with my second dose to not feel well in the next day or so. But I know that if that happens, that's because the vaccine is working and I encourage everyone to be patient, but please do sign up for an appointment for a vaccine when it becomes available to you. So on Wednesday, we also announced that the State of Michigan is moving forward with phase 1B of its vaccination plan. And we're pleased that starting Monday, local health departments and health systems may start to offer the vaccine to those who are over age 65 and some essential frontline workers. So K-12 teachers, as I said, first responders, and the workers in prisons, jails, and shelters. We're glad to be able to move this forward, but I really want people to be patient. This is not like a flu shot. You can't just walk up to a facility or call and demand a vaccine. Unfortunately, you will not be able to get it that way and you will be turned away. There is simply not enough vaccine today that has been given to us by the federal government for that to work at this time. So what should you do? First, you should check the Michigan Health Department website at michigan.gov/covidvaccine. We'll be regular-

Dr. Khaldun: at michigan.gov/covidvaccine. We'll be regularly updating that website with information about the local health departments that may have vaccine available to you right now if you are eligible. You will find links to those health departments with information on how to schedule an appointment, if one is available. If a health system has a vaccine appointment available to you, they will contact you directly. If a local health department is not listed on our website, they are not yet ready to accept appointments for the vaccine. We don't want people to be frustrated by this. We know this will happen because we just don't have enough vaccine in the state and I ask for patience as our health systems and our local health departments accelerate their efforts to provide the vaccine to as many people as possible.

Dr. Khaldun: If you're now eligible for the vaccine, because of your line of work, please be patient as your employer also works with the state and local health departments to arrange where your vaccination will take place and they will notify you when the plan is finalized for how you will receive the vaccine. We do have to be patient, but we still have things that we all can control. Protect yourself and others by masking up and masking right. Wash your hands frequently. Get a test if you are exposed

or if you're ill. And when it's your turn, please do choose to get the vaccine. We are on the right path to end this pandemic. With that, I'll turn it back over to Governor Whitmer. Gretchen Whitmer: All right. Happy to open it up for a few questions for either me or Dr. J. Eric Lloyd.

Eric Lloyd: Great. Governor, the first question will come from [Tim 00:23:48] with WILX. Tim: Hi, Governor.

Does the March 1st start mean that you're confident we'll get enough of the vaccine to vaccinate everyone in this second phase like teachers before then? Gretchen Whitmer: I think what March 1st signifies is that we have learned we can pursue in-person instruction safely, that we've got a lot of schools that have been doing this, and they've been successful even before vaccines were imminently on the horizon. And we're grateful for how seriously they took the protocols and how well they've been able to keep people safe. We have expedited, of course, our putting teachers into the group that is eligible for getting vaccinated. And we are hopeful that as vaccines continue to ramp up and as we move even quicker, the systems are being built as we do this. I think we've made incredible strides. Gretchen Whitmer: And I do think that we will have a lot of our educational workforce vaccinated in the next month or so. And that's our great hope. And the incoming Biden administration has acknowledged that they will be using the DPA and they will be seeking to release vaccines and working with vaccine producers to get more to states and to local Departments of Public Health and so I do think we are going to see a lot happen between now and March 1st, and that gives us great confidence as well. Eric Lloyd: Okay. The next question will come from Colton with Chalkbeat. Colvin: Hi Governor, thanks for putting on the press conference here. I wonder if you would talk a little bit about the information that's feeding us this recommendation regarding schools. Can you point to any studies, shifting data with COVID, anything that has led to your shifting position on this? Gretchen Whitmer: I don't know that it's shifting. I think it's become clear, but what I would like to do is I'll ask Dr. J to come up and address your question. Dr. Khalidun: Yeah. I can tell you there's been many' I don't have stats off the top of my head, but I can tell you there's been many studies, and we can follow up and give them to you, that talk about the data in schools and where outbreaks have been. And, in general, most children across the country have been able to be in in-person learning with the proper mitigation measures in place. And again, like I said, masks, distancing, cohorting students in smaller groups. So again, the outbreaks that are occurring across the country are not primarily in schools. Schools, based on our order, can be open now anyway, so it's not so much a shift, but it's an encouragement and we are looking to provide even more tools so that schools can open as safely as possible. Eric Lloyd: [inaudible 00:26:49] Dave Eggert with the Associated Press. Dave Eggert: Hi governor, why not require schools to at least offer in person instruction? Many schools have not had any in-person instruction, basically, since last March. Gretchen Whitmer: So we recognize that there is a challenge, right? We've got 800 different districts. We have unique situations that we have to be mindful of and we've been working very closely with the education community to make sure that we strike the right balance. What we want to do is to encourage districts to have an in-person option available, especially for younger students. And it was interesting to me in talking with Linda Vail, our public health director here in Ingham County, how few schools in Ingham County are offering in-person and that was something that I did not appreciate. Obviously, I know what my child's school district policy is, but across the county, I was a little surprised to find out how rare is to have some in-person. And that we have come to know much more about this virus. We have come to build up our systems around testing and we're building them around vaccination. And we believe that knowing how critical in-person education is for our students, that it is safe, and that's why we wanted to encourage. Gretchen Whitmer: Now, we also know that there is a variant out there, and I don't mean to seemingly contradict myself here, but I think that it's going to be important that we continue to watch the data very closely and that we support our educators and our staff and our schools as well as families, and most importantly, our children as we are navigating next steps the quicker and more people that we can get vaccinated the better toward all of these goals. Eric Lloyd: Okay, we'll go to Chad with Crain's. Chad: Governor, now that you are moving forward with encouraging schools to reopen,

back in October and early November, school outbreaks were far more frequent than outbreaks attributed to bars and restaurants. So where do you stand on allowing bars and restaurants to reopen in the near future?

Gretchen Whitmer: I think there's a problem with the conclusion in your opening statement, and that is that there were very few outbreaks. What we have seen, the studies have shown, that restaurants and bars are places where we see many outbreaks. Our tracing capabilities are underwhelming on that front and so I think that's part of the data issue that we haven't seen translate and that's why we have continued the policy. We know that the pause is working. You look at where our numbers are. On Fridays I'll often call constituents who have called or reached out to my office. And today I chatted with a man in northern lower peninsula who started with telling me that he wasn't a supporter of mine in the election. See, I call people who I know don't see the world the same exact way I do. I think it's important. And it's so hard to stay connected, especially with COVID.

Gretchen Whitmer: But he was analyzing the data. He's an engineer and he said, 'There's no question the actions that you've taken are working, and so I support the work that you're doing.' And I think that that's a hard thing for us to communicate regularly when we know the economic pain and the personal sacrifice so many have made throughout this. The fact of the matter is, the studies show that that's where we have seen the highest risk. Our numbers are better than most other states in our region, stronger than many states in the nation. But this variant is giving us pause and we want to watch and make sure that we've got as many days worth of data post-holiday so we recognize whether or not this blip around the holidays is a trend, or if it's just that, a blip. I'm as eager as anyone to get our restaurants open for in-person dining, but we got to make sure that it's safe to do so. And there are some encouraging signs, but we have to be really smart and we're going to continue to watch the data.

Eric Lloyd: All right, Governor, we'll take just a few more questions. So the next one will come from Justin with Mlive.

Justin: Hi, thanks for taking my question. Earlier today Representative Albert, the incoming House Appropriations Chair, called for a full reopening of the state and said he can't envision starting conversations about allocating federal COVID-19 relief funds until the governor takes more steps toward reopening Michigan. How would you respond to Mr. Albert's comments? And do you anticipate opening the economy any further a week from now when the current restrictions are set to expire?

Gretchen Whitmer: Well, I hope you took the opportunity to ask some followup questions because I'm sure that the representative isn't implying that they would withhold hundreds of millions of dollars for vaccinations, for testing, for education for our kids, for eviction relief. I'm sure that they wouldn't say unless you open restaurants, we won't give \$90 million for vaccine deployment, or \$575 million to support COVID testing and tracing efforts and mitigation efforts.

Gretchen Whitmer: This federal funding also includes \$665 million in eviction diversion, and rental assistance to help people who are struggling stay in their homes. I hope that's not what they're threatening, because that would be devastating to so many people in our state. Maybe they don't know what all is in that so let's give them the benefit of the doubt, but \$125 million in emergency education relief dollars, millions for access to broadband, that's what's in these federal dollars, and emergency childcare funds to assist providers and families. That's about \$287 million. So it's my hope that the 'Gretchen Whitmer: \$87 million. So it's my hope that they're not suggesting now we should start negotiating away public health measures to keep people safe and hold these things hostage, because there are a lot of people in our state struggling, and this federal relief is necessary. I'm hopeful that they'll get to work and get this allocated as quickly as possible.

Speaker 2: I think we'll go to Grant with TV 4.

Justin: Hi, Governor. Thanks for taking my question. In all the violence we saw this week in DC, there was another bomb threat at the Capitol this week that caused the Capitol to close down, and yesterday the Attorney General said the Capitol was not a safe place to be, and that people shouldn't visit. Do you share her view there?

Gretchen Whitmer: Well, I do think that our policies around weapons in the Capitol should be changed, and I'm hopeful that the Capitol Commission will take that action. I've made that position known for a long time now, and it is my hope that the Capitol Commission will take this action to protect people in our Capitol.

Gretchen Whitmer: Now, this isn't just a place where legislators come to enact laws. Although,

every one of them should have the right to be safe in their workplace. We also have a lot of staff that are here, a lot of journalists that show up. You know what else happens at this Capitol? It's the people's building. This is a place where fourth graders come to learn about state government. We have a duty to make sure that this is a place that is safe for all who come into our State Capitol. That means that we should have some restrictions with regard to people bringing in weapons into this building, and it's my hope that the Capitol Commission will take that action.

Speaker 2: All right, Governor, the last question will come from Eric Lloyd with TV 9 and 10.

Eric Lloyd: Hello, Governor. I was just wondering with this new push and urge to get in-person classes by March 1st, do you feel like teachers should be mandated to get the vaccine?

Gretchen Whitmer: Yeah. Interesting question, Eric. I don't think that that's necessary. People want to get this vaccine. They have seen people like Dr. J get it and how they are healthy and fine. People are getting ' confidence in the vaccine is growing. We are trying to move as many vaccines and get shots in arms as quickly as possible, and more people have that confidence and an interest in getting the vaccine. So, I really believe that we need to continue ramping up. It would be great if we had the full throated support and help from the federal government. In the interim, we will continue building up our systems. We're making great strides, but I believe that so many of our teachers, our educators, our support staff in our schools are eager to get this vaccine. That's why we've moved them into a phase where they can.

I want to address one more thing before we end. I know you said that was the last question, but I'm going to just address something. Right now when you look at the website about how many vaccines have been received versus how many have been administered, it would, I think looking at every state, you would recognize that this is a process that has to take a little bit of time. I know everyone wants to see if you've got 500 shots, you've got 500 shots given. We are transporting, we are breaking down. We are working with local public health departments and hospital systems, and we've made incredible strides.

Gretchen Whitmer: As Dr. J said, we administered over 22,000 shots in the last 24 hours, I believe. It's close to that. Is that about right?

Dr. J: 24,000.

Gretchen Whitmer: 24,000. All right. I under sold that, but we're making great strides. And if you look at what's happening across the country, we have to have perspective here. Michigan is in the same situation as every other state, we're all building this up and we're all at about the same level. So I want to be crystal clear. The state of Michigan has pushed out every single vaccine that we have received. We've pushed it out to eligible providers, our local public health departments and our health systems. There are some recipients who have not gotten shots in arms, and we're giving technical assistance. We are offering the National Guard to assist so that we can get it done. This is a team effort, but we are getting these out and we are setting aggressive goals. We're getting about 60,000 vaccines a week from Pfizer. 100% of those vaccines are shipped out upon receipt. That's why we rank fifth highest in the nation when it comes to getting vaccines out the door. Those doses first went to our healthcare systems and local health departments to administer priority group 1A. Health care systems and local health departments have been requested to use their inventory within seven days as of the last week, and they are also allowed to start with 1B populations, as we've articulated. Our daily shots in the arms have climbed considerably over the last week alone. That's the Pfizer vaccine. Now let's talk about the Moderna vaccine, because I know that this can be confusing. I just want to walk through it. 100% of the Moderna vaccine, all of the Moderna vaccine is shipped directly to CVS and to Walgreens to administer each week through 207 vaccinating locations. That vaccine does not come to the state of Michigan. It goes directly to CVS and Walgreens. So our daily shots in arms, when we total all of these up is continuing to rise over 20,000 per day. We've got over 24,000 this week in one day. We have met with the CDC regularly. The frustration about their website is real, if you can feel it, but we're trying to get more pharmacies approved so that they can engage in the federal program so that those allocated and unavailable doses of Moderna for long-term care facilities can get administered faster. We also have offered up Michigan National Guard as a partner. The city of Detroit will be getting almost 4,000 doses for their drive-through next week. They're doing a great job. We're excited about the work that they're doing. So in addition, the dashboard yesterday reflected the new higher number of doses received,

725,000, even though they came in batches over multiple days, which is part of the website issue. Yesterday, it showed 550,000. So, it's an example of why that dashboard doesn't tell the whole story. So we still need a national strategy. I have been saying for months, whether it was around getting masks at the beginning or getting testing or an economic recovery or relief, now vaccines, there still is not a national strategy. We're building this as States. We've made great strides. We have a list a mile long of distributors and people that want to help. We need to get more vaccines into the State of Michigan so that we can deploy them. That's what we are working through, and that's what we are most, I think looking forward to with the release of these Pfizer vaccines, whether it is soon under the Trump administration or in 12 days under the Biden administration we'll be ready. So thank you, and I appreciate your patience. I know that you're seeing people get vaccinated and it's exciting, and we all want to be on that list when it's our time, just ask for your continued patience. We will get everyone who wants a vaccine vaccinated, but we need to be a little bit patient.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/11/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Marquette City Commission Holding Regular Meeting This Evening

Coverage:

The Marquette City Commission has a regular meeting tonight.

Commissioners will hear an update from the city's Board of Review, and hold a public hearing on proposed changes to the city's Land Development Code.

The Commission will also be wrapping up a purchase agreement for a parcel of land at Founder's Landing.

Marquette City Manager Mike Angeli spoke about some additional items on tonight's meeting agenda with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. at Commission chambers at Marquette City Hall.

The meeting will be streamed live on the City of Marquette YouTube channel and on Spectrum cable channel 191.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:30:00 AM on 01/11/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Greater Ishpeming-Negaunee Area Chamber Of Commerce Sharing Pandemic Support Info

Coverage:

Marquette MI - January 11, 2020 - The Greater Ishpeming Negaunee Area Chamber of Commerce is

getting the word out about a new round of economic stimulus to help those affected by the pandemic.

GINCC Executive Director Bob Hendrickson says it includes additional funds for the Payroll Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loans.

Hendrickson added that there will be additional grants made available both through Federal and State programs.

The guidelines are being created and will be released soon, and the GINCC will post these as they become available.

VISIT - The Greater Ishpeming-Negaunee Area Chamber of Commerce website for the latest updates.

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WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:30:00 AM on 01/12/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: NICE Community Schools Moving Ahead Into 2021 Despite COVID-19 Challenges

Coverage:

Bryan DeAugustine, Superintendent of the NICE Community Schools , shared a district update for the start of 2021 today with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

DeAugustine spoke about several topics, including his reactions to Governor Whitmer's encouragement to reopen schools in-person, saying the U.P. has been ahead of this since the fall.

He also talked about coronavirus vaccinations for school personnel in Marquette County and how the NICE Community Schools are supporting students in-person, online, and through hard-copy correspondence.

DeAugustine wrapped up with a few thoughts on how the district is continuing to take steps toward a sense of normalcy, albeit slowly but surely.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/13/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Vista Theater Recovery Work Continues In Negaunee As Winter Approaches

Coverage:

Efforts to clean out debris and shore up the walls at the Vista Theater in Negaunee after a late summer roof collapse are progressing well.

Rusty Bowers, President for the Advisory Board for the Peninsula Arts Appreciation Council, spoke about the work so far on Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Bowers said that the work to shore up the walls and protect the remaining portions of the historic theater, such as the stage and proscenium, should be wrapped up this week, just in time as forecasted winter weather arrives.

He added that there is still a need to raise more funds to fully restore the theater and replace the roof, and you can find out more at the Vista Theater website and their Facebook page .

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 01/15/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter Set For Spay Day 2021

Coverage:

The Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter is working with the local veterinary clinics to offer the service of low cost spays and neuters for Spay Day 2021.

Ann Brownell from UPAWS spoke about the effort to provide the services to low income pet owners on Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Brownell explained that to be eligible for the Spay Day USA event, you must be a resident of Marquette County and have a real financial need for help.

Pet owners that need help can email info@upaws.org or call 906-475-6661.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 01/15/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: MSU Extension Addresses Marquette County Budget Shortfall Impact On Programs

Coverage:

Erin Carter, Michigan State University Extension District Director for District 2, which serves Marquette, Alger, Luce, Schoolcraft, Mackinac, and Chippewa Counties shared an update this week about budget cuts in Marquette County that are impacting the future of certain MSU Extension services.

Carter spoke about how MSU Extension is working to cover the County Board cuts to the Extension program budget on Mark and Walt in the Morning this week.

She said that amount is \$11,100 below base amount for the county, as determined by a formula based on the latest census figures, of \$59,562 for 4-H programs and services.

Carter said MSU Extension is covering the difference for this year to maintain their programs and services for Marquette County, but she could not say what would happen next year.

She added that anyone who is interested in finding out more about these issues, or wants to weigh in on the matter, can reach her via email at ecarter@msu.edu or call her at (906) 369-4572.

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WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:30:00 AM on 01/15/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: State Rep. Sara Cambensy Discusses COVID-19 Restrictions And Vaccine

Coverage:

109th District State Representative Sara Cambensy joined Mark and Walt in the Morning this week to talk about the latest COVID-19 restrictions in the state.

The Marquette Democrat spoke about the possibility of the restrictions on indoor service at bars and restaurants being lifted on February 1st.

Cambensy also talked about the public distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine in the state and Marquette County and shared her thoughts on how it appears to be going so far.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:00:00 AM on 01/17/21 and was discussed for 60 Minutes

The 8th Day: Governor Whitmer Holds Press Conference on January 13, 2021

Coverage:

Today Governor Whitmer held a press conference to talk about the spread of the virus and the distribution of the vaccine in Michigan. She shared that herself and nine other state governors requested that the Trump administration release of millions of doses of vaccine they are holding to be released, and that request has been granted! She also revealed that the US Department of Health and Human Services announced that they would follow Michigan's lead in vaccinating Americans aged 65 and up. She goes on to say that there has been a rise in demand for more doses of the vaccine in Michigan and she is doing all she can to rise to the challenge.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 01/18/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: State Senator Ed McBroom Talks About Upcoming Legislative Session And Protests

Coverage:

State Senator Ed McBroom joined Mark and Walt in the Morning today to talk about the upcoming legislative session and more.

