

**Problems, Needs and Issues
Quarterly Report
Fourth Quarter, 2014**

(The following is a list of issues of community and public interest that the news department covered during the months of October, November, and December of 2014. Included is a description of each issue and the news stories that were written and aired to inform the local residents on each topic that had an impact of the community.....

1.) WSU Ballfield.....Early in 2014 Winona State University presented a proposal to the City of Winona to construct a new baseball field in east Lake Park in an area where the university's current softball field is located. Under the proposal the city and college would have joint use of the field and the college would make improvements to the rest of the softball fields. By December the university abandoned the proposal because it felt it was not getting the support it needed from the community and all of the city council. See attached stories.....

2.) County Administrator Search.....In May of 2014 the Winona County Board of Commissioners fired County Administrator Duane Hebert for what amounted to conflict of interest with a private company and accused him of lying to the board. Hebert filed a claim with the Minnesota Department of Human Rights. A search was conducted for a replacement. By December the board had narrowed the candidates to two but one of them withdrew just before Christmas. That left the board with a decision to be made in early January on what to do...hire the remaining candidate or open the search for more candidates. See attached news stories.....

3.) Missing Boater Search.....In early November word came that an Onalaska, Wisconsin, man went missing in the Mississippi River near Dresbach in Winona County after going fishing. That started a daily search for the man overseen by Winona County Sheriff Dave Brand and volunteers. By the end of December the man had not been found and the sheriff, who steps down on January First was not giving up until the river freezes for the winter which it has not. See attached news stories.....

4.) Election 2014.....The Winona Radio stations provide much coverage of the fall elections in November both leading up to voting day and after. The staff reporters interviewed many of the local challenged candidates for public office in candidate forums, well as conducted interviews with statewide candidates when they came to town to preview the election. We also provided live election returns on on three stations election night. See attached news stories.....

5.) Christmas Gift Campaigns.....During the Christmas season many local campaigns are held to encourage residents to provide gifts that are given to local children and senior citizens who are in need. From the Hiawatha Valley Marines, to Winona National Bank

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to St.Mary's University the drives were successful this year. The Merchants Bank also held its 26th Annual 10 Days of Giving Food Drive raising food and cash for the local food shelves. See attached news stories.....

Submitted by,

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