# Quarterly Issues Programs List for WSAQ, Port Huron October 1st – December 31st, 2023

#### **Section I Issues**

The station has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community in the fourth quarter of 2023:

- A. Prevention of respiratory viral infections
- B. Planning and permitting for new solar and wind projects
- C. Finding a permanent home for local children's museum
- D. Workforce housing in the City of Port Huron
- E. Improvements to regional parks and arts infrastructure
- F. Clothes and toys for local children in need
- G. Preventing impaired driving over the holidays

## **Section II Responsive Programs**

#### A. Prevention of respiratory viral infections

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Dec. 7-8, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

The Blue Water Immunization Partnership is reminding you to get up to date on your vaccinations, including those for flu, RSV, pneumonia, and of course, COVID-19. Jim Kaski is a local pharmacist and heads up the partnership, and says it's not too late to get your first dose of the COVID shot if you haven't already. In fact, the public will have an opportunity to do so Saturday, October 14th, at the Marysville Public Safety Building during a drive through clinic. He also says it doesn't matter what brand you get, and you can mix and match from what you initially received.

### B. Planning and permitting for new developments in area townships

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Dec. 14-15, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

Planning commission members in Fort Gratiot Township will reconvene next month to take up a special land use request for a 900 acre solar farm in the township. After larger than expected turnout at

Tuesday night's meeting, commissioners adjourned the meeting early without taking action on the request. The rescheduled event will be resident's turn to have their voices heard regarding Portside Solar LLC 's request. The hearing will take place at 6pm on November 8th at the Blue Water Convention Center in Port Huron.

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Oct. 21-22, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

Legislation working its way through the state house could take away a municipality's say over whether to allow large solar and wind farms in their communities. Andrew Beeler is a Republican who represents the 64th district in the state legislature, which includes Fort Gratiot Township, where a 900-acre solar array could be located. Approved by a house committee this past week, they now move on to the full legislature where local 64th district representative Andrew Beeler says he will likely vote no.

Name: WSAQ News Run Time: 1 minute

Date: November 9, 2023 Air Time: 6:05am, 7:05am, 8:05am

The Michigan Senate has approved legislation that will allow state regulators to approve local wind and solar projects. The legislation, which gives the Michigan Public Service Commission a say in the developments, was approved by a 20 to 18 vote along party lines. Supporters say the move is necessary to allow Michigan to reach new standards of 100-percent clean energy by 2040. Opponents say the bills strip decision-making authority from local governments and have the power to affect communities for generations.

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Nov. 11-12, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

Seven to eight hundred people filled the Blue Water Convention Center on Wednesday night to have their voices heard about rezoning land in Fort Gratiot Township for use in solar energy production. Township Planning Advisor, Jorja Bladwin shares what she heard as some of the major concerns residents had. After three and a half hours of public comments, the Fort Gratiot Planning Commission voted seven to zero against a proposed rezoning ordinance.

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Dec. 16-17, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

Fort Gratiot Township's Planning Commission in November declined to permit a 900-acre solar farm in the township but it wasn't long after that Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed bills that took future decision-making power out of the hands of local governments when it comes to new wind and solar projects. While recapping the things she's accomplished in 2023, Governor Whitmer discussed that controversial legislation, saying it gives land owners the freedom to do what they see best fit for their property. The governor is expected to outline her priorities for 2024 in next month's State of the State address.

#### C. Finding a permanent home for local children's museum

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Dec. 2-3, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

The Discovery City interactive children's exhibit purchased by the City of Port Huron and housed in the Port Huron Museum's Carnegie Center until this past spring, is finding second life. Nancy Winzer, Port Huron's Parks and Recreation Director, says it will be moving to the Knowlton Museum in Downtown Port Huron and will be part of the new Discovery City Museum. Although there is no timeline for when the new Discovery City Museum will be open, both Nancy Winzer and Port Huron Mayor Pauline Repp are hopeful it will be available sometime next spring.