McBroom spoke about the recent armed protests that have happened around the country over the 2020 election results as well as what he sees will be the big agenda items in the new State Senate work period.

McBroom said he was disappointed his DUI expungement bill was vetoed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer without explanation after it received widespread bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

The Dickinson County Republican also said he believes the legislature will use their power of approval of Whitmer's proposed state budget as a political tool to leverage a seat at the table for future coronavirus management decisions.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 01/19/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Ishpeming Public Schools Second Semester Underway Into New Year

Coverage:

Ishpeming Public Schools Superintendent Carrie Meyer joined Mark and Walt in the Morning today with a district update.

Meyer spoke about several items, including the start of the second semester of classes and students moving from the school's on-line academy to face-to-face teaching.

She also extended a big thank you to UP Health System-Bell for their help in getting the district staff their COVID immunizations.

Meyer also talked about the amount of support for the school district from local businesses and community organizations during the pandemic and she shared a brief winter sports update.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/19/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Education Foundation For Marquette Public Schools Rolls Out \$3,000 Scholarship Opportunity

Coverage:

The Education Foundation for Marquette Schools has launched an effort to award a \$3,000 scholarship to a Marquette student next month.

Foundation Trustee Judy Vonck spoke about the 'Impact A Life' scholarship today with Mark and Walt in the Morning and explained how you can get involved.

Vonck explained that the campaign to raise direct donations to the scholarship launched on this past Monday and the Foundation will draw the winning student's name Friday February 12th.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 01/21/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Peter White Public Library Re-Opening Express Walk-In Service Monday

Coverage:

The Peter White Public Library in Marquette is restarting their Express In-Person Service on this coming Monday, January 25th.

Library Director Andrea Ingmire spoke about the return to the walk-in service and what patrons can expect on Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Ingmire said the open hours will be Monday through Thursday from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm, and Friday and Saturday from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

She added that curbside pickup will run from 10:00 am until 11:45 am Tuesday through Friday, and full updates on all of the happenings at the library can be found on their website at pwpl.info.

Ingmire said people can also find out more by calling (906)226-4303 or emailing her at aingpwpl@gmail.com.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/21/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Superior Arts Youth Theater Presenting Animation Series Online

Coverage:

The Superior Arts Youth Theater is keeping area youth involved with acting and performing through voice acting with three animated plays.

SAYT Executive Director Jalina McClain and student actor Hayden Rundman spoke about the series with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

McClain said over 30 youth from Marquette to Houghton have been working since early November for the theater's Animation Series, featuring three 10-minute plays with six separate casts.

Rundman, who is in the 1st grade, talked about his involvement in the productions and what he is enjoying as the rehearsals continue.

McClain said the productions in the series will each have their own premiere in late January and throughout February on <https://www.broadwayondemand.com>. The first production premiering this

Saturday, January 23rd.

Follow SAYT on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/saytheater> for updates and check out saytheater.org/upcomingevents for streaming.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 01/22/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Governor Gretchen Whitmer Outlines Plan To Re-Open Bars And Restaurants To Indoor Service

Coverage:

Restaurants and bars in Michigan will be allowed to reopen for indoor service at 25% capacity beginning February 1st under a new coronavirus epidemic order from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Governor Gretchen Whitmer spoke about parts of the new epidemic order during a press conference in Lansing earlier today.

The plan has a series of restrictions concerning the spacing of tables and the number of people allowed at each of those tables.

Under the order, bars and restaurants must close by 10 p.m., and outdoor tents with four sides will be permitted. Additionally, contact information must be collected from patrons for contact tracing.

Concessions can also resume at casinos, movie theaters and stadiums under the order, which is in effect through February 21st.

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/22/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Ishpeming Ski Club Postpones Annual Ski Jumping Tournament To Early March

Coverage:

The Ishpeming Ski Club has postponed the 134th Annual Ski Jumping Tournament to March 6 and 7th and they are developing a plan to host the tournament with the safety of athletes and community the top priority.

Ski Club Vice President Peter Copenhaver spoke about the group's plans with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Copenhaver said the annual tournament is the biggest fundraiser for the Ski Club and they are currently doing a major update of facilities and programming.

He said they are starting a fundraising drive soon to offset loss of revenue due to restricted amounts of spectators.

For more information, go to www.ishskiclub.com .

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:00:00 AM on 01/24/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The 8th Day: Governor Whitmer on the Presidential Swearing In, Businesses Opening, and More

Coverage:

Governor Whitmer held a press conference today to talk about the swearing in of our new President earlier this week and the process of more stores, services, and businesses safely opening up in Michigan. Gretchen Whitmer: Good morning, today is January 22nd. It's Friday, and I'm glad that you've joined us. I am, of course, joined by Dr. Janae Khaldun, our chief medical executive, and Kim Collins, owner and head brewer at Guardian Brewing Company in Saugatuck, Michigan. On Wednesday, the United States saw the swearing in of a new president. When President Biden took the steps of the United States Capitol, he said, "Together, we shall write an American story of hope, not fear. Of unity, not division." And I think that that is an incredibly important message for our nation at this time, and certainly for all of us here in Michigan as well. It is time to join forces, and unify as one US, as one Michigan. We are all facing a common enemy, COVID-19, and we've been battling this enemy for months. This virus has now taken more than 14,000 lives here in Michigan. That's 14,000 of our family, our neighbors, our friends, our coworkers. We've got to work together to get through this and to protect one another. I was glad to see that President Biden invoked the Defense Production Act yesterday so that we can accelerate manufacturing everything from PPE, to testing supplies, to vaccinations. I have been calling on the federal government to take this action for quite a while. And I'm happy that President Biden recognizes the importance and knows that we cannot end this pandemic unless we work together. Michigan's numbers are looking promising. DHHS's pause to save lives has worked. On November 15th when the pause was announced, Michigan had 734 cases per million. Now we're down to 177 cases per million. That is a reduction of over 70%. Our action saved our hospital systems from getting overwhelmed. Our action saved lives. And I want to especially thank all of the Michiganders who have stepped up and done their part these past few weeks in particular. The science is settled. Wearing a mask, practicing social distancing, and avoiding indoor gatherings where the virus easily spreads from person to person, these things work. And now, while we must remain vigilant and cautious, we can lift some protocols that were previously in place. Today, the department of health and human services is issuing an epidemic order to resume indoor dining. On Monday, February 1st, I know this pandemic has hurt our restaurant owners, our restaurant workers, and all of their families. I want to thank those that made incredible sacrifices and did their part on behalf of protecting our communities from COVID. I have spoken with a number of restaurant owners over the course of these months, and I know that it has not been easy. I want you to know that I will continue to do everything in my power to support you and your families. We've been working around the clock to provide support over these past several months. I've worked with the legislature and I signed a bi-partisan relief bill that gives some crucial support for our small business owners and our restaurant workers. I also announced that most entertainment and recreational venues and restaurants that depend on indoor

dining can postpone their monthly sales use and withholding tax payments that are due December 20th of 2020, and January 20th of 2021. And we have partnered with restaurants across the state for a program that provides hot meals to those in need. The MEDC has also been leading a support local campaign to urge Michiganders to buy local and eat local, to support our small businesses and local restaurants. Support local campaign will continue through March to keep support for our restaurants throughout the state strong. As part of my supplemental budget request, I've asked the legislature to approve \$10 million to reimburse restaurants that choose to go through a program to update their ventilation systems. This will help us protect those who set foot into our restaurants. We want this to work. We want people to stay safe. I urge Michiganders across the state to do what you can to support your favorite local restaurants. Buy a gift card for a friend or family member. Get take out a couple of times a week if you can. Let's all do our part. I also urge the legislature to work with me to pass the Michigan COVID Recovery Plan that I introduced on Tuesday of this week. This plan is focused on growing Michigan's economy to help us and the COVID-19 pandemic. It includes a strong focus on vaccine distribution, economic recovery, on behalf our kids' schools and more. My COVID recovery plan will use \$90 million in federal funding to ramp up vaccine distribution in Michigan, and bring us closer to our goal of getting 50,000 shots in arms per day here in Michigan. It'll provide crucial support for our small businesses and families that need it most through programs like the Michigan Main Street Initiatives. And it will secure grants for restaurants and other place based businesses, and provide them food and housing assistance to families who have been hit hard by this pandemic. It will help our students and educators get back on track. Our working families, our small businesses, our frontline and essential workers are counting on us to find common ground, to work across the aisle, to get this done on behalf of our state. And so once again, I extend my hand to the legislature to say let's get this done for the people we serve. I also urge them to permanently extend unemployment benefits from 20 to 26 weeks, which would bring Michigan in line with 40 other states, and provide hard hit Michigan workers with the financial security and peace of mind that they need, and that they deserve. And I urge the legislature to pass good jobs for Michigan legislation to help Michigan retain and grow our businesses and create jobs. Pfizer, as I mentioned the other day, was the first business to utilize Good Jobs for Michigan, and it did so to build their sterile drug manufacturing plant, and they created 450 good paying jobs in Portage, Michigan. 450 good paying jobs in Portage, Michigan. The same Portage plant that we all saw with pride being showcased on the global stage, as the Pfizer vaccine started to roll out at the end of last year. Passing this legislation will be good for our families, our businesses, and our economy. Yesterday my administration announced more support for families that have been hit hard by COVID. The more than 1.2 million people in Michigan who are eligible for food assistance benefits, will receive an additional payment by the end of January, that raises their monthly amount by 15% to help families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This 15% increase in SNAP benefits is for six months and comes to a close in June. And I want to thank our US Senator Debbie Stabenow for her leadership in securing this important increase, and for her tireless efforts to expand access for food assistance, which has brought relief to so many Michiganders in need throughout this pandemic. So, just because we are lifting some protocols on February 1, doesn't mean it's time to let our guard down. In fact, it's more important than ever that we keep our guard up because the actions we've taken have worked. COVID-19 though is still a very real threat to us all and our economy, and that's why we've got to keep taking it seriously. People across the state have been hurting. It has been a long tough year. Many are mourning the loss of a loved one, and yet we have to stay vigilant. The good news is that we know what it takes to be successful. We know what to do, and we can do this. Wear your mask, practice social distancing, wash your hands, avoid indoor gatherings where the virus can spread. That's how we end this pandemic together. Gretchen Whitmer: The state is working with local health departments and pharmacies to ramp up distribution of the vaccine. One of the most important things Michiganders can do right now, is to make a plan to get that vaccine. It is safe and it is effective. And when it is available to you, make your plan to get vaccinated. Let's join forces and eradicate this

virus together. And with that, I'll turn it over to Dr. Khalidun. Dr. Khalidun: Good morning, and thank you governor. So this is where we are with our most recent data on COVID-19. Our case rate is now at 225 cases per million, and has been declining for the past 11 days. Our test positivity rate is now at 6.8%, and has also been declining for the past 12 days. Our hospitalizations also continue to decline. Now just under 10% of inpatient beds in the state are being used for patients with COVID-19, and that has been declining for seven weeks. So overall, I am pleased with our progress. We should be proud as Michiganders. We largely avoided the post holiday surge, and it's because many people did the right thing; avoiding gatherings, wearing masks and washing hands. Our pause has worked, and we're doing much better than most states including those in the Midwest. You can see Michigan's cases here in blue because of the great progress we have made today. MDHHS is moving forward with a new order. So starting February 1st, indoor dining at restaurants will be allowed, as well as concessions at entertainment venues and additional personal services. Large stadiums will also have greater capacity limits. These are incremental steps we can take because of the successes we have seen with our order. Now I want to talk a little bit more about restaurants. Because our data is looking better, we want people to have the choice to go to a restaurant, and we are doing what we can to make it safer. This slide shows the new way restaurants will be opened with some restrictions, including a 25% capacity limit, and a curfew of 10:00 PM. So am pleased that we can move forward in this way. We know that our restaurant owners want to protect their patrons and to help to end this pandemic. However I do want to caution people. Top scientists and doctors from across the country have reiterated that being indoors with no mask on, is one of the riskier activities people can do when it comes to the spread of COVID-19. So now people have a choice. The safest thing to do, especially if you are elderly, if you have underlying medical conditions, or if you live with someone who's elderly or has underlying medical conditions, the safest thing to do is to not eat inside a restaurant. But we still want you to order from them though. You can support them with takeout, delivery, or dining outdoors. MDHHS is also announcing a new voluntary program; MI COVID-19 Safer Dining, for restaurant owners who can certify that they meet certain criteria for implementing measures that prevent the spread of the virus, by making sure there is good ventilation and proper distancing between tables. So if you choose to dine in a restaurant, look for this special certification so you know that restaurant is taking additional steps to make indoor dining much safer. More information can be found on our website, michigan.gov/covidsaferdining. While we are slowly able to open up more parts of the economy, I do want people to be careful and understand their risk. Now this is especially important because of a new variant of the coronavirus that's been found in Michigan called B117. It's been found in Michigan and several other states across the country. Now we've been warning about this for weeks. We've now identified one outbreak, but there are possibly other cases in the state that have not yet been identified, and cases that are not associated with the outbreak that we found. So this slide shows why this new variant is concerning. It's more easily transmitted from person to person. This means that every person who gets it, is more likely to infect more people. So this slide here shows how one, the original virus might spread from person to person. But on the right you can see how the new variant could cause more spread because each person infects more people. And if this new variant becomes more common as many scientists have said it could, it will mean more cases, more hospitalizations, and unfortunately more deaths. But the good news is, the tests we currently have for COVID-19 do identify this new variant, and current data tells us that the vaccines that we have also work against this new variant. But we will likely see more and more cases of this, and it will be harder to control the spread of it. And we don't want to go back to where we were last April, or where we were in the beginning of November when our hospitals were overwhelmed, and hundreds of people were dying every day. But there's something you can do. You should still keep doing the basic things; wear your mask and wear it properly over your mouth and your nose every time you will be around someone outside of your household, make sure you are socially distancing, and you should get tested if you are having symptoms, if you think you've been exposed, and especially if you have traveled to areas where this

new variant is circulating. And remember that just because something is open, it does not mean that it is a hundred percent safe, or that you should do it. So please everyone, do be smart. We all have our part to play in ending this pandemic. So one of the most important things you can also do to end this pandemic, is to get your vaccine as the governor mentioned. And I'm very pleased with the progress we've made in this state, with over 598,000 doses of the COVID-19 safe and effective vaccine going in arms. In fact, Michigan has jumped more than 20 spaces in the past two weeks when it comes to our rate of vaccinating people in Michigan compared to other states. I'm so proud of the work of our local health departments, our hospitals, and our pharmacy partners, in getting us to our goal of vaccinating at least 70% of Michiganders over the age of 16, as quickly as possible. These vaccines are safe, they are effective, they have been studied in tens of thousands of people. Dr. Khaldun: Effective. They have been studied in tens of thousands of people. No steps have been skipped in the approval process. It's important that everyone makes an appointment to get their vaccine when it is their turn. However, while we're pleased with the progress we're making with vaccines, there's simply not enough available right now for everyone who is eligible to receive one. So, please be patient. You can go to our website, michigan.gov/covidvaccine to find out if your local health department has appointments available. You can also now call 211 to get assistance with scheduling. So, overall our data looks good with cases and hospitalizations coming down, and we're glad that we can slowly start to open up more parts of the economy in the coming days, but please everyone, continue to be safe and be smart. Be mindful of the risk associated with the activities you are doing. Continue to wear your mask properly, and wash your hands frequently. Let's all do our part to end this pandemic. With that, I'd like to introduce Kim Collins. Kim Collins: Hello everyone. Thank you so much for inviting me here today. My name is Kim Collins. I'm the owner and head brewer of Guardian Brewing Company in Saugatuck. I am pleased to serve on the Board of the Michigan Brewers Guild, as well as the Co-chair for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. Guardian's really excited to open for indoor dining at any level, as soon as it's deemed safe, so the news today is pretty awesome. We're a small brew pub, which means that all of our sales go over our bar, out our taproom, whether it's delivery or carry out or even dining on our patio. With our license, we don't distribute beer. Therefore, having the option for both indoor and outdoor service and dining at any level is pretty essential for our success. I talked to our team at Guardian today. We have 20 staff members. They're excited and they're ready to reopen. They feel confident about applying simple protocols that we've been practicing this whole time. We've been open seven days a week, the entire pandemic, and so our staff's just pretty jazzed for the news today. Kim Collins: We feel very fortunate to be having been open seven days a week. I think it's a huge reflection of my staff's ability to be consistent, be vigilant, as the governor said, simple things like sanitizing and wearing masks and just keep doing it so that we can build trust within our community. We're known for following our protocols in a strict manner, and we're not afraid to turn away customers who don't feel like they need to follow them. So, we've definitely built that trust within our community. At the end of the day, it's really the health and the safety of our staff and our community that matters most. Guardian's for everyone, and we love our community. We love the relationships that we built over the last two years. We're ready to show them again, that we're a trustworthy and safe place to visit. Guardian team, I just wanted to send a little shout out. I'm really proud of you. You've done great work over the last year. Thank you. Gretchen Whitmer: Thank you, Kim. Appreciate that. We had an opportunity to visit a little bit before we came out here, and just hearing what the spirit is in terms of Kim's workforce and team, and how everyone's been able to stay safe. It's important that we all do our part so that we can continue to keep, whether it's Kim or her workforce, or the workforce and in your local restaurants and small businesses. If we all keep doing our part, we're going to continue to move forward together. It's great. So, with that, I am happy to open it up for a few questions. Speaker 1: All right [inaudible 00:22:16] Governor. We'll start questions with Dave at the Detroit Free Press. Dave: Hi. Thank you for doing this. Can you clarify that this order allows all establishments, not only restaurants, bars and other establishments to allow at least some restricted

indoor dining. concerns to any hospital associations or health departments about this?Gretchen Whitmer:we've had regular conversations with industry, regular conversations with hospital system leaders. I mean, this has been an ongoing conversation, because we wanted to know that if and when we made a change that it was one that everyone, all of our experts felt comfortable that we could do this and do this safely. That has been the sentiment here around this space, considering where our numbers are and how seriously Michiganders have taken this pause and done their part. We are in a stronger position than most other states. Our vaccines have ramped up incredibly. We need more vaccines, so there's no question we still need a lot of partnership out of the federal government, but I am glad to be able to say that I have confidence that that is coming and has already begun. So, we're not out of the woods yet.Gretchen Whitmer:I know that we've been saying that for many months. There's reason to feel good, and optimistic. We know what works, and if we all continue to take that seriously and do our part, we're going to be, we're going to get more of us through this tough time in a stronger position, and that's our universal goal. Dr. J., You want to add anything in terms of the scope of what this order applies to? Okay.Dr. Khaldun:Sure. Yeah. We did put it on a slide, but it was very quick. So, right now nightclubs will still be closed, but bars and restaurants will be open to 25% capacity. There will be a 10:00 PM curfew as well.Gretchen Whitmer:I know that we've made the slide deck that we used available to all the members of the press, or that is coming by the end of this press conference. Maybe we could pull up that one slide again in the event we've got other questions.Speaker 1:We'll go to Frank with WXYZ?Frank:WDIV, and thanks for taking my question. Governor, every time we have closed indoor dining, we've seen a drop in cases. Now, there are new variants out in the state, and with reopening indoor dining, how are restaurants supposed to navigate? Is there a possible second pause coming?Gretchen Whitmer:Well, our goal is to make sure that we don't have to take another pause in this space, and that's why we're encouraging and supporting the restaurant industry to ensure that they follow the protocols that we know work. We're also encouraging them to improve ventilation. There is science behind how many air exchanges are necessary, depending on the size of a place, and we were making it easier for them to do that by giving them the support they need to improve those ventilation systems. So, we recognize that the strength of our numbers merits this change in policy. We also recognize that this variant is very concerning, and we're going to keep watching that. But everyone, if we can all recognize that the science is settled here. We know that masking works. We know that not having gatherings indoors, in our homes, that's where we've seen a lot of spread washing our hands, social distancing, all of those things are really important tools.Gretchen Whitmer:And, if we all make use of them, we will ensure that our restaurants can be successful, as we take this step and we can keep ourselves safe and mitigate the harm that we've felt in our economy.Speaker 1:Okay, great. We'd like to wish Craig [Mah ger 00:08:11] a Happy Birthday, so I'll go to him next, for the next question.Craig M.:Hey, thank you. Thank you for that, and thanks for the question. I'm curious, Governor, if you could answer this as to why you all have decided to delay the reopening until February 1st? Any order allowing the reopening is 21 days, and February 1st is 10 days away. Can you just explain the timing behind these dates?Gretchen Whitmer:Sure. I can ask Dr. J. To come up, but I think that our, what we have done in the past is to have some lead time, and that's what we've heard from the industry too. Unfortunately, this is an industry that has to have some planning time to be able to ramp up, to be able to bring staff on, to be able to purchase supplies. we've heard that-Gretchen Whitmer:And to be able to purchase supplies. we've heard that many times from leaders in the industry and wanted to give them the ability to do that. And I think that's important and happy birthday, Craig.Dr. Khaldun:No. That was great. Now I would just add that, throughout the pandemic, we've been incrementally opening. Opening up a little bit, and then identifying with the cases and the data that we're looking at, what impact that has. So that's part of why the order lasts the amount of time that it doesSpeaker 3:Governor vaccine distribution has not gone as smoothly as we would have hoped, that's no secret. Seniors are struggling to get appointments and answers and vaccines are not being accounted for on the state website. How do you expect this will change or

improve down the future with the Defense Production Act? Gretchen Whitmer: Well, actually, Christina, I would point you to the information that Dr. J shared in her opening remarks. I mean, we have made incredible strides. And as my chief operating officer said in a recent press conference that we did, this is like a locomotive. It is bumpy and it fits and starts at the beginning, and it's cumbersome, but we're gathering steam. And we are, you've seen incredible strides. Our local departments of public health are doing just incredible work. The hospital systems. I mean this is a joint effort. And when you look at the vaccines that Michigan actually has control over. The Pfizer vaccines, by and large, but the vaccines that come to us, instead of going to the pharmacies who are doing the LTCs we're in a very strong position. And I'm proud of the work that we've done. It doesn't mean it's perfect. It doesn't mean that it's seamless, but we've made great strides. And Michigan has rocketed to the top of the list in terms of States that are actually getting it done. I think it's important to point out though, that we have the confidence in our plan to do 50,000 vaccinations a day. We're getting 60,000 a week at this juncture. And that's the frustration that you can feel coming from me, that I know Dr. J, that our local health department leaders, that our health systems, that's our universal frustration. We have the capacity and the plan to do a lot more vaccinations quicker, but the federal government it's been hard. They have not gotten us what we need. Now, the use of the DPA by the Biden administration. The actual purchase of vaccines that are available, the ramping up that is happening. More vaccines coming online, Johnson and Johnson at AstraZeneca. These are vaccines that are in the pipeline that hopefully we'll be getting, will be worthy of approval and get that approval soon. So a lot of this is going to be coming and moving very quickly, going back to that locomotive analogy. Gretchen Whitmer: But right now we have, we're getting as many vaccines for a week for the state, as we want for a day for the state. And that tells you why that gap is there. And so it is going to be bumpy. We're asking that people be patient. That you make your reservation when you have the opportunity to, and some of those reservations may be a couple of weeks out or longer, but we will get to everyone. That is my solemn vow is that everyone who wants a vaccine is going to get one. It's just going to take us, depending on how quickly we get those vaccines to the state, that's what's going to determine how quickly we're going to be able to get to everyone. Speaker 2: All right Governor, we're good. Oh, I'm sorry. We got time for just a couple more questions. [inaudible 00:31:03] with LSJ. Speaker 4: Thank you for taking my question. I also have a question about vaccines. We heard from a few readers about instances where people cut the line, so to speak, maybe they get a vaccine ahead of their priority group for some reason. Do you see this as a problem? And if so, how widespread is that problem? And what is the state doing about it? Gretchen Whitmer: Do you want to take this one? I'm going to let Dr. J take this one, Carol. Dr. Khaldun: Yeah. As I said, I think, we're very pleased with the progress we've made with opening up to Phase 1-B. Letting our Michiganders age 65 and up get the vaccine as well. And I'll also say that equity is incredibly important, as well as efficiency. Again, part of our values as we move forward with our vaccination effort. We are working with our pharmacies, our local health departments and our hospital systems to make sure they understand the guidance that we've put out when it comes to who should get a vaccine and those equity principles. But I'll also say any vaccine that's placed into an arm is not a wasted vaccine. No one, no human being is fully immune. And so we are encouraging people to please don't waste the vaccine. Dr. Khaldun: We don't want it sitting in the freezers. We don't want it to expire or being out of the freezer refrigerator and not being able to use anymore. So we are really encouraging everyone to use equity principles when it comes to vaccine distribution. Speaker 2: Excuse me, the question will come from Mike [March 00:32:47]. Mike: Thank you for taking my question. I want to go back to the three weeks for this current order. Previous orders, I don't think all of them that kind of timeline. Is there a chance that if cases do rise because of [inaudible 00:33:01] that you would go back to a pause for indoor dining or is the idea that maybe in three weeks rather than 25% we go to 50% capacity? Right. I think you've just highlighted the unknown that we're, that we're grappling with, that we are watching the data with. It is our hope and intention, and it is totally within our capability to do this and safely, and then be in a position to actually expand more. That's the goal. That

goal is dependent on our ability to keep the spread of the virus down. We have shown we're capable of it. we've shown we know how to do it. We know the science of this virus better. The variants concerning as Dr. J showed you in that one pictorial, this is one and a half times more contagious than the original COVID. We are in a race. And that's why I'm so impatient to get vaccines distributed here in Michigan and get more into Michigan so we can do exactly that. So I share that with you, not because I'm pessimistic. In fact, I am optimistic, but I'm also sobered by the fact that this is a challenge that complicates things. And that's why I'm calling on my fellow Michiganders, no matter what your political views are, the science around this virus is settled. And if we can all wear masks and be very smart about congregating and not do it, unless it's necessary, washing our hands, doing that social distancing, we will be in a stronger position in a few weeks and we'll be able to do more. And that's the hope. Gretchen Whitmer: But the reality of this moment is that wearing masks and being smart is going to have to be how we operate for quite a while. We want to get to 70% of our population, 16 and up vaccinated in a short a period of as time as possible. We are working toward that. we've built up our capabilities. We need vaccines, and we need the vast majority of people to keep doing what we know works and that's wearing the mask. All right. Thank you everybody. I hope you all have a good weekend.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:30:00 AM on 01/24/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The 8th Day: Inaugural Address by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

Coverage:

THE PRESIDENT: Chief Justice Roberts, Vice President Harris, Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Vice President Pence, distinguished guests, and my fellow Americans. This is America's day. This is democracy's day. A day of history and hope. Of renewal and resolve. Through a crucible for the ages America has been tested anew and America has risen to the challenge. Today, we celebrate the triumph not of a candidate, but of a cause, the cause of democracy. The will of the people has been heard and the will of the people has been heeded. We have learned again that democracy is precious. Democracy is fragile. And at this hour, my friends, democracy has prevailed. So now, on this hallowed ground where just days ago violence sought to shake this Capitol's very foundation, we come together as one nation, under God, indivisible, to carry out the peaceful transfer of power as we have for more than two centuries. We look ahead in our uniquely American way - restless, bold, optimistic - and set our sights on the nation we know we can be and we must be. I thank my predecessors of both parties for their presence here. I thank them from the bottom of my heart. You know the resilience of our Constitution and the strength of our nation. As does President Carter, who I spoke to last night but who cannot be with us today, but whom we salute for his lifetime of service. I have just taken the sacred oath each of these patriots took - an oath first sworn by George Washington. But the American story depends not on any one of us, not on some of us, but on all of us. On "We the People" who seek a more perfect Union. This is a great nation and we are a good people. Over the centuries through storm and strife, in peace and in war, we have come so far. But we still have far to go. We will press forward with speed and urgency, for we have much to do in this winter of peril and possibility. Much to repair. Much to restore. Much to heal. Much to build. And much to gain. Few periods in our nation's history have been more challenging or difficult than the one we're in now. A once-in-a-century virus silently stalks the country. It's taken as many lives in one year as America lost in all of World War II. Millions of jobs have been lost. Hundreds of thousands of businesses closed. A cry for racial justice some 400 years in the making moves us. The dream of justice for all will be deferred no longer. A cry for survival comes from the planet itself. A cry that can't be any more desperate or any more clear. And now, a rise in political

extremism, white supremacy, domestic terrorism that we must confront and we will defeat. To overcome these challenges it requires more than words. It requires that most elusive of things in a democracy: Unity. Unity. In another January in Washington, on New Year's Day 1863, Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. When he put pen to paper, the President said, "If my name ever goes down into history it will be for this act and my whole soul is in it." My whole soul is in it. Today, on this January day, my whole soul is in this: Bringing America together. Uniting our people. And uniting our nation. I ask every American to join me in this cause. Uniting to fight the common foes we face: Anger, resentment, hatred. Extremism, lawlessness, violence. Disease, joblessness, hopelessness. With unity we can do great things. Important things. We can right wrongs. We can put people to work in good jobs. We can teach our children in safe schools. We can overcome this deadly virus. We can reward work, rebuild the middle class, and make health care secure for all. We can deliver racial justice. We can make America, once again, the leading force for good in the world. I know speaking of unity can sound to some like a foolish fantasy. I know the forces that divide us are deep and they are real. But I also know they are not new. Our history has been a constant struggle between the American ideal that we are all created equal and the harsh, ugly reality that racism, nativism, fear, and demonization have long torn us apart. The battle is perennial. Victory is never assured. Through the Civil War, the Great Depression, World War, 9/11, through struggle, sacrifice, and setbacks, our "better angels" have always prevailed. In each of these moments, enough of us came together to carry all of us forward. And, we can do so now. History, faith, and reason show the way, the way of unity. We can see each other not as adversaries but as neighbors. We can treat each other with dignity and respect. We can join forces, stop the shouting, and lower the temperature. For without unity, there is no peace, only bitterness and fury. No progress, only exhausting outrage. No nation, only a state of chaos. This is our historic moment of crisis and challenge, and unity is the path forward. And, we must meet this moment as the United States of America. If we do that, I guarantee you, we will not fail. We have never, ever, ever failed in America when we have acted together. And so today, at this time and in this place, let us start afresh. All of us. Let us listen to one another. Hear one another. See one another. Show respect to one another. Politics need not be a raging fire destroying everything in its path. Every disagreement doesn't have to be a cause for total war. And, we must reject a culture in which facts themselves are manipulated and even manufactured. My fellow Americans, we have to be different than this. America has to be better than this. And, I believe America is better than this. Just look around. Here we stand, in the shadow of a Capitol dome that was completed amid the Civil War, when the Union itself hung in the balance. Yet we endured and we prevailed. Here we stand looking out to the great Mall where Dr. King spoke of his dream. Here we stand, where 108 years ago at another inaugural, thousands of protestors tried to block brave women from marching for the right to vote. Today, we mark the swearing-in of the first woman in American history elected to national office Vice President Kamala Harris. Don't tell me things can't change. Here we stand across the Potomac from Arlington National Cemetery, where heroes who gave the last full measure of devotion rest in eternal peace. And here we stand, just days after a riotous mob thought they could use violence to silence the will of the people, to stop the work of our democracy, and to drive us from this sacred ground. That did not happen. It will never happen. Not today. Not tomorrow. Not ever. To all those who supported our campaign I am humbled by the faith you have placed in us. To all those who did not support us, let me say this: Hear me out as we move forward. Take a measure of me and my heart. And if you still disagree, so be it. That's democracy. That's America. The right to dissent peaceably, within the guardrails of our Republic, is perhaps our nation's greatest strength. Yet hear me clearly: Disagreement must not lead to disunion. And I pledge this to you: I will be a President for all Americans. I will fight as hard for those who did not support me as for those who did. Many centuries ago, Saint Augustine, a saint of my church, wrote that a people was a multitude defined by the common objects of their love. What are the common objects we love that define us as Americans? I think I know. Opportunity. Security. Liberty. Dignity. Respect. Honor. And, yes, the truth. Recent weeks and

months have taught us a painful lesson. There is truth and there are lies. Lies told for power and for profit. And each of us has a duty and responsibility, as citizens, as Americans, and especially as leaders if leaders who have pledged to honor our Constitution and protect our nation if to defend the truth and to defeat the lies. I understand that many Americans view the future with some fear and trepidation. I understand they worry about their jobs, about taking care of their families, about what comes next. I get it. But the answer is not to turn inward, to retreat into competing factions, distrusting those who don't look like you do, or worship the way you do, or don't get their news from the same sources you do. We must end this uncivil war that pits red against blue, rural versus urban, conservative versus liberal. We can do this if we open our souls instead of hardening our hearts. If we show a little tolerance and humility. If we're willing to stand in the other person's shoes just for a moment. Because here is the thing about life: There is no accounting for what fate will deal you. There are some days when we need a hand. There are other days when we're called on to lend one. That is how we must be with one another. And, if we are this way, our country will be stronger, more prosperous, more ready for the future. My fellow Americans, in the work ahead of us, we will need each other. We will need all our strength to persevere through this dark winter. We are entering what may well be the toughest and deadliest period of the virus. We must set aside the politics and finally face this pandemic as one nation. I promise you this: as the Bible says weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning. We will get through this, together. The world is watching today. So here is my message to those beyond our borders: America has been tested and we have come out stronger for it. We will repair our alliances and engage with the world once again. Not to meet yesterday's challenges, but today's and tomorrow's. We will lead not merely by the example of our power but by the power of our example. We will be a strong and trusted partner for peace, progress, and security. We have been through so much in this nation. And, in my first act as President, I would like to ask you to join me in a moment of silent prayer to remember all those we lost this past year to the pandemic. To those 400,000 fellow Americans if mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, sons and daughters, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. We will honor them by becoming the people and nation we know we can and should be. Let us say a silent prayer for those who lost their lives, for those they left behind, and for our country. Amen. This is a time of testing. We face an attack on democracy and on truth. A raging virus. Growing inequity. The sting of systemic racism. A climate in crisis. America's role in the world. Any one of these would be enough to challenge us in profound ways. But the fact is we face them all at once, presenting this nation with the gravest of responsibilities. Now we must step up. All of us. It is a time for boldness, for there is so much to do. And, this is certain. We will be judged, you and I, for how we resolve the cascading crises of our era. Will we rise to the occasion? Will we master this rare and difficult hour? Will we meet our obligations and pass along a new and better world for our children? I believe we must and I believe we will. And when we do, we will write the next chapter in the American story. It's a story that might sound something like a song that means a lot to me. It's called "American Anthem" and there is one verse that stands out for me: "The work and prayers of centuries have brought us to this day. What shall be our legacy? What will our children say?" Let me know in my heart. When my days are through. America. America. I gave my best to you. Let us add our own work and prayers to the unfolding story of our nation. If we do this then when our days are through our children and our children's children will say of us they gave their best. They did their duty. They healed a broken land. My fellow Americans, I close today where I began, with a sacred oath. Before God and all of you I give you my word. I will always level with you. I will defend the Constitution. I will defend our democracy. I will defend America. I will give my all in your service thinking not of power, but of possibilities. Not of personal interest, but of the public good. And together, we shall write an American story of hope, not fear. Of unity, not division. Of light, not darkness. An American story of decency and dignity. Of love and of healing. Of greatness and of goodness. May this be the story that guides us. The story that inspires us. The story that tells ages yet to come that we answered the call of history. We met the moment. That democracy and hope, truth and justice, did not die on our watch but thrived. That our America secured

liberty at home and stood once again as a beacon to the world. That is what we owe our forebearers, one another, and generations to follow. So, with purpose and resolve we turn to the tasks of our time. Sustained by faith. Driven by conviction. And, devoted to one another and to this country we love with all our hearts. May God bless America and may God protect our troops. Thank you, America.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/25/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Marquette City Commission Meets Tonight At 6:00 For Regular Meeting

Coverage:

The Marquette City Commission has a regular meeting coming up this evening. Commissioners will be hearing an annual update from the city's Traffic and Parking advisory committee.

The Commission is also expected to reappoint a subcommittee to continue the process of finding a replacement for outgoing City Manager Mike Angeli, who is retiring on May 31st.

Angeli spoke about these agenda items and more today with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

The meeting is at 6:00 o'clock at Commission Chambers at Marquette City Hall. Due to the pandemic, it is closed to the public and can be viewed live on the city's YouTube channel or Spectrum Channel 191.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 01/27/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Annual Teal Lake Meltdown Fundraiser Underway In Negaunee

Coverage:

A popular guessing game fundraising effort is back on frozen Teal Lake in Negaunee.

Bob Hendrickson, Executive Director of the Greater Ishpeming-Negaunee Area Chamber of Commerce spoke about the Teal Lake Meltdown with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Hendrickson explained that the Meltdown is a contest to select the exact day and time a replica mine shaft head-frame structure drops through the ice of Teal Lake.

He added that the closest entry to the exact day and time determines the winner. In the case of a tie, the winner will be determined by the earlier entry purchase date.

The Teal Lake Meltdown is brought to you by the Negaunee Lions Club and GINCC.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/27/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Negaunee Schools Superintendent Dan Skewis Shares District Update

Coverage:

Negaunee Public Schools Superintendent Dan Skewis says the district is moving ahead with several projects as 2021 hits its stride.

Skewis shared an update on some key efforts with Mark and Walt in the Morning this week.

He said there is a call out for nominees for consideration for the 2nd year of the Negaunee Public Schools Hall of Fame, and anyone who has suggestions can submit them through the district's Facebook page and website .

Skewis also talked about the plans for updates and renovations at several school facilities funded by a bond proposal approved by voters in August.

He wrapped up with an update on the district's efforts to get all staff and teachers vaccinated against the coronavirus.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/28/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: 2nd Red Metal Music Fest Making Online Music History Next Month At Calumet Theatre

Coverage:

Saturday, February 27th, the 2nd Red Metal Music Fest will be the first-ever live streamed concert from the Calumet Theatre.

Executive Director Marlin Lee spoke about the history-making show with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Lee said the all-star lineup includes Uncle Pete's BBQ Blues Band, Jeremy Rowe and The Dead Wreckoning, and Chad Borgen and The Collective.

Lee said viewing the live stream concert is free, but donations to the Calumet Theatre will be accepted and greatly appreciated.

The event will be live streamed on the Theatre Facebook page . A link to the performance will be provided on the Calumet Theatre web page.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 01/29/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Chippewa County Selected For Michigan Launch Initiative Command And Control Center

Coverage:

The Michigan Aerospace Manufacturers Association has selected Chippewa County as the site of its new command and control center.

MAMA Executive Director Gavin Brown spoke about the center and it's role with .

Brown said it's the third and final site in the Michigan Launch Initiative , which also includes a vertical space launch site in Marquette County and a horizontal space launch site in downstate Oscoda.

The command and control center will support both sites and manage satellite operations once rockets carrying small and mid-sized satellites are launched into low Earth orbits.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 01/29/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: It's A Good Time To Give Blood At The U.P. Regional Blood Center In Marquette

Coverage:

The Upper Peninsula Regional Blood Center is continuing the call for you to come by and give the gift of life.

Rachael Heath from the UPRBC spoke about a critical need at the center for O negative and A negative types of blood with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Heath also added that there is an urgent need for all other types of blood at the center, and you can call (906) 449-1450 to set up an appointment.

Mark and Walt both took the opportunity to set an appointment for next week to visit the center and donate...you should too!

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:00:00 AM on 01/31/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The 8th Day: Gov. Whitmer 2021 State of the State Address

Coverage:

The unedited State of the State Address of Governor Whitmer for 2021: Good evening. Last year, I gave my second State of the State address in the House Chamber here in the Capitol. Like much of the last year, this State of the State is different, because it has to be. Tonight, it's just me and a few people in my Capitol office. And while it's different, it's an opportunity to speak directly to you -- the people of

Michigan -- about the past year, and our priorities in 2021. At the risk of losing you in the first minutes of this speech, I'm going to use a Latin phrase: *Annus horribilis*: a year of horrors. Before I tell you more, take comfort in knowing that tough years like 2020, our *annus horribilis*, are usually followed by great years and yes, there's Latin a phrase for that too: *annus mirabilis*. 2020 was a tough year. Despite incredibly hard decisions and dangerous threats, I know my burden has been lighter than many. This year didn't pan out like any of us wanted or imagined. It required compassion, strength, and a lot of Michigan grit. First, let's remember the Michiganders we've lost to COVID. Every day, I think about the people who lost loved ones to this virus. Those who said goodbye to their parents over Zoom because it was too dangerous to go to the hospital. The spouses who sleep alone for the first time in years. The Michiganders who still haven't properly mourned. I think about my friend Sheriff Benny Napoleon, who spent a lifetime serving the people of Wayne County. We've lost over 14,000 Michiganders to COVID-19. 14,000 people with stories. With loved ones in parents and siblings, children and friends. Throughout this crisis, the people of Michigan have harnessed the empathy and courage that make us who we are as Michiganders. The state of our state ... is resilient. In the spring, we followed the guidance of public health experts. We took a fact-based approach to fighting this novel virus. We flattened the curve together. We saved countless lives. Businesses like Detroit Sewn stepped up and retooled their machinery to manufacture masks, hand sanitizer, gloves, or ventilators. Frontline workers in our hospitals, grocery stores, child care centers, post offices, police and fire departments, and so many others put their lives on the line to protect us. Our state employees like corrections officers and sanitation workers provided crucial services. And the vast majority of you did your part. In the midst of the worst public health crisis in our lifetimes, the world saw just how tough Michiganders are. When we get knocked down, we dust ourselves off and pull each other back up. This past year, we confronted historic converging crises in a world wide pandemic, the recession it caused, a 500-year flooding event, a nationwide call against racial inequity, and a deeply divisive election. And we took action together. The Michigan House recently elected new leadership. I want to congratulate Speaker Jason Wentworth and Democratic Leader Donna Lasinski. And welcome back the Senate Leaders - Leader Shirkey and Leader Ananich. Based on the political environment this past year, you might think Republicans and Democrats in Lansing can't find common ground on much of anything. But the reality is: despite all these crises, and the gridlock in Washington, we took real bipartisan action to get things done for you and your family. I signed two bipartisan budgets in balanced budgets that prioritized public schools, public safety, and public health. We worked together on the bipartisan Michigan Reconnect Program. That's tuition-free job training and community college for adults looking to earn a postsecondary certificate or associate degree. Thanks to Senators Ananich and Horn and Representatives Anthony and Frederick for their leadership on this. And bipartisan Clean Slate Legislation making our criminal justice system more fair and expanding opportunities for Michiganders who have served time. I want to thank the bipartisan group of legislators who helped get this done. And the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus for all of the work they have done on criminal justice reform. Let's tap into that same energy and end the pandemic, revitalize our economy and get our kids back in school. Let's make good use of this non-election year and work together. After all, we're Michiganders first. I know the Biden Administration is deeply committed to following science, protecting public health, and building our economy back better. I am eager to work with President Biden, Vice President Harris, and our congressional delegation to end this pandemic and ramp up our economy. And I will continue reaching out to Republicans here in Lansing. While 'Common ground' seems less and less common these days, it's never been more important that we work toward it. I know you're used to me saying 'fix the damn roads.' This year, let's also fix the damn road ahead and find common ground to grow our economy and get families and businesses back on their feet. That starts by ending the pandemic. The health of our economy is inextricably linked to the health of our people. Effectively rebuilding our economy this year requires that we protect public health. That hurdle is cleared easier and quicker if we work together. A governor's primary responsibility is the safety of the

people of her state. During the worst public health crisis in history, we protected and expanded health care access in Michigan. I signed bipartisan legislation to end surprise medical billing, so Michiganders don't get charged out of the blue for care. And we've worked to address the high cost of prescription drugs. Prices for lifesaving prescriptions have skyrocketed, forcing people to choose between getting their medicine, paying rent, or buying food. Last year, I announced a Prescription Drug Task Force. And just yesterday, they announced their plan to lower costs and increase drug price transparency. Members of my cabinet worked with a bipartisan group of leaders on legislation that ensures accountability and affordability to help Michigan families. Many thanks to Senators Brinks and VanderWall and Representatives Witwer and Kuppia, and former Representative Vaupel for their bipartisan work on this. Now, let's get this on the legislature's to do list. During World War II, Michigan became the arsenal of democracy - building tanks and bombers to defend freedom and crush fascism. This year, we stepped up as the arsenal of health - manufacturing masks, ventilators, and PPE. And we were the epicenter of hope when the world watched the Pfizer vaccine roll out of Portage, Michigan. Since the beginning of this pandemic, the state partnered with health insurance providers to waive costs for testing and treatment. And we have performed over 9.6 million tests, which makes us 7th in the nation. That's thanks in large part to the brave women and men serving in the Michigan National Guard. They helped with COVID, floods, and threats to our safety. As Commander-in-Chief of the Michigan National Guard, I want to formally acknowledge our Adjutant General Paul Rogers for his leadership. Our action saved lives - Especially in our most vulnerable communities. Early on, Dr. Joneigh Khaldun or Dr. Ji as you've heard me call her - saw the disparate impact COVID was having on communities of color. By acknowledging this, we not only saved lives in Michigan, but around the country as other states learned from us. Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist chaired the Michigan COVID Task Force on Racial Disparities, focusing on education, testing and outreach that further saved lives. Michigan leads the nation in reducing racial disparities of this pandemic, and the Biden-Harris administration established its own COVID Equity Task Force modeled after ours. Dr. J and her team have led our effort to get Michiganders vaccinated. Despite many challenges, we've made great strides. We prioritized our brave health care workers, our educators, seniors, and vulnerable populations most at risk. And we created the bipartisan Protect Michigan vaccine commission to ensure we get this right. We are now in the second wave of distributing safe, effective vaccines. Michigan has administered over 800,000 vaccines, which makes us 6th in the nation. The number of vaccines we have administered has surpassed the number of recorded cases in Michigan. I know people are anxious and ready to get the vaccine. That's a good thing. The fact of the matter is: we don't have the supply we need yet, but we will and the good news is that we do have a plan to get 50,000 shots in arms per day when the supply comes in. Every eligible Michigander who wants a vaccine will get one. This process is like a locomotive - it will be cumbersome and slow in the beginning, but it will get faster and smoother as we go. I just ask for patience as our frontline workers work around the clock to get shots in arms. Our medical objective is to vaccinate at least 70% of our population age 16 and up as soon as possible. The quicker we do this, the quicker we'll have the normalcy we all crave - family gatherings, travel, graduations, concerts, and more. In the coming months the vaccine will be available to the general population. When very little seems in our individual control, the act of getting a vaccine is. And as we fight the new variant of the virus, we must all continue to wear a mask, practice safe social distancing, and avoid indoor gatherings. The good news is: we know how to fight this virus. The coming months will determine the strength of our economic recovery. Let's end this pandemic. Make your plan to get vaccinated, and keep wearing your mask until this pandemic is over. Let's join forces to jumpstart our economy. That means protecting our small businesses. This pandemic has taken a massive toll on our small businesses and the people they employ. Where the federal government failed, we the states stepped up. Last month, I signed a bipartisan, \$106 million relief bill that directed \$55 million to help small businesses impacted by COVID - including restaurant owners, who have made incredible sacrifices to keep their communities safe. And last week, I announced the Michigan COVID Recovery

Plan: distributing vaccines, getting our kids back on track, supporting small businesses, and jumpstarting our economy. My plan includes a call on the Legislature to permanently extend unemployment benefits from 20 weeks to 26 weeks. This would bring Michigan in line with 40 other states and provide hard-hit Michigan workers with the financial security and peace of mind they deserve. My plan gives crucial support for small businesses and resources to help them thrive long after the pandemic is over. It helps businesses like All Seasons Communications in Macomb County, owned by Beth Monicatti Blank. I invite the legislature to partner with me on: the health of our people, the education of our kids, and the resurgence of our economy. Let's get the MI COVID Recovery Plan passed immediately. Our economy demands every child has a great public education. Despite the budget crisis caused by COVID, we worked across the aisle to support our public schools. I signed a bipartisan budget that protected our kids from school cuts and took another step towards a weighted funding formula. That means additional support for: students with special needs, economically disadvantaged students, and English language learners. COVID exposed deep inequities in our education system. Many students and educators in rural or low-income communities lack the technology access fundamental for remote learning. That's why my budget proposal next month will continue building upon the weighted funding formula. Like everything else, COVID has disrupted our kids' education. I see it in my own kids' experience. There are students in Michigan who have not been in a classroom since March 13th of last year. The pandemic stole more than 10 months of in-person instruction and support. I set a goal for all schools to offer an in-person learning opportunity by March 1st. We've seen by following the safety protocols, this can be done successfully. I'm reconvening the members of the Return to School Advisory Council. By Spring, this group will provide guidance to policymakers, districts and schools about how best to promote comprehensive recovery. And my budget will fund academic recovery, school infrastructure improvements, and support for students' physical and mental health. And I want to say thank you. Thank you to our incredible educators, administrators, and support staff for their dedication to our students throughout this pandemic. In gratitude, next month we will reward MI Classroom Heroes grants up to \$500 each for teachers and support staff. These grants will offset some expenses and acknowledge their extraordinary efforts. In addition to MI Classroom Heroes, we owe a special thank you to frontline health care workers. Including direct care workers who provide nursing and health care for seniors and Michiganders with disabilities. We gave these heroes a \$2 an hour raise. I worked with the legislature to extend it for a few months, and then a few more months. Now it's time to make that pay raise permanent. Because it's not enough to just say "thank you" if we need to show support. That is one of the reasons why I created Futures for Frontliners, modeled after the G.I. Bill after World War II - tuition-free postsecondary education opportunities for the heroes on the front lines of the pandemic. Our frontline workers - health care workers, grocery store employees, child care workers, janitors, and everyone who stepped up to protect us - are heroes. They stayed at work so the rest of us could stay home. And they've earned our full support. More than 82,000 frontline heroes have been accepted into the program. That's over 82,000 lives that could be changed as a result. 82,000 people who will enhance their skill set and earn higher wages. Paths to skills are important if we must ensure there are good jobs for Michiganders at the end of the path. And we've been hard at work. Since I was sworn into office, we have announced more than 11,400 auto jobs at GM, Ford, and FCA. Our auto industry helps drive our economy and ensures good-paying jobs for hardworking UAW members and their families. One of my top priorities this year is growing more great jobs for Michigan workers. Today, I'm announcing Michigan Back to Work: my plan to help us grow our economy and get Michiganders back on their feet. We will leverage all of the resources of state government to rebuild our economy back better. Working with leaders in state and federal government, business, and beyond to grow good-paying Michigan jobs. Over the next year, we will announce initiatives and projects big and small - from tech, mobility and manufacturing growth, to clean energy and road construction. This will protect, grow, and create more good paying jobs. It's also time for the legislature to take action extending Good Jobs for Michigan legislation to retain and grow our businesses and

create jobs. You might not know, but Pfizer was the first business to utilize Good Jobs for Michigan. They built their sterile drug manufacturing plant and created 450 good-paying jobs in Portage. Passing this legislation will be good for our families, our businesses, and our economy. Let's get it done. Growing our economy requires continued focus on our infrastructure. The long infrastructure saga in Michigan impacts our ability to safely navigate our roads without spending hundreds of dollars each year in vehicle repairs. While we had to focus on the virus, we proved that we can walk and chew gum at the same time. And a lot has happened. Last year, I announced the Rebuilding Michigan bonding plan to create and sustain tens of thousands of jobs and start fixing the damn roads without an increase at the pump. Because better roads mean better jobs. Even combatting COVID, we moved a lot of dirt. In Lansing, we completed the I-496 Rebuilding Michigan project, with hundreds of more projects on the horizon. Including heavily traveled sections of I-96 in Oakland County, I-69 in Calhoun County and I-94 in Berrien County. And just days after the May flood in Midland, our incredible MDOT workers rebuilt a crucial bridge on US-10 in record time. Hardworking union construction workers - the Laborers and Operating Engineers - got this done safely in the middle of a pandemic. Thank you. We're going to forge ahead rebuilding our roads in 2021 to protect our families and keep more money in Michiganders' pockets. As for your local roads and bridges, last session, legislation was introduced to give local communities more options so they can move some dirt too. It's a good idea and it's time for the legislature to get it done. We've also kept moving forward on water infrastructure. Last year, I announced the MI Clean Water plan, a \$500 million investment in Michigan's water infrastructure. Direct dollars to communities for safe, clean water to residents. And it supports over 7,500 Michigan jobs. It's time for the legislature to pass these bills so we can start rebuilding Michigan's water infrastructure. I will keep working so every family in Michigan has clean, safe water. We still have a lot of work to do to join forces to end the pandemic and grow our economy. In 2020, thanks to the hard work of Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson and Attorney General Dana Nessel, Michigan held a historic election. Secretary Benson ran a fair and secure election, of which we should all be proud. Attorney General Nessel defended our votes despite attacks from across the country. They, along with our local clerks and staff at the Secretary of State and Attorney General's offices, should be immensely proud. And yet we know the deep divisions in our country are present here in Michigan too. This year, I will launch the 'Fixing the Damn Road Ahead' tour to engage with and listen to Michiganders' young and old, Republicans, Democrats, and Independents, from Lake Superior to Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and everywhere in between. To focus on what unites us, improve how we talk to each other, and together we'll fix the damn road ahead. My mission is to find common ground so we can emerge from this crisis stronger than ever. When we rang in the new year on January 1st, 2020, we had high hopes. We made resolutions, planned trips, and in my case, a high school graduation, with our families and friends. It's easy to look back on this last year and focus on the bad. But we cannot forget the action we took to protect ourselves and our families. To those of you who stepped up and did your part, who listened to medical experts, stayed home, wore a mask, helped out a neighbor, and practiced social distancing in your action saved lives. Your action ensured that more Michiganders will be able to spend Thanksgiving and Christmas 2021 with their loved ones. On behalf of the entire state of Michigan: Thank you. Now, to the legislative leaders tuning in: our job now is to fix the damn road ahead together. Let's commit to the strong bipartisan action we took last year and focus that same energy to end the pandemic, grow our economy and get our kids back on track. The people of Michigan are counting on us. Here's to an annus mirabilis - a great year. Let's get it done!

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:30:00 AM on 01/31/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The 8th Day: Tyler Young Talk AFC Wimbledon on the 8th Day Radio Show

Coverage:

Tyler Young came on the 8th Day Radio Show to explain how he became an owner and voter of a United Kingdom AFC Wimbledon soccer/football team in .i' He discussed the merit system and how it differs greatly from professional sports in the United States, and perhaps there is something to be learned from the community involvement in local sports and community pride. Tyler's enthusiasm and knowledge was not only impressive, but inspiring AFC Wimbledon is an English professional football club, based in Merton , London, which has played in League One , the third tier of the English football league system , since winning promotion in 2016. The club's home stadium is Plough Lane . The club was founded in 2002 by former supporters of Wimbledon F.C. after the Football Association allowed that club to relocate to Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire, about 60 miles (97i"km) north of Wimbledon. Most of the Wimbledon F.C. supporters were very strongly opposed to moving the club so far away from Wimbledon, feeling that a club transplanted to a distant location would no longer represent Wimbledon or the club's historic legacy and tradition. [1] [2] [3] Wimbledon F.C. moved in 2003 and formally changed the name of the club to Milton Keynes Dons in 2004. [2] [4] When AFC Wimbledon was formed, it affiliated to both the London and Surrey Football Associations, and entered the Premier Division of the Combined Counties League , the ninth tier of English football. The club has since been promoted six times in 13 seasons, going from the ninth tier (Combined Counties Premier) to the third (League One). AFC Wimbledon currently hold the record for the longest unbeaten run of league matches in English senior football, having played 78 consecutive league games without a defeat between February 2003 and December 2004. [5] They are the first club formed in the 21st century to make it into the Football League. [6] Read MORE at about AFC Wimbledon at Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AFC_Wimbledon

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 02/01/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Love On Local Program Reaches Milestone In Marquette County Small Business Support

Coverage:

The Lake Superior Community Partnership says their 'Love On Local' gift card campaign has reached a milestone.

LSCP Outreach Coordinator Megan O'Connor spoke about the program reaching \$250,000 in total support of small businesses in Marquette County today with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

O'Connor talked about the process for getting one of the gift cards through the Love On Local website and how you can use it to support all small businesses in the county.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 02/02/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Using Strength Training To Prevent Or Manage Lower Back Pain

Coverage:

On our latest Active Physical Therapy update, we heard about low back pain and the importance of strength training for management and prevention.

Anna Howes, Physical Therapist with Active Physical Therapy, spoke about how prevalent low back pain is and how resistance strength training can fight it with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Howes also talked about why strength training is helpful, and what actually happens at the tissue level when it is done.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 02/02/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Upper Peninsula Health Plan Encourages You To Get A COVID-19 Vaccination

Coverage:

Upper Peninsula Health Plan is getting the word out about the importance of getting a COVID-19 vaccination.

Sue Sands, LPN, Community Health Worker Clinical Liaison with UPHP, spoke about COVID-19 being an unpredictable disease with no way to know exactly how it will affect you if you contract it. She shared her thoughts on Mark and Walt in the Morning this week.

Sands says getting the vaccine prepares your immune system so it's ready to fight if you're exposed, adding that the vaccine is safe and effective

If you have specific concerns about your health and getting vaccinated, always speak to your doctor first.

Sands says a comprehensive list of vaccine locations organized by county is on the UPHP website that includes contact information, whether or not they are currently accepting appointments, and if a wait list is available.

She added that it's important to check back often as vaccine availability is changing daily.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 02/03/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Superior Health Foundation Addressing Child Mental Health Issues Related To Pandemic

Coverage:

The Superior Health Foundation and the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation are collaborating on a grant initiative to address emotional and mental health issues impacting children and

adolescents due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SHF Executive Director Jim LaJoie spoke about the organizations providing \$100,000 in funding for a special grant opportunity with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

LaJoie said the grant will provide health-centered non-profits in the U.P. the resources and tools to assess, evaluate and provide treatment and assistance to children and adolescents.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 02/03/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Winter Carnival Is Underway At Michigan Tech In Houghton

Coverage:

Organizers say Winter Carnival at Michigan Tech in Houghton is on for this year, but it's going to look a bit different.

Scott Sviland, President of The Blue Key Honor Society, spoke about this year's events, including the large snow statues, with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Sviland said the Carnival takes place this Wednesday through Saturday. Some of the usual activities have been canceled and others have been adjusted due to COVID-19, but the tradition of large snow sculptures is continuing.

He added all statues are located near sidewalks, so viewers will be able to follow social distancing protocols.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 02/04/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Connect Marquette Presenting Their Winter Summit Later This Month

Coverage:

Connect Marquette is presenting a special online event later this month open to any and all interested in health, wellness and professional growth.

Connect Marquette President Shannon Whitehouse and Secretary Antonio Adan spoke about Winter Summit Conference sponsored by Clockwork today on Mark and Walt in the Morning.

They explained that it's a half-day virtual event on February 19th featuring panel discussions, a keynote speaker and closing speaker author Nancy Lyons, a native of Marquette.

You can find out more about the schedule and register at the Connect Marquette website .

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:00:00 AM on 02/07/21 and was discussed for 20 Minutes

The 8th Day: Governor Whitmer Announces High School Contact Sports Can Return February 8th

Coverage:

Today Governor Whitmer, along with Dr. Khalidun, Director Hertel, and Legend Junior spoke during another press conference to announce that high school contact sports can return Monday, February 8th. Gretchen Whitmer: Good afternoon. Today is Thursday, February 4th. I am joined, of course, by Dr. Khalidun, Dr. J, Elizabeth Hertel, our director of health and human services, Dr. Carpy who is a pediatrician with IHA in Ann Arbor and Legend Geeter, who is in addition to having a wonderful name, a student athlete at River Rouge. He's one of the Panthers and he celebrated a birthday yesterday and he's joining us today as well. So Michigan is making encouraging progress in eliminating this virus in communities across our state. Since our last press conference, Michigan passed the 1 million mark in administering vaccines all across Michigan. We've administered 1,076,545 total doses as of the close of yesterday of the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine. So, that number is going up as we speak. Every shot in the arm is a step forward toward ending the COVID-19 pandemic once and for all and our progress so far is helping us stay track to meet our goal of equitably vaccinating 70% of our 16 and up population in Michigan. We have made incredible strides in making these vaccines available, with every person who lives in a skilled nursing facility in Michigan that wants a vaccine having had an opportunity to receive at least a first dose. This week, we've also received promising news from the Biden administration, which has taken bold action to increase the vaccine supply to states and it is now at 10 and a half million doses per week nationwide with continuity and predictability for the next three weeks and I'm sure we'll get another update next week, but that is going in the right direction. Of course, we want more vaccines, we need more vaccines, but the trajectory and predictability is so crucial and we are grateful for that. They've also announced that they are approving 100% reimbursement, retroactive coverage through August of 2020 for the Michigan National Guard to assist in our COVID-19 relief efforts. The men and women of the Guard have been incredible and absolutely critical to our state's emergency response and relief efforts over the course of this last year with COVID. As we administer additional doses of these vaccines, the Michigan National Guard continues to play a vital role in our ability to administer these vaccines efficiently. They support mobile screening sites, testing, food distribution, and other safety protocols in public spaces all across the state. So I'm incredibly thankful for the service of our Guard members. They're working around the clock to help Michigan fight this pandemic and will continue to do so and I will continue to make sure that they've got the support they need and resources that they deserve. Going forward, it's critical that we continue working together on an agreement that leverages every single resource and federal dollar available to support Michigan's communities, Michigan's businesses, Michigan students and educators, so that we can recover from this pandemic. I remain ready to work with anyone who wants to focus on these goals. These are not partisan goals, these are Michigan goals and while it's important that we remain cautious and adhere to safety protocols to prevent this virus from spreading once more, thanks to our efforts over these last few months, and I mean our efforts, all of our efforts, we are now ready to take a few steps forward in returning to some normal day-to-day activities. Today, DHHS is issuing an epidemic order to allow in-person practice and competitions for sports leagues starting on Monday, February 8th. I know these past months have been tough on all of us and I know they've been really hard on student athletes who've been missing a sense of connection and belonging, as well as the many other attributes

that playing sports provides. I appreciate the passion of our young athletes and the desire that they share to get back in the game that they love. Here in Michigan, we all love sports. It's part of our DNA. And throughout this time we've been watching our numbers closely to make sure that we do achieve forward progress, and we are continuing to make it possible for students to get back into in-person learning as well, no later than March 1st is the goal. So I'm pleased to share, because of the steps that we've taken and because of your actions as well, our numbers are now in a place where we can allow our kids to get back in the game with their coaches and teammates. So after receiving input from doctors, from coaches, from students, from parents and legislative leaders, today DHHS is issuing a new epi order that will allow sports teams to begin in-person practice on Monday, February 8th, as long as masks are worn at all times. Teams can also compete in person with masks if possible, or where masks are not compatible with the competition, they will be allowed to compete without masks if certain strict safety protocols are in place, including a testing regimen. So this is exciting news, and I'm so glad that our kids are going to be able to get back into playing the sports that they love. It's also important to remember that as we take this step, we must remain vigilant. At the end of the day, what has been the most important throughout this process in making sure that our kids can play, is that we keep them safe as they do. We don't want them to put their own health or the health of their families at risk. It's critical that we get this right so that our kids and educators can return to the classroom safely, so that our small businesses can stay re-engaged and our state economy can recover. To that end, I was also pleased to sign an executive order today to create the Student Recovery Advisory Council of Michigan. As Michigan continues to work around the clock to eliminate COVID-19, the Student Recovery Advisory Council will provide guidance and recommendations to ensure Michigan students have the tools and resources they need to get back on track and back in the classroom for in-person learning. It has been a tough 12 months almost. This pandemic will be over one day soon, but until then thousands of Michiganders still need support. That's why it's so crucial that the legislature join forces with me and pass the Michigan COVID Recovery Plan. The plan will ramp up vaccine distribution, support small businesses, get our students and educators back on track and that's something I think we can all agree on is crucial. Gretchen Whitmer :we've come together to pass relief package before, and we can do it again. I look forward to working with legislative partners on both sides of the aisle to make it happen. Let's get it done. With that, I'll turn it over to Dr. Joneigh Khaldun. Dr. Joneigh Khaldun: Good afternoon and thank you governor. So as of yesterday, we were at 563,893 cases and 14,704 deaths due to COVID-19 in the state. Here's where we are with the key metrics that we are tracking. Cases are currently at 159 cases per million and have been declining steadily over the past 24 days. Three regions, Detroit, Traverse City, and the Upper Peninsula are all at less than 150 cases per million people. Our test positivity rate is also declining and is now at 4.9%. That is the lowest it has been since mid-October. The percent of beds that are utilized by patients with COVID-19 is steadily declining as well, and is now at 6.6%. So overall, I'm pleased that we have continued to reopen our economy. Michiganders are doing their part by wearing masks, avoiding gatherings and socially distancing and because we continue to see our metrics trending in the right direction, we can move forward with allowing contact sport practices and competitions with specific public health measures in place like mask and testing. As a former college athlete myself and the mother of three children who play sports, I know the important role that sports play in our family's lives. But we also know that one of the most important things we can do right now is have our children be able to learn in person. As we continue to re-engage, it is critical that everyone adheres to these important public health measures so we can prevent outbreaks, not just on our sports teams--it's measures so we can prevent outbreaks, not just on our sports teams, but in our schools as well. Please everyone remain vigilant so we can keep our COVID-19 case numbers trending in the right direction. It's also important that we continue to be careful because we have a new variant that has been identified in Michigan. This variant that I've spoken about before, B117, is more easily spread from person to person. If this variant becomes more common, as national experts predict it could, then we could see a very rapid rise in cases and more

hospitalizations and deaths. So far, we have identified 28 cases of this new variant in Washtenaw County and Wayne County. And there will likely be more. We're working very closely with our local health departments to make sure we are aggressively identifying any potential outbreaks and slowing the spread of this variant as much as possible. I'm also very proud of our team at the State Bureau of Laboratories led by Dr. Sandip Shah for their national leadership in sequencing samples from across the state so we can rapidly identify these variants and slow the spread. One of the most important ways we can slow the spread and identify these new variants is by testing. So please, if you have symptoms, if you've been exposed to someone who has COVID-19, or if you've recently traveled from an area that has a known variant of this virus spreading, please do get a test. I was honored to testify in Congress this week about Michigan's progress with the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. We have made great strides with vaccinations in Michigan, announcing over a million doses administered this past Monday. Every resident and staff person in a skilled nursing facility has been offered their first dose of the vaccine. And last week, we also announced our new strategy outlining specific principles and goals that will help us end this pandemic as quickly as possible. We will continue to focus on equity and efficiency in our vaccination strategy. I'm proud of the work of our local health departments, our health systems, our pharmacies, and other partners who are doing great work to get Michiganders vaccinated. But we still do not have nearly enough vaccine to be able to get every Michigander who is currently eligible an appointment at this time. I continue to ask for your patience, but please know that everyone who wants to be vaccinated will be. And we are working to make that happen as quickly as possible.

Dr. Joneigh Khaldun: Finally, I know that Superbowl Sunday is coming up and people will want to watch the game with family and friends. Please be mindful that we have to do this differently this year while we are still seeing so much virus in our communities. Michigan largely avoided a post-holiday surge because we all did the right thing. This Superbowl Sunday, please avoid gatherings. And if you do gather, please keep it limited to only one other household, and make sure you're wearing a mask, socially distancing, and washing your hands frequently. So I'm proud to be a Michigander. As a state, most people are doing what they should be doing, and that is why we've been able to keep our cases going in the right direction. And we are saving lives. Everyone, please keep doing your part so we can end this pandemic as quickly as possible. And with that, I'll turn it over to Director Hertel.

Director Hertel: Thank you, Dr. Khaldun. As a parent of children involved in sports as well, I understand the interest and emotion connected to finding solutions that allow us to gradually reopen opportunities for youth sports, including their physical and mental health benefits, while keeping our kids, coaches, and families as safe as possible from COVID-19. Contact sports, like other activities where participants gather and interact in close proximity across multiple households, naturally pose a higher risk of COVID-19. And it remains our responsibility to protect public health. However, as Michigan's COVID-19 numbers trend down and we continue to understand best practices to reduce spread in close contacts like settings, after piloting a testing program for high school teams, and announcing the MI Safe Schools testing program, we believe there are opportunities to be agile and resume youth sports with a combination of public health measures and testing in place. Today, I signed an amended epidemic order that will allow youth contact sports to resume practice and competition with consistent masking, team testing, and other precautions beginning February 8th. This includes ice hockey, basketball, wrestling, soccer, and more. I'm excited that we are at this point where we can take this step. It is thanks to all of you who have been careful and taken steps to slow the spread of COVID-19. We know this hasn't been easy and we thank you. And so we are counting on everyone to help make this work so we won't eventually have to take steps backward again. During all practices and competitions, participants are required to remain masked during play. For sports where participants can not remain masked, all participants, excuse me, must be tested consistent with the testing protocol that will be specified in the department's guidance for athletics to be issued February 7th. This guidance will be available on our website at michigan.gov/coronavirus. Masks should be worn at all times when not playing. Participants are required to maintain six feet of distance from each other during practice, and when not engaged in

competitive play. Director Hertel: Sports organizers, the institutions, the schools, associations, or other organizations that set and enforce rules to ensure the physical health and safety of all participants for an organized sport, must ensure that all competitions and practices comply with these requirements. And even when it is not required, sports organizers are strongly encouraged to administer a testing protocol as specified in our interim guidance for athletics. The order will be posted on our website at michigan.gov/coronavirus. We plan to release additional guidance by Monday to help teams and families prepare and comply with these new rules. This guidance will include a recommendation that attendance be limited to two spectators per athlete to reduce the risk of COVID-19. This information will also be posted on our website. And again, we are excited to be able to make this step forward. But coaches, players, parents, and even officiants, we need to work together to make this successful. It will take all of us sticking to the new rules for practice and game day. Our health and epidemiology teams will continue to monitor the data related to this order and our guidance. But with your partnership, we hope to stay on this course and avoid returning to a pause in play. This pandemic is not over yet, and it is important that we remain vigilant, but we have reason for hope. So keep masking up, keep physically distancing, and keep avoiding gatherings outside of your household. And at the same time, as trends improve, we will continue to look for ways to return to the activities that we love safely. Thank you.

And with that, I will turn it over to Dr. Karthikeyan. Dr. Omkar Karthikeyan: Good afternoon. Thank you, Governor Whitmer, for your leadership on this issue, which is, of course, of vital importance to children and families all across Michigan. My name is Dr. Omkar Karthikeyan and I'm a pediatrician with IHA in Ann Arbor. And I'm here today to speak on the importance of providing an in-person learning option for children. Children have sacrificed disproportionate time since the start of the pandemic. Back in March, as the scope of COVID-19's impact began to come into focus, school closures are one of the very first mitigation steps taken. At the same time, virtually all sports and extracurricular activities were shut down for children as well. So in the blink of an eye, they lost their entire networks for education, exercise, and socialization. Now, this was a very sensible strategy at the time as our presumption at that point was that COVID-19 would behave like influenza does where children in schools are major drivers of its propagation. However, as we moved through the spring and into the summer, what we learned is that this is very much not the case. It became clear to us that children not only were less susceptible to contracting COVID or serious illness from COVID, but they also appeared less likely to spread it either to other children or to the adults in their lives, namely the teachers, caregivers, or even their parents. Furthermore, we learned that asymptomatic spread, which has been such a major obstacle to controlling the pandemic, does not appear to occur at the same rate in children as it does in adults. And this data has borne out through numerous rather large studies involving often thousands or even hundreds of thousands of children. And it certainly was consistent with what we were observing in our pediatric practices. And then in the fall, as schools began to reopen their doors all across the country, what we learned was that very basic strategies like masking and social distancing worked, and that children of all ages, even as young as four or five years old, were happy to comply with this if this is what it took to get them back in school safely. But this is what it took to get them back in school safely. These simple steps managed to more or less prevent any significant outbreaks within the school setting. And that means between students, from students to teachers, or vice versa. And this occurred even in settings of relatively high community spread. Quite simply, schools do not appear to be super spreader environments. Now, unfortunately, the other thing that we've learned in this time is the toll that school closures has taken on children. Symptoms of anxiety and depression are on the rise, as are pediatric ER visits for mental health emergencies, child abuse rates are up, childhood obesity, long known to be an epidemic particularly here in Michigan, is on the rise as children are spending less time moving their bodies and more time in front of a screen. And all across the nation we're beginning to understand the educational shortcomings of distance learning. In my very own family, I've seen my daughter's love of learning drain from her over the course of the past year or so, since she was last able to be in-person class; and this is despite her

having a teacher this year who is an absolute rockstar. But for many families that are far less fortunate than my own, the devastation has been profound. And this has been especially true for families of color, non-English speaking families, and those who are disadvantaged economically or otherwise, many of whom simply don't have the time, the means, or the bandwidth to engage consistently in distance learning, and have just giving up. And so we've seen achievement gaps growing at alarming rates. Now, certainly there are some families for whom virtual school has been the best decision for them, but I've spent far more visits than I would ever want to comforting families who are hurting, with parents in tears who are despondent that they feel that they're failing their child who's sinking academically or drowning emotionally, or trying to preserve hope for a child who's grown disillusioned at waiting seemingly endlessly to rejoin their friends in a classroom, something they used to take for granted.

Dr. Omkar Karthikeyan: Now fortunately there have been many well-established roadmaps for how to reopen schools, from the CDC, the Biden administration, Governor Whitmer's taskforce, or frankly other districts all over the nation that have successfully reopened. So it's imperative that we utilize all of these resources together, and we connect teachers, staff, and administrators with their counterparts in the districts that have successfully reopened so that they can exchange ideas and learn best practices for their strategies. And with all things, our reopening plans need to be guided by hope and creativity, but above all science, not fear and misinformation. And of course we pediatricians always stand ready to assist in any manner possible. Thank you for your time. And with that, I'll bring up Legend.

Legend Junior: Good afternoon, my name is Legend, and I am a senior at River Rouge High School. I will be attending Providence College in the fall on a full-ride scholarship for basketball. Thank you Governor Whitmer for listening to us, the athletics, our families, and our coaches. We all have a responsibility to ensure we keep one another safe and do our part to slow down the spread of COVID-19.

Legend Junior: One of the greatest lessons of basketball is teamwork, and it will take everyone to defeat this virus. This is why I'm committed to staying safe while still playing the sport that I love. Getting back into classrooms and being able to play the sport that I love will prepare me for my future. My teammates and I really appreciate that you have allowed indoor groups since January, and that gave us the opportunity to connect with one another, and get closer together. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak before you. Thank you.

Gretchen Whitmer: Thank you Legend, nice work. Happy birthday. Hi. Legend, thank you, Dr. K, Dr. J, Director Hertel.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:20:00 AM on 02/07/21 and was discussed for 20 Minutes

The 8th Day: Shannon Whitehouse Talks 2021 Connect Marquette Winter Summit on 8th Day Radio Show

Coverage:

Shannon Whitehouse visited the 8th Day Radio show to talk about Connect Marquette 's 2021 Winter Summit coming Fr.' This year's theme for the summit is Growth and Wellness, especially in these pandemic times.' Shannon also spoke about Connect Marquette and how she came to see it as a way to connect and build relationships. Sponsored by Clockwork, the summit will be a half-day event on Friday, February 19th (registration required by Wednesday, February 17th).i' Learn more about the event and register at' <https://connectmarquette.org/CMPDC> Join Connect Marquette for a half-day digital Conference Friday, February 19, 2021!i' We will start things off at 9:00 a.m. on Friday and wrap up shortly after 12:45 p.m.i' Focusing on Growth and Wellness the Winter Summit will feature two panels, a keynote speaker, and a closing speaker. Health and Wellness Panel Keynote Speaker State of Outdoor Recreation and How You Can Get Involved Closing Speaker These bite-sized sessions will cover everything from Health and Wellness to Outdoor Recreation, and Personal Growth to be sure

there is something for everyone! Take advantage of the Winter Summit, Sponsored by Clockwork experience by submitting questions for these well-established professionals during the QandA periods following each session. A moderator will join us from Innovate Marquette SmartZone. Congratulations to our Winter Summit Giveaway Winner! Lea Dziesinski. Lea entered to win through Instagram and will receive free entry to attend 2021 Winter Summit. 2021 Keynote Speaker: Nancy Lyons CEO | Author | Speaker | Nancy Lyons, a Marquette native, has been at the forefront of the work culture conversation for more than twenty years. 'People-first as a business strategy' is the guiding principle that fuels the unique, award-winning culture at Clockwork, a company she founded in 2002. Nancy has led employees and clients through thousands of business, team, and work culture challenges. As a digital veteran, she has witnessed the dramatic change technology brought to both businesses and people, and yet also sees people and companies struggling to figure out how to adapt. She speaks and writes about the crucial role work culture plays in delivering meaningful and effective results. Work culture - our feelings, behaviors, and interactions - is core to how we work. It's a primary determinant of personal and professional success. Nancy has watched people go from being a victim of work to being the agent of work with simple shifts. Her first book was *Interactive Project Management: Pixels, People, and Process*, a human-centered approach to producing digital products. Her current book, *Work Like a Boss: A kick-in-the-pants Guide to Finding (and Using) your Power at Work*, is the little book everyone needs to remember the actions, attitudes, and attributes that will make work better, for individuals and everyone around them. Nancy is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions including: 100 People to Know from Twin Cities Business Most Admired CEO from Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal 101 Most Influential People in the World of Work, Management, and career from Ladder Magazine Business Owner of the Year from National Association from Women Business Owners Panelist at the inaugural White House Summit for Working Families in Washington, DC Featured on NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt in segment 'Best Places to Work in America.' [caption id='attachment_1116876' align='aligncenter' width='640'] 2021 Connect Marquette Winter Summit Program[/caption] Virtual Winter Summit Program Health and Wellness Panel Our Health and Wellness Panel consists of 4 professionals from various areas of the wellness industry who will be discussing the importance of how focusing on your own personal health can be beneficial to both personal and professional growth. The panel consists of a Wellness Business owner, a Chiropractor, a Nutritionist, and a Therapist. Jamie Thayer Jamie Thayer, owner of Anytime Fitness in Harvey and Co-Owner of Jessica and Co. Salon. Together with Dr. Stephanie Wautier, they have GLOW Sculpting Spa. Dr. Stephanie Wautier Dr. Stephanie Wautier, chiropractor and owner of Wautier Wellness Chiropractic. Together with Jamie Thayer, they have GLOW Sculpting Spa. Jenna Neaves Jenna Neaves, nutritionist and owner of Marquette Nutrition as well as an NSCA Strength and Conditioning Specialist and Personal Trainer, and Certified Holistic Health Coach. Cori Noordyk Cori Noordyk, therapist and owner of Cori Noordyk Therapy. Cori specializes in working with women and couples and has received continued training in both arenas. Outdoor Recreation All work and no play is a mindset of the past. Life requires balance and being an effective employee requires having hobbies and an outlet for the stressors of present day life. We are so fortunate in the U.P. to have so many outdoor recreational opportunities. Come listen to one of four local organizations talk about the different outdoor activities that they love and how you can get more involved in these activities. Outdoor Recreation Options: The Noquemanon Trail Network VeloServe Marquette Mountain Skill Hill U.P. Rowing Club Closing Speaker: Jacquelyn Trask-Rahn Jacquelyn has been a financial advisor with Edward Jones since 2018 and is a current Executive Board member for the Delta County Young Professional Organization, UpperEdge. She spent seven years as a litigation attorney in South Florida in the areas of finance, probate, and real estate law. Jacquelyn received her Juris Doctorate with summa cum laude honors from Nova Southeastern University and a double-major Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Michigan. Jacquelyn loves being an active member of her community and sits on several boards in the Delta County Area including Upper Edge, Holy Name Catholic School Home and

School Board, GFWC - Women's Club, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bay Area. In today's multi-faceted, world of multitasking, multi-responsibilities and often multiple professions, it is important to continually expand and develop our knowledge and skills. Areas of our lives that once seemed separate (i.e. work and home) have begun to overlap and blur into a terrain that can, without the right tools, be difficult or frustrating to navigate. Taking time to make personal and professional development a priority is more essential than ever. Jacqueline will share her considerable knowledge on how to utilize tools provided by this conference to keep a clear and traversable path into success and wellness as a multi-dimensional professional. PRICING Connect Marquette Member: \$20.00 Member of U.P. Professional Association(s): \$24.00 (\$5 off!) General Public: \$29.00 Click [HERE](#) to register! For more information or to become involved, contact info@connectmarquette.org.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:40:00 AM on 02/07/21 and was discussed for 20 Minutes

The 8th Day: 8th Day Interviews Marcus Robyns, NMU Archivist, about UPLINK Project to Digitize, Preserve and Share U.P. History

Coverage:

Marcus C. Robyns, CA, Professor and University Archivist at Northern Michigan University visited the 8th Day Radio Show to talk about how the NMU Archives will soon help digitize, preserve and share U.P. History materials from 33 heritage institutions in the Upper Peninsula. Robyns talked about how Northern Michigan University received a grant from the National Archives to begin implementing the UPLINK project. U.P. History Northern Michigan University has received a \$100,000 grant to launch UPLINK, a collaborative, regional digital network that will enable U.P. heritage organizations to preserve historical manuscript collections and offer online public access. The two-year project is being supported by a National Archives' National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) Planning and Implementation Grant. NMU will be the home base for the project archivist. It will also serve as the principal service hub among three in the region capable of converting photographs, text and analog audio-visual media to a digital format. The U.P. supplied much of the mineral and timber resources that fueled industrialization in the United States during the latter half of the 19th century and through much of the 20th, said NMU Archivist Marcus Robyns, who initiated the effort. Despite this important past, the U.P. has struggled to identify, collect and preserve its documentary heritage. Most museums, archives and libraries are not well funded and short-staffed, primarily with volunteers. This has resulted in considerable challenges for preservation and access to important historical records, making digitization projects nearly impossible. With support from an NMU faculty research grant, Robyns visited 17 U.P. heritage organizations during the summer of 2019 and received nine responses to an online survey from those he was unable to visit. These represent about 80 percent of the heritage institutions in the Upper Peninsula. Robyns interviewed staff about operations, funding and management of digital material. He also inventoried historical manuscript materials, focusing on significant collections contributing to an understanding of U.P. history. Robyns found that only one organization—the Delta County Historical Society in Escanaba—provides online public access to its digital material. The majority of U.P. heritage institutions do not actively collect or manage digital records, he said. Those that do digitization work overwhelming digitize photographic material from their collections in-house, mainly at a volunteer's home using personal equipment. The majority of backup procedures are rudimentary, with digital content maintained on hard drives, flash drives, CDRs or DVDs. No organization has digitized a complete manuscript collection comprised of different analog formats. His summer research served as a springboard to an NHPRC planning grant. With the funding, representatives from U.P. state universities, Peter White Public

Library and the Marquette Regional History Center formed a team that analyzed the data Robyns gathered. The team developed the administrative structure, policies and procedures for UPLINK. As the principal service hub, NMU will host the project website on a dedicated server. The website will also serve as a portal to ArchivesSpace collection finding aids, Preservica's Universal Access page and digital objects uploaded to Digital Public Library of America A governing board comprised of representatives from NMU, Michigan Technological University, Lake Superior State University and five member heritage organizations will manage the proposed network. For more information, visit UPLINK . Dive Deep: Heritage Organizations Site Survey Report Selected Site Visit Collections Inventory UPLINK Governance and Procedures Report UPLINK Technology Plan

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 02/08/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Marquette City Commission Meets Tonight

Coverage:

The Marquette City Commission has a regular meeting coming up this evening, which will include an update from the Marquette Housing Commission.

City Manager Mike Angeli spoke about the meeting's agenda today with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

The full agenda can be reviewed at the City of Marquette website .' The meeting will be streamed live on the City of Marquette YouTube page .

Angeli added that there will also be a public hearing on the rezoning of five properties located near the NMU campus, and Commissioners are also expected to formally contract a consulting firm for the search for a replacement for him as he is retiring later this year.

The Commission will also be taking action on a new three-year contract with the Marquette Firefighters Association Local #643.

The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. at Commission Chambers at Marquette City Hall.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 02/08/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Greater Ishpeming-Negaunee Chamber Encouraging You To 'Eat Local' And Become A GINCC Member

Coverage:

The Greater Ishpeming-Negaunee Area Chamber of Commerce is encouraging you support local restaurants in the West End of Marquette County.

Bob Hendrickson, GINCC Executive Director, spoke about the effort to get the word out about West

End restaurants today on Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Hendrickson also talked about the chamber, what it does and the benefits of being a member.

You can get full updates at the GINCC website and on their Facebook page .i' You can also call them at (906) 486-1111.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 02/09/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: NICE Community Schools Superintendent Bryan DeAugustine Shares District Update

Coverage:

The NICE Community Schools are continuing with efforts to get their faculty and staff vaccinated as soon as possible against the coronavirus.

District Superintendent Bryan DeAugustine spoke about the effort and how it's progressing with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

DeAugustine also shared his thoughts on weather-related school cancellations versus remote learning days and how they are part of process of teaching young people in the modern COVID era.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 02/09/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Negaunee And Ishpeming Collaborating With Ishpeming Rotary On Teal Lake Docks

Coverage:

The cities of Negaunee and Ishpeming and the Ishpeming Rotary are continuing with a joint dock cooperation project for Teal Lake.

Negaunee City Manager Nate Heffron and Ishpeming City Manager Craig Cugini spoke about the project today on Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Heffron said the original project called for an ADA compliant dock and beach improvements on the west side of Teal Lake, but it would not work out as hoped.i' The project is now installing a dock system on both ends of Teal Lake.

Cugini said the project is a great way for the two communities working together on a common goal, and he is hoping to see more of such cooperation between Ishpeming and Negaunee in the future.

Heffron explained the Ishpeming side will handle canoes and kayaks, while the Negaunee side will

handle canoes, kayaks, and sculls used by the Marquette Rowing Club, adding the project is slated for completion next year, but will depend on funding.

Grant applications are being planned for the Michigan D-N-R Trust Fund and the Recreation Passport Grant Program to help with the estimated \$152,000 project.

The Rotary Club of Ishpeming has already committed \$10,000 to the overall project and will be looking to add some additional funding.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 02/10/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Home Builders Association Of The U.P. Annual Scholarship Raffle Wrapping Up Soon

Coverage:

The 2021 HBA of the U.P. Cash and Firearm Raffle is coming to close soon, but there is still time to buy your tickets.

Sarah Foster, CEO of HBA of the U.P., spoke about the raffle and what it is for today with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Foster said the raffle raises funds for their scholarship program that supports students from the U.P. going to college to learn about the construction trades.

The drawing will be held this Sunday, February 14th at 2:00pm, but tickets are still available.

Foster said to buy tickets, people can call the HBA office at 906-228-2312 , stop down at 3125 Wright Street in Marquette or go to the website at www.upbuilders.org and click on EVENTS and then WILD GAME DINNER .

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 02/11/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: SAIL - Disability Network Of The U.P.'s Annual Chocolate Festival Goes Virtual

Coverage:

The annual Chocolate Festival fundraiser for SAIL - The Disability Network of the Upper Peninsula is underway for this year, but it is a bit different due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Executive Director Sarah Peurakoski spoke about the event being held as a raffle with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Peurakoski said a \$5.00 raffle ticket gets one chance to win a package from a local chocolatier, and all packages are valued at \$100 or more.

She added that tickets are available by contacting their offices at 1200 Wright Street Suite A in Marquette or by calling (906) 228-5744.

Tickets can also be purchased at the Marquette Food Co-op, Saykly's in Marquette or at the Midtown Bakery in Negaunee.

Peurakoski said drawings will be held live on their FACEBOOK page on February 23rd, 24th, 25th at Noon EST .

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 02/12/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Art On The Rocks Moving Ahead For July 2021 In Marquette's Mattson Lower Harbor Park

Coverage:

Organizers of the annual Art on the Rocks Art Show in Marquette say they are planning to hold the event this summer.

Event Director Tristan Luoma spoke about the plans on Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Luoma said the event is scheduled for Saturday, July 24 and Sunday, July 25th, 2021 at Mattson Lower Harbor Park in Marquette.

He added that the the plan is to hold the event as usual, but organizers will continue to keep a close eye on pandemic and vaccination efforts over the next few months to ensure a safe event that abides by all health guidelines.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 02/12/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Here's Why Lithium Ion Batteries Should Not Be Thrown Away In Your Trash

Coverage:

The Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority is working to get the word out to residents to not throw away batteries with their other household waste.

MCSWMA Director of Operations Brad Austin spoke about the particular dangers of lithium ion batteries when they are improperly disposed of with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Austin said those types of batteries caused of a small fire at the county landfill earlier this month when a bag of waste caught fire when it was run over by the landfill's heavy equipment.

He explained that the batteries can be found in many common household items including cell phones, laptops, e-cigarettes, as well as toys and smoke alarms.

Austin said that there are safe and environmentally friendly options for battery disposal, and you can find out more by visiting recycle906.com.

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WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:00:00 AM on 02/14/21 and was discussed for 60 Minutes

The 8th Day: Governor Whitmer Holds Coronavirus Press Conference - February 9th

Coverage:

Today Governor Whitmer along with Dr. Khaldun held a press conference to discuss the coronavirus and announce that Michigan health insurers are continuing to waive out-of-pocket costs for COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and treatments. Listen to the press conference below or keep reading for a full transcript.

Gretchen Whitmer: All right. Good afternoon. Today is Tuesday, February 9th. And of course, I'm here with Dr. Jay and Kevin Polston, who is the superintendent of Godfrey-Lee Public Schools and chair of the Student Recovery Advisory Council. Michigan continues to press forward in the fight against COVID-19, and we have been ramping up the largest vaccination strategy in state history. Michigan continues to make progress toward achieving our goal of equitably vaccinating 70% of Michiganders 16 and up. We've already administered 1.2 million, so 1,292, 572 vaccines to date. And that number is literally growing as we speak. We're working around the clock to get more second doses into arms, with an emphasis on prioritizing our frontline workers, educators, veterans, and of course our elderly citizens. This morning, I was able to visit the vaccination site at Michigan State University Pavilion with Major General Paul Rogers, State Representative Julie Brixie Ingham County Health Officer Linda Vail, and Lieutenant Colonel Karen Sims. It was so amazing to see how they are moving people through getting vaccines. And I had an opportunity to talk to some people who, as they were sitting in their cars, about what it meant to them to be there. And it was inspirational. And I know there have been a lot of tough days, but having a moment to see what is happening, I think, was so energizing for me. And I'm so excited about where we are headed. I was proud to witness the incredible work that they are doing every day, our local public health experts, the National Guard, Michigan State Police, I mean all of them working together. Yesterday, we were proud to announce that we have secured agreements from nearly all Michigan health insurers to continue waiving out of pocket costs for COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and treatments. As we continue working to combat this global pandemic and save lives, the very last thing that Michiganders should have to worry about is whether or not their health insurance will cover the costs of their care. And this will help give Michiganders peace of mind needed to continue staying healthy and staying safe and getting the care that is needed. Just as it has been these past 11 months, our success at this point is fragile. That's the nature of this virus, as we see the demand for vaccines outpace the supply we currently have. That is going to change, and we are seeing an increase in vaccines and another was told to us governors today on a call with the White House. That is good news. It's not nearly as fast as we all want, but it is headed in the right direction. We are truly grateful, because time is of the essence. We want to move swiftly to get 50,000 shots in arms per day, every day. We have hit that number a few times. We are

capable of this and even more, but we need the vaccines in order to be successful. And we need the resources to make sure that we've got the administration effort fully engaged. So the greatest threat to our forward progress remains that threat of lack of resources. The state legislature has not yet appropriated all the dollars that the federal government made available to Michigan, and we need them to take action. These are dollars that came from a bipartisan group of our congressional delegation and were signed into law by President Trump, and that we still haven't deployed into Michigan. These are dollars for vaccines, dollars for education of our children, dollars for helping businesses that are struggling and of course, dollars to help people who are struggling as well. So we need Republicans and Democrats in Michigan's legislature to appropriate these dollars, all of these dollars, as quickly as possible. Delaying efforts to fully appropriate these resources and leaving dollars on the table that are so crucial to our economic recovery, threatens the progress that we have made to date. We are in a race, as I've said. There are variants that are now present and that we have got to be concerned. And that's why we must move swiftly for the health of our people, for the sake of our economy, for the sake of our kids. Without building on the momentum that we have created so far by neglecting to get these federal dollars deployed through the Michigan COVID Recovery Plan, we may fall on the priority list of supplies, and as a result, see a slow down in our vaccination rates. This is a very real threat. Michigan has been a leader, and we have been able to get the supplies we need, but if those dollars aren't appropriated quickly enough, that could be at risk, which means our recovery will take longer. Our vaccination rates could decline, and that's why we've got to have help and partnership from the legislature. Because Congress did their part, now we need our state legislature to do theirs. I was pleased that Senator Paul Wojno has introduced a bill to do this. I am hopeful that both sides of the aisle can come together and get this done. And I continue to extend my hand in partnership to anyone who wants to focus on these fundamentals, because this is what our economy is going to depend on the most, and we know how important it is for the health of our people. As part of my commitment to keep Michigan safe and moving forward, one month ago my administration set a goal that all school districts would be prepared to offer an in-person learning opportunity for students no later than March 1st, and earlier, if possible. For the better part of a year now, many students, parents, educators, and support staff from across the state have done the best they can, and to get the best out of virtual learning. They've demonstrated incredible leadership, and what a fundamental role that our teachers and support staff play in the education of our children. They've managed to continue lunch programs for those who rely on them, give emotional counseling for the countless students who need it, and ensure that our students received the academic support necessary, whether that was being done remotely, in person, or both. Through creativity, through passion, through persistence, they've helped the students continue learning and growing during this time. And it's been nothing short of inspiring, which is why I will continue to do all that I can to support them, including through our Michigan Classroom Heroes grant program. The value of in-person learning, however, for our kids is immeasurable and we've got to do everything we can to get them back safely in the classroom so they get the education they need. We know that in-person learning provides a key benefit for many parents who rely on children being in school so they can go to work and fully participate in our economy. What's more, many students and families have struggled with remote learning and need opportunities for face-to-face interactions with educators, even if school offers some sort of a hybrid schedule to allow for smaller groups of students to gather. Already, many districts across the state have returned to some form of in-person learning for this school year, and they have been largely successful. This can be done safely with the safety protocols and a strategy to keep our students and our teachers and our support staff safe. So I am grateful for the leadership that is happening in districts across Michigan. I'm grateful for the leadership that is happening in districts across Michigan. They've been creative and they've been truly committed to supporting our students. This is why we're strongly encouraging districts provide as much face to face learning as possible because it is just crucial for the success of our kids, especially our youngest kids, especially kids who are from disadvantaged circumstances, kids with special needs or English

language learners in particular. Michigan has received funding from the federal government to help school districts return to in-person learning, and I've presented a plan for how we can leverage additional state resources to make this happen. As a part of the federal stimulus package that was approved in December, Michigan received nearly \$1.7 billion through elementary and secondary school emergency relief fund to help aid school districts in returning safely to in-person learning. Through the Michigan COVID Recovery Plan, I set out a path for allocating these funds, along with an additional \$300 million to help schools meet our goal of ensuring every student has an in-person learning opportunity by March 1, and so that we can address the learning loss that has occurred due to the pandemic. These one-time flexible dollars will be distributed through a formula that recognizes additional costs associated with supporting students in poverty and students with special education needs, in particular, to ensure that every student has a real opportunity, a level opportunity. I'm grateful for the many districts across the state that have taken necessary precautions while safely returning their students and educators to in-person learning over the past month. As we sit three weeks from our target date of March 1, state and federal resources could make all the difference in helping school districts throughout the state safely prepare for students and educators to return to the classroom. So I know that the legislature wants to see our kids back in class safely so that they can earn the quality education they need. And that's why, again, it is my hope that the legislature will appropriate these federal dollars that have been made available for our students. Every day that goes by is a missed opportunity in the lives of our kids. So while it may not always feel this way, one day this pandemic will be behind us. We will look back on times like this and know that we did all we could to support our state's prosperity for generations to come. And that's why it's so critical that we continue doing everything we can right now to build on the progress we've made. Means encouraging the legislature to join forces with me to get the Michigan COVID recovery plan passed so we can help our local communities and our school districts and our businesses and our vaccine distribution.

Gretchen Whitmer: I know that every one of us, trust me, every one of us is the longing for the opportunity to return to normalcy. And we're feeling the fatigue as we get closer to the one year mark of COVID-19 being here in Michigan. I get it and I feel it too, but we cannot let our guards down now. we've got to stay vigilant. we've got to continue doing everything we can to put an end to this pandemic. Masking up, social distancing, washing our hands, making your plan to get your vaccine when it's your turn. We can and we will get through this together, Michigan. And with that, I'll turn it over to Dr. Jay.

Dr. Jay: Thank you, Governor. So as of yesterday, we were at 569,417 cases and 14,905 deaths due to COVID 19 in the state. Case rates have steadily declined to 144 cases per million, down 81% from the mid-November peak. 4.5% of tests in the state are coming back positive, and that continues to decline. Only 6% of hospital beds are being used to treat COVID-19, down 72% since the fall peak on December 1st. While our numbers continue to trend overall in the right direction, I'm very concerned about what we are seeing with the new B117 variant. We now know a 45 cases of the variant identified in Michigan across 10 counties, and there will be more. While this variant first appeared in the UK, the cases we are seeing in Michigan have not all been associated with someone who had a history of traveling, which means the variant is likely in the general community. This variant is more easily spread from person to person, meaning if we are not vigilant, we could see a rise in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths, similar to what they saw in the UK. Now I know this may sound overwhelming, but the good news is we know how to slow the spread. And it's the same thing Michiganders have been doing so well for the past year to slow the spread of the virus and bring our curve down last spring and in the fall. We also know that in-person learning can be done safely. And in many school districts across the state, this is already happening. Medical experts and epidemiologists from across the country have closely followed the data and recognized that schools can establish a low risk of virus transmission by making sure that everyone does things like wearing masks and adopting careful infection prevention protocols. That's why we continue to encourage all school districts to develop and implement their own plans to adopt an in-person learning option by March 1st. And we at MDHS stand ready to support however we can. The most important thing

everyone can do to limit the spread of the new variant and to keep our kids in school is to remain vigilant. Do not gather with individuals outside of your own household, wear a mask properly and consistently, and be sure to socially distance and wash your hands. Get a test if you have symptoms, if you've been exposed to someone who has COVID-19, or if you've recently traveled to a place that is known to have a COVID-19 variant that is circulating. Also, please do get your vaccine when one becomes available to you. Currently available data on the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines show that they are effective against this new B117 variant. Viruses change and mutate when they have the opportunity to spread. So getting vaccinated will not only slow the spread of the usual COVID-19 virus, but it will also prevent the virus from getting the opportunity to mutate as it spreads from person to person. So it's important that as many people as possible get vaccinated as we work to end this pandemic. We are making progress, as the governor mentioned, in our goal of vaccinating 70% of Michiganders age 16 and up as quickly as possible. To date, over 1.2 million doses of vaccine have been administered to Michiganders. Every dose of vaccine that is available to the state is either administered or scheduled to be administered. Every resident and staff in a skilled nursing facility has been offered a first dose of the vaccine and many have already completed their second doses as well. 11% of Michiganders aged 16 and up have received at least one dose of the safe and effective vaccines, and about a quarter of all Michiganders age 65 and up have been vaccinated. We are pleased to receive a 16% increase in the amount of vaccine coming into the state and are hopeful that a new vaccine made by Johnson and Johnson will potentially be authorized at the end of this month. So this is great news. And as we get more vaccine, we will be working to get vaccine to more and more providers, and making sure vaccine is getting into neighborhoods where people live by partnering with faith-based organizations, world health clinics and FQHCs. We want everyone to have equal access to the vaccine, and we are well on our way to making that happen. Now, for those who are trying to schedule their appointments or to help their parents or their grandparents schedule one, I thank you for your patience. We know there are not enough vaccines in the state for everyone who is currently eligible to receive the vaccine, but we assure you that everyone who wants a vaccine will eventually be able to get one. And we are - Dr. Jay: 'I' wants the vaccine will eventually be able to get one. And we are committed to bringing more and more vaccine into Michigan as quickly as possible. So we're still not out of the woods, but we know exactly what to do to end this pandemic. Wear masks, socially distance and wash your hands. I'm proud of every Michigander who has done their part. It will take all of this to end this pandemic as quickly as possible. And with that, I'll turn it

over to Kevin Polston. Kevin Polston: Thank you, Dr. Khaldun, and thank you to Governor Whitmer. My name is Kevin Polston, and I'm proud to serve as the Superintendent at Godfrey-Lee Public Schools. I'm a certified teacher and school administrator, and the uncertified parent to Sophia and Max. I'm humbled and honored to serve as the chairperson of the Student Recovery Advisory Council to address the traumatic effects COVID-19 has had on our children. Last year, I was proud to serve as a member of the Governor's Return to School Advisory Council to create the Return to School Roadmap with guidelines for schools across the state to implement for a safe return to school. In Godfrey-Lee, we utilized the roadmap together with our staff, families and Board of Education to plan and provide a safe, in-person learning environment for our staff and students. Despite challenging circumstances due to the pandemic, it's been a success. Through public and private partnerships, I'm proud of our efforts to provide internet and a computer to any family that needed it, offer school-based rapid response PCR testing for students and staff, provide PPE and necessary cleaning supplies. And thanks to Governor Whitmer's designation of educators as essential workers in the 1B vaccination class, and with support of our local Health Department and health care systems, over 75% of our staff have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. No individual school or district can address COVID-19 alone. It takes adequate resources and a committed, collective effort to endure. As an educational leader, I know a physically safe learning environment is only one piece. COVID-19 has had a dramatic impact on the academic and social, emotional wellbeing of our students. We have seen reports of mental health

referrals for school aged children increase by 30% in the past year. We know parents are concerned about academic recovery and want to ensure their children are prepared for the next step in their educational journey. That's why I was pleased when the Governor announced the formation of the Student Recovery Advisory Council of Michigan to holistically address recovery through a focus on the following key areas, academic recovery, mental health, physical health, post-secondary transitions, and family and community engagement. To address our students' immediate needs, we will also explore innovations to our education system so that we avoid replicating the systemic inequities that cause economically disadvantaged students and communities of color to experience the devastating effects of COVID-19 at disproportionate levels. The bipartisan group of engaged citizens is well-equipped to develop recommendations for educational leaders, the Governor and the legislature to consider. For me personally, it's imperative we have a safe and equitable recovery for each child to achieve their human potential, which is why I call attention to a very important request. The simple fact is this recovery will require additional resources to meet the needs of our students.

Kevin Polston: For months, educational leaders advocated for additional funds from Congress. And at the end of last year, our Federal Government stepped up with bi-partisan relief legislation. However, these funds have not made their way to schools. Before schools can receive the funding, our state legislature and the Governor must pass a supplemental budget. It is imperative for elected leaders to come together, as has been a key points throughout the pandemic, so these resources can get to schools without further delay. Schools will target these funds toward the greatest need. For their students, that may include academic assistance, social, emotional supports, internet access and device procurement, and infrastructure enhancements for air quality, to name a few. Our students are counting on leaders to partner to beat COVID-19 so that our focus can shift to recovery and the promise for a brighter future that Sophia, Max and the more than 1.5 million children in Michigan deserve. Thank you.

Gretchen Whitmer: Thank you, Superintendent. I really appreciate your leading the task force so that we can make thoughtful decisions as we move forward to get our kids back and safely, and address the academic recovery issue that we all know we're going to have to grapple with, the whole world's going to grapple with. But we want to make sure our kids in Michigan have got some of the best minds sitting around the table putting that plan together, so thank you for leading that effort. And of course, Dr. Jay, always good to spend some time with you

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 02/15/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Lake Superior Community Partnership Launches Cost Of Living Calculator Online

Coverage:

The Lake Superior Community Partnership has unveiled a new online tool to help answer questions about the cost of living in Marquette County.

Mary Myers, LSCP Director of Business Development, spoke about their new Cost of Living Calculator today on Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Myers explained that the calculator was created through a grant from CUPPAD and is being administered in collaboration with Northern Michigan University .

It will compare and contrast the relative costs of living between two communities and is intended to be a tool for businesses to use to recruit talent to Marquette County.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 02/16/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Addressing Problem Gambling In Michigan During The Coronavirus Pandemic

Coverage:

The coronavirus pandemic may be increasing behaviors that could lead to or amplify a problem gambling disorder due to social distancing that may leave many with idle time, frustrations and anxiety.

Lori A. Mello, Program Manager of the Gambling Treatment Program at Health Management Systems of America, spoke about challenges that exist during social distancing-related closures and online gaming and sports betting on Mark and Walt in the Morning today. i'

Mello shared what can be done if someone suspects they, or someone close to them, may have gambling addiction, especially during this time of social isolation.

She said the Michigan Problem Gambling Helpline, 800-270-7117 , is open for crisis intervention and referral to treatment, even during the pandemic.

Trained and experienced counselors are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week by phone or virtually to provide immediate help to address issues related to gambling disorder, including screening services and referrals to treatment or support groups.

Mello also talked about the 13th Annual Problem Gambling Symposium i'Gambling Brought to Lighti' online event on March 4th and 5th.

Go to www.cmham.org/events to find registration information.

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WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:30:00 AM on 02/16/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Ishpeming Public Schools Superintendent Carrie Meyer Shares District Update

Coverage:

Ishpeming Public Schools Superintendent Carrie Meyer joined Mark and Walt in the Morning today for a district update.

Meyer spoke about some recent recognition in the district for teachers and students as well the development of two new areas in their middle school/high school building.

She explained that over the past summer, the district was able to create a new workout facility thanks to various community donations.

Meyer also shared the latest concerning continued face-to-face learning in the district and being able to hopefully offer more activities for students throughout the coming months.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 02/19/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: U.P. Home and Garden Show Planning Continues With Event Set For April

Coverage:

A special weekend featuring 100 professional home design and construction exhibitors in a retail shopping environment is planned for this April in Marquette Township.

Sarah Foster, CEO, Home Builders Association of the U.P., and Coordinator of the U.P. Home and Garden Show spoke about the show with Mark and Walt in the Morning this week.

She explained that the U.P. Home and Garden Show is set for April 23-25, 2021 at the Westwood Mall .

Foster said the weekend will give you the perfect chance to find the services and supplies you need for your building and remodeling needs, and admission is free.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 02/22/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Marquette City Commission Meets Tonight

Coverage:

The Marquette City Commission has a regular meeting this evening.

Marquette City Manager Mike Angeli previewed the meeting with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Angeli said the Commission will be voting on renewing a lease agreement for space at Marquette City Hall for the Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team.

He added that they will also voting on a contact for a legal and technical review of the city's water use ordinance, which has not been reviewed for some time, according to the city.

The meeting is at 6:00 p.m. at Marquette City Hall. It will be streamed on the City's YouTube channel and on Spectrum Channel 191.

-mediaBrew Communication News

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 02/23/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Ishpeming Ski Club Adapts 134th Annual Ski Jumping Tournament To COVID Protocols

Coverage:

The Ishpeming Ski Club says the 134th Annual Ski Jumping Tournament , scheduled for March 6th and 7th, will not have spectators this year due to the pandemic.

Peter Copenhaver, Ski Club Vice President, spoke about this and other changes to this year's tournament with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Copenhaver added that Suicide Hill, the K90 ski jumping hill, also will not be prepared for this year's competition, due to the limited availability of athletes.

He said that as a non-profit organization, the Ski Club relies on funds generated from the Annual Tournament. The lost revenue from this year's competition places a serious financial hardship on the Club and they are asking for the public's help to support their youth ski programs, trails and facility updates.

You can find out how to donate at the Ishpeming Ski Club's website.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 02/24/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Michigan Reconnect Can Get You To Further Your Education For Free

Coverage:

A new state program to help you receive free tuition to your in-district community college, or deeply discounted tuition if you live out of district, is underway.

Susan Corbin, Acting Director of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, spoke about the Michigan Reconnect Program with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Corbin says if you're 25 or older, without a college degree, you may be eligible to attend your local community college tuition-free or at a significantly reduced tuition through Michigan Reconnect .

Find out more about Michigan Reconnect and how you can get involved at [THE MICHIGAN RECONNECT WEBSITE](#) .

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 02/24/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Clear Out Your Returnables And Help The Superior Arts Youth Theater This Weekend

Coverage:

The Superior Youth Arts Theater is giving you the chance to donate to a good cause and clean out your collection of returnables at the same time is on this weekend in Marquette County.

Jalina McClain, Executive Director of the Superior Arts Youth Theater, talked about their latest can and bottle drive this morning with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

McClain said the drive is happening this Saturday, February 27th and Sunday, February 28th.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 02/26/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Marquette Police Say It's Time To Stay Off Of The Ice In Lower Harbor

Coverage:

Marquette City Police say this weekend's warmer weather and windy conditions are making it unsafe to venture out on the ice on Lake Superior.

MPD Chief Blake Rieboldt spoke about the potential for hazardous ice conditions and using common sense to stay safe with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Rieboldt says the enormous popularity over the past several weeks to experience the ice near Marquette's Lower Harbor ore dock may make it tempting to head out this weekend, but it won't be safe.

Rieboldt added with temperatures climbing to around 40 and shifting winds potentially making the Lake Superior ice unstable, it's a better choice to stay onshore.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 02/26/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Area Musicians Coming Together To Benefit Calumet Theatre With Special Concert This Saturday

Coverage:

A special online live stream concert event is happening this weekend to raise funds for the historic Calumet Theatre .

Executive Director Marlin Lee spoke about the 2nd Annual Red Metal Music Fest with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Lee said the show will be the first-ever live streamed concert from the Calumet Theatre and includes Uncle Pete's All-Star BBQ Blues Band, Jeremy Rowe and The Dead Wreckoning, and Chad Borgen and The Collective.

It all starts up at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday evening.

Lee said viewing the live stream concert is free, but donations to the Calumet Theatre are encouraged and appreciated.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:30:00 AM on 02/26/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: COVID-19 Vaccinations Available For Eligible Veterans Through The Iron Mountain VA Medical Center

Coverage:

The Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain is providing a COVID-19 vaccine clinic at the Bay College Campus in Escanaba on March 1, from 12p.m. until 8p.m.

John Jamison, Assistant Public Affairs Officer, spoke about the clinic and other upcoming clinics with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Jamison explained that there are several other vaccination clinics planned at VA facilities across the Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin.

He said eligible veterans who want the Moderna vaccine should call 906-774-3300 and dial extension 33115 between the hours of 8:00a.m. and 4:30p.m. CT, Monday through Friday, to speak to a scheduler.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/01/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Northern Michigan University COVID-19 Efforts Continuing As Semester Moves Ahead

Coverage:

Northern Michigan University is working it's way through the current semester and managing COVID-19 issues.

Cindy Paavola, Co-Chair of the NMU Safe on Campus coronavirus effort, shared a full update with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Paavola talked about current case rates on campus and within the campus community of off-campus students, faculty and staff.

She also outlined the plans for continued regular testing of all in the NMU community and how the tests are being staggered to cover all walks of campus life.

Paavola also addressed reports of the possibility of coronavirus vaccines being received by NMU and what the plan is for their being administered.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:30:00 AM on 03/01/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Lake Superior Community Partnership Preparing Annual Celebration For Later This Month

Coverage:

The Lake Superior Community Partnership is in high gear preparing for their annual celebration and recognition event.

Megan O'Connor, LSCP Outreach Coordinator, spoke about this year's event and what's different for those who join in.

O'Connor said the LSCP Annual Celebration is on Thursday, March 11th at 4:00pm and has gone virtual this year due to the ongoing pandemic, but it is still featuring some special recognitions and an online silent auction to raise funds for the Partnership's operations.

She added that the event free to take part in, and all are encouraged to get involved.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 03/02/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: UPHP Update: Do Not Overlook Colorectal Cancer Screening Due To COVID-19

Coverage:

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and on the latest Upper Peninsula Health Plan Update, the conversation focused on screening and awareness.

Jonas Hamren, Clinical Coordinator with UPHP, and Lindsey Havel, Clinical Services Manager at UPHP spoke about what it is and the importance of screening .

Havel said colorectal cancer is a cancer that starts in the colon or rectum, which make up the large

intestine or large bowel. Often symptoms do not appear until after it has grown and spread, and that is why routine screening is vital.

Hamren explained screening is recommended for both men and women starting at age 50, and there are several screening options available, including simple take home options.

They emphasized to not delay screening and talk to your provider to talk about colorectal cancer. If you have put and screening or immunizations on hold due to COVID-19, call you provider today.

Find out more about Upper Peninsula Health Plan programs at their website.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/03/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: NMU Wildcat Wednesday: NMU Director Of Athletics Forrest Karr Shares Sports Update

Coverage:

Today on our latest Wildcat Wednesday, we heard how the Northern Michigan University athletic teams are faring as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

Forrest Karr, Director of Athletics at Northern Michigan University, spoke about how the teams and student-athletes are doing as the semester reached the mid-way point.

Karr shared updates on the sport seasons for all of the NMU Wildcat teams that are currently competing.

He also talked about how the teams are managing the scheduling changes in their routines due to COVID and what's on the horizon for Wildcat athletics.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:30:00 AM on 03/03/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Marquette Downtown Development Authority Moving Ahead With Summer Event Plans

Coverage:

Planning for a series of spring and summertime events is continuing by the Marquette Downtown Development Authority .

Tara Laase-McKinney, DDA Promotions and Events Coordinator, spoke about what's in the works with several popular Marquette events with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Laase-McKinney said they are moving along with plans for events including Restaurant Week, Music on Third, the Blueberry Festival and more.

She said the events will have changes due to COVID-19 restrictions, but barring any major state guideline changes, the DDA is continuing with getting them planned out for all to enjoy.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/05/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Range Bank Offering Assistance For U.P. Small Businesses With PPP Loans

Coverage:

The federal Paycheck Protection Program came out late last year to help businesses keep their workforce employed during the COVID-19 crisis.

Eric Kucharczyk, Business Banking Officer with Range Bank, spoke about the program and how it can help local businesses today on Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Kucharczyk said last year, Range Bank processed over 282 PPP loans for over \$37 million and they have initiated over 150 applications for Round 2 of PPP loans so far in 2021.

He explained that the program not only helps local small businesses, but also allows members in the community continue to receive a paycheck.

Kucharczyk encouraged anyone with questions about the program to call (906)226-1025 or stop by any of the Range Bank offices in Marquette County, Dickinson County and the Copper Country.

There's more information available online at RangeBank.com

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 03/05/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Registration Is Open For Annual Iron Range Roll Bike Event

Coverage:

Organizers of the annual Iron Range Roll have opened up registration to sign up to take part in this summer's event.

Daniel Croney, Iron Range Roll Committee Chair with Connect Marquette, spoke about the event today with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Croney explained what the Iron Range Roll is and when it is happening. He also mentioned there are options for those who want to ride in the event or do it virtually.

He also talked about it as a fundraiser for the YMCA of Marquette County and how you and your whole family can get involved.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/08/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: The 2021 West End Winter Wonderland Is On For This Weekend

Coverage:

The Greater Ishpeming-Negaunee Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting an afternoon of family-friendly outdoor activities this Saturday.

Chamber Executive Director Bob Hendrickson spoke about the GINCC West End Winter Wonderland today with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Hendrickson said the event is to encourage people to enjoy the outdoors with fun activities at Al Quaal Recreation Area in Ishpeming.

Pre-registration is required and is open until 3pm the day of the event. You can find out more and preregister [HERE](#).

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/09/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Outgoing Lake Superior Community Partnership CEO Amy Clickner Discusses Retirement

Coverage:

The Lake Superior Community Partnership is transitioning into new leadership as long-time Chief Executive Officer Amy Clickner heads into retirement.

Clickner spoke about her decision to step down and shared some of her thoughts with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

She talked about what led her to retire from the post after over two decades at the helm of the LSCP, and also looked back on some of the successes during her tenure.

A special online event is happening this Thursday afternoon recognizing Clickner and much more, and you can sign up [HERE](#).

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 03/11/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: U.S. Senator Gary Peters Discusses Federal American Rescue Plan COVID Relief Measure

Coverage:

Earlier today, U.S. Senator Gary Peters joined Mark and Walt in the Morning to talk about the American Rescue Plan COVID relief package, which was signed into law this afternoon by President Joe Biden.

Peters spoke about some of the key elements of the plan and how he believes it is intended to help the American people as they struggle to recover from the coronavirus pandemic.

He outlined funding for items such as \$1,400 stimulus checks, the safe reopening of schools and speeding up vaccine distribution.

Peters also addressed criticism launched against the plan that says it spends too much money and is loaded with pork and shoulders future generations with excessive debt.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/12/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: GINCC West End Winter Wonderland In Ishpeming Cancelled Due To Non-Wintery Weather

Coverage:

The Greater Ishpeming-Negaunee Area Chamber of Commerce says they have cancelled the West End Winter Wonderland due to the weather.

Executive Director Bob Hendrickson spoke about the cancellation of the event that was scheduled for Saturday at the Al Quaal Recreation Area in Ishpeming with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Hendrickson said several outdoor wintertime activities were planned for the event, but due to the drastic melt in snow pack and rain this week, it was cancelled.

He added that the GINCC will plan a make-up event for April.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 03/12/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Spread Goodness Day Is Underway Today And We Heard All About It From Creator Anna Dravland

Coverage:

The 4th Annual Spread Goodness Day is in full swing today and it's your chance to do something good!

Creator and Organizer Anna Dravland spoke about the event that is intended to inspire a global day of goodness with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Dravland explained it an effort to encourage anyone and everyone to spread goodness to show the power that one act of goodness multiplied by hundreds, thousands, and maybe millions has to change the world every single day.

Find out more at spreadgoodnessday.com .

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 06:00:00 AM on 03/14/21 and was discussed for 60 Minutes

The 8th Day: Erin Daines of MSUE Discusses MSU Extension and The Upcoming U.P. Spring Seminar Series 2021

Coverage:

Erin Daines of MSUE , Marquette County Extension Office District 2 Director, joined Todd Pazz on the 8th Day Radio Show to discuss the upcoming U.P. Spring Seminar Series Starting on March 16th and the wide array of free services available through Michigan State University Extension offices to people of the Upper Peninsula.' People bring in soil samples, critters, photos of bugs, and so on, so the MSUE experts can help the public identify them.' Well beyond 4H, the MSUE has educational programs available on a very wide and diverse number of topics.'Michigan State University Extension helps people improve their lives by bringing the vast knowledge resources of MSU directly to individuals, communities and businesses.' U.P. Spring Seminar Series 2021 Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. EST (6 p.m. CST)March 16 - April 6, 2021 Due to the novel coronavirus, this seminar series will be held virtually through the online video-conferencing platform Zoom. Seminars were selected to address current and continued areas of interest to residents of Michigan's U.P. - including tourism, sustainable agriculture, lake-effect snow, and water quality.The agenda is as follows, including tentative presentation titles: Tuesday, March 16 at 7 p.m.: Lake-effect snow and climate change in the U.P.' Dr. Mark Kulie (NOAA Center for Satellite Applications and Research; Madison, WI) and Dr. Claire Pettersen (University of Wisconsin-Madison, Space Science and Engineering Center) Tuesday, March 23 at 7 p.m.: Tourism in the Upper Peninsula: Growth and challenges during the pandemic Will Cronin (MSU Extension, Tourism and Community Development) Tuesday, March 30 at 7 p.m.: PFAS contamination and drinking water - case studies in the U.P. Dr. Courtney Carignan (MSU Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition) Tuesday, April 6 at 7 p.m.: Sustainable agriculture in the U.P.' Abbey Palmer (MSU's Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center) Please consider joining us for 4 consecutive weeks of diverse topics and engaging speakers - we look forward to 'seeing' you there

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 03/15/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: State Senator Ed McBroom Discusses Wolf Hunt Proposal And The Latest With Line 5

Coverage:

State Senator Ed McBroom checked in with Mark and Walt in the Morning today with a legislative update.

McBroom spoke about his sponsoring of resolutions urging the state to authorize wolf hunting and trapping this year.

The Dickinson County Republican's resolutions call on the Natural Resources Commission and the D-N-R to authorize and organize wolf hunting and trapping as part of the state's wolf management efforts.

McBroom also spoke about his joining with other U.P. lawmakers on Friday in blasting state officials after they announced the MI Propane Security Plan, related to the planned shutdown of the controversial Enbridge Line 5 pipeline in the Straits of Mackinac.

McBroom said environmentalists within state bureaucracy are continuing a campaign of misinformation against Line 5, and the state's plan was 'silly'.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 03/17/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: NMU Wildcat Wednesday: In-Person Campus Visits Are Back At Northern For Prospective Students

Coverage:

Today on our latest edition of Wildcat Wednesday we heard an update on Admissions at Northern Michigan University.

Kari Garcia, Senior Associate Director of Admissions at NMU, spoke about the return of in-person campus visits for prospective students and their families.

Garcia outlined how to get signed up for a visit and also talked about the options for virtual tours of Northern's campus for those who are not comfortable with coming to campus at this time.

She also shared the latest information about enrolling at NMU.

Find out more about enrolling at Northern Michigan University [here](#).

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/18/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: MI DNR: Wildfire Danger High This Weekend In Upper Michigan

Coverage:

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is encouraging people to be careful when burning yard debris, enjoying campfires or doing other outdoor activities this weekend.

DNR Fire Management Specialist Keith Murphy spoke about the potential for wildfires this weekend in our region with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Murphy said dry and windy conditions in the works for this weekend mean wildfires can spread fast.

He said he knows everybody wants to get out and clean up their yard or their camp, but it's important check conditions before burning and to understand how dry fuels on the ground are.

Murphy said burn permits may be needed in the Upper Peninsula and residents can check the map at Michigan.gov/BurnPermit to see if debris and open burning is permitted in their counties.

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WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 03/18/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Veterans Can Receive COVID-19 Vaccinations At Special Clinic This Monday In Marquette

Coverage:

The Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is offering a COVID-19 vaccination clinic for veterans, their spouses and caregivers this coming Monday in Marquette.

Zaneta Adams, Director of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency, spoke about the clinic and how eligible veterans can get registered with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Adams explained that all recipients must be 50 or older, and the clinic runs from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Northern Michigan University's Northern Center.

She said that the vaccines will be available free of charge for veterans who register in advance by calling 1-800-MICH-VET.

Registration is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Registrants should bring a picture ID. Veterans are also encouraged to bring their DD-214, as representatives will be on hand to help them sign up for VA health care and other benefits.

The clinic is a partnership between the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency and the Michigan National Guard.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/19/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Governor Whitmer Outlines Latest Pandemic Order Changes

Coverage:

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has increased capacity for outdoor stadiums and arenas in an update of their Gatherings and Mask epidemic order.

Governor Gretchen Whitmer highlighted some of the changes during a press conference in Lansing earlier today.

Up to 20% capacity will be allowed in outdoor stadiums and arenas that establish infection control plans. The update also increases testing for youth ages 13-19 to ensure athletes can safely participate in sports.

The changes go into effect Monday and run through April 19th.

The agency says also, that in accordance with CDC guidance, fully vaccinated people may now take part in residential gatherings with other fully vaccinated individuals without wearing a mask.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 03/23/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Downtown Marquette Farmers Market Sets Schedule For 2021 Season

Coverage:

The Downtown Marquette Farmers Market has announced the plans for its 22nd season of operations.

Market Manager Sara Johnson spoke about this year's schedule and much more with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

Johnson said there will be Saturday Morning and Wednesday Evening outdoor markets, with the Saturday Morning Market running from May 22nd to October 30th from 9:00am to 1:00 pm.

She added the Wednesday Evening Market will go from June 16th until September 15th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, and all markets are being held at the Marquette Downtown Commons at 112 South 3rd Street.

Johnson said COVID-19 best practices and recommendations from City, State, and Federal authorities will be enforced.

Vendors will be set up six feet apart to allow for social distancing, and all vendors and shoppers will be

required to wear a face mask or covering while shopping at the market.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 03/24/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Calumet Theatre Hosting Membership Drive Live Stream Concert This Saturday

Coverage:

The Calumet Theatre will present its second-ever live stream event from the Theatre's historic stage from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm this Saturday, March 27th.

Executive Director Marlin Lee spoke about the event with Mark and Walt in the Morning today and shared all of the details.

Lee said the show is a membership drive and will feature performances from three of the Copper Country's best and favorite music acts: Tom Katalin , Keweenaw Brewgrass , and On The Spot Blues Band .

He said concert will be free to view via the Calumet Theatre website and the official Calumet Theatre Facebook page .

Lee added that while the show is free to view, it's designed to raise awareness about Calumet Theatre Membership, the perks of membership, and encourage individuals to become members to support the Theatre.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/25/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: You Can Still Donate To The United Way Of Marquette County Annual Campaign

Coverage:

The United Way of Marquette County's Annual Campaign is drawing to a close, but there is still a chance for you to donate.

Campaign Co-Chairs Andrew LaCombe and Missy Holmquist spoke about their online second chance to give effort with Mark and Walt in the Morning today.

LaCombe said momentum is going well with the campaign so far, and the agency is encouraging anyone who did not contribute this past fall at www.uwmqt.org .

Holmquist explained that the campaign is currently at 90% of their \$400,000 goal for the year, and they are working hard to hit the full tally before the campaign ends this spring.

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WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/26/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: State Representative Sara Cambensy Discusses Legislation Capping Insulin Costs

Coverage:

Legislation sponsored by State Representative Sara Cambensy establishing an insulin co-pay cap of \$50 for a 30 day supply passed this week in the State House.

The Marquette Democrat spoke about the legislation today with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Cambensy says the legislation can help save the lives of the nearly 3,000 people who die from diabetes-related complications in Michigan every year.

The bill passed with a wide vote margin on the House floor and now heads to the State Senate for consideration.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 03/26/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Benefit Art Sale Set For This Weekend In Marquette

Coverage:

A Live Celebration of Spring Fundraiser for The Superior Health Foundation and Cancer Care of Marquette County is happening this weekend in Marquette.

Paul Schumacher spoke about the event being held at FlowerWorks on North 3rd Street with Mark Evans earlier today.

Schumacher explained that the event is on Friday March 26th from 10am to 6pm and on Saturday March 27th from 10am to 3pm.

He encouraged all to come and adopt a painting or picture frame from the Susan V. Reyes Schumacher Memorial Art collection .

Each painting will include provenance documentation and a photo album of the artist. The funds will be going to help support those with cancer in Marquette County.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:30:00 AM on 03/29/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Marquette City Commission Meets Tonight For Regular Meeting

Coverage:

The Marquette City Commission has a regular meeting coming up this evening.

Marquette City Manager Mike Angeli spoke about the meeting's brief agenda today with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Angeli said Commissioners will hear updates on efforts to redistrict congressional and state legislative boundaries and from the City's Harbor Advisory Committee.

Commissioners will also be taking action on contracts for the project to update the Kids Cove playground at Mattson Park into a fully inclusive universal design playground.

The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. from Commission Chambers at Marquette City Hall.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/30/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: U.S. Congressman Jack Bergman Shares Legislative Update

Coverage:

U.S. Congressman Jack Bergman checked in with a legislative update today on Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Bergman spoke about several matters, including his co-sponsoring of the Toxic Exposures in the American Military Act, which will improve access to care and benefits for veterans who were exposed to toxic substances in the military.

Bergman also talked about recently joining the bipartisan For Country Caucus made up of military Veteran members working to create a Congress that is less polarized, more efficient, and is trusted by Americans.

He also outlined highlights of the Rural Broadband Window of Opportunity Act to level the playing field for broadband expansion in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 03/30/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Lifestyle Mods To Improve Pain, Energy, And Overall Health With Active's Casey Madigan

Coverage:

Active Physical Therapy's Casey Madigan joined Mark and Walt in the Morning today to talk about lifestyle modifications to improve your pain, energy and overall health.

Madigan spoke about how the information was important for both those in rehabilitation and the general public.

He explained some of the basic things we can do to help ourselves if we're are in pain or generally don't feel well and how things like diet, sleep and physical activity work in the process.

Visit the Active Physical Therapy website for more information.

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 07:00:00 AM on 03/31/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Women's Center Hosting Sexual Assault Awareness Month Events In Marquette And Ishpeming

Coverage:

The Women's Center is raising awareness of sexual assault victims and survivors by placing teal ribbons around our community this week.

Beth Casady, Women's Center Executive Director, spoke about the significance of the ribbons that they will be hanging in Marquette and Ishpeming on Thursday, April 1st with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Casady also talked about the services the Women's Center can provide for people who have been sexually assaulted and how people can receive them

WKQS for 1st Quarter

Issue aired at: 08:00:00 AM on 03/31/21 and was discussed for 30 Minutes

The Sunny Morning Show: Volunteers Needed For Little Brothers Friends Of The Elderly Easter Dinner

Coverage:

Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly will be providing Easter Sunday home-delivered meals to people 60 and older who will be alone.

Erin Shei, Volunteer Coordinator, spoke about the effort and how you can volunteer to help out with Mark and Walt in the Morning.

Shei explained that to keep everyone safe they are following the latest state and local Covid-19

guidelines.

All volunteers will be screened, are required to wear face masks, practice safe social distancing and all kitchen volunteers are required to wear a face shield over their face masks.

She said face shields will be provided and the dinners will be delivered between 12-2 on Easter Sunday. Volunteers are needed to help with food prep and cooking, packing meals, monitoring safety, delivering meals, and clean up.

The biggest need will be food prep and cooking which starts at 8:00am at all sites!

To find out how you can help or request a home delivered meal, call (906) 482-6944 , or register online at: register.littlebrothers.org

You can also make a financial contribution by mailing or dropping off a check or donating through our web site at Houghton.littlebrothers.org