## D. Workforce housing in the City of Port Huron

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Nov. 4-5, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

Port Huron City Council held a first reading of an ordinance that would allow a potential developer of a new hi-rise apartment building to make annual payments to the city instead of paying taxes. Called a PILOT, the payment in lieu of taxes is allowed under the Michigan State Housing Development Authority act as a way to attract developers. Chris Holman of the Community Housing Network is seeking the exemption for a proposed building in the 1000 block of Erie Street near McLaren Port Huron Hospital. Holman adds that if granted, the city will still receive income on an annual basis.

### E. Improvements to regional parks and arts infrastructure

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Oct. 28-29, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

A proposed Municipal Park Amphitheater is on the way to becoming a reality for Marysville. City Council Monday voted unanimously to approve a bid of nearly \$550,000 from Martin Construction to dismantle the band shell in Marysville Park and build a new amphitheater in its place. Martin Construction will next need to finalize contracts with the city. They hope to demolish the band shell and pour a foundation for the amphitheater before winter. An estimated completion date is set for June 15th of next year.

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Nov. 18-19, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

A local rail trail could nearly double in length if the director of St. Clair County Parks and Recreation has his way. Dennis Delor says the Wadhams to Avoca trail could be extended to Yale if an agreement is reached with the owners of the existing railroad right of way. He says his department has been trying to extend the hiking and biking trail for the past 20 years. The existing railroad tracks are owned by DTE Energy but are currently not in use.

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Nov. 25-26, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

St. Clair County Parks and Recreation is working to prep a 10-acre parcel of land near Algonac which will be home to the newest county park. Dennis Delor says two unused buildings on the site of the North Channel County park will be razed to make room for new park amenities. If his request for

demolition is approved, it will pave the way for a new parking lot, trailhead, and kayak launch among other things.

Name: Blue Water Beat Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Dec 30-31, 2023 Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

Fort Gratiot Township has been named a recipient of over \$600,000 in grants to create a new RV park and to build out the township's trail network. Bob Buechler, Fort Gratiot Township Clerk, says the new campground will be located on Parker Road near the current baseball fields. The money comes from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation fund and the Recreation Passport fund. He also says the township recently approved a request from Chick Fil A to build a new store on 24th Avenue in the township.

### F. Clothes and toys for local children in need

Name: Stuff the Bus Run Time: 30 seconds

Date: Nov. 6-30, 2023 Air Time: 10 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

RadioFirst and Kids in Distress teamed up in November of 2023 to help provide clothing and toys for local children in need. Through a series of promotional announcements made across all radio stations, listeners were urged to donate a new or gently used coat or toy. The items were collected at the Radio First studios in Port Huron, several Port Huron Area School District buildings, local government buildings, and sponsoring businesses. On Friday, December 1st, the donations were collected by RadioFirst personalities and placed inside a school bus that delivered the items to Kids in Distress.

### G. Preventing impaired driving over the holiday

Name: Safe Ride Run Time: 1 minute

Date: Dec. 22-31, 2023 Air Time: 5 times daily 12am-12pm ROS

RadioFirst and The Blue Water Area Transportation Commission partnered to provide free bus rides on New Years Eve. Promotional announcements ran across all radio stations in the week leading up to the holiday encouraging listeners to not drive drunk. From 6:30 p.m. New Years Eve to 2:30 am New Years morning, residents in Port Huron and Marysville, as well as Ft. Gratiot, Port Huron and Burtchville Townships could take advantage of the program. The St. Clair County Prosecuting Attorney, Port Huron Police Chief, and St. Clair County Sheriff all recorded messages warning the public about the dangers of drunk driving and encouraging them to make use of the program.

Name: WSAQ News Run Time: 1 minute

Date: December 26, 2023 Air Time: 6:05am, 7:05am, 8:05am

The St. Clair County Sheriff's Office will be looking for drunk drivers this holiday season. Through January 1st of 2024, you can expect to see extra patrols on the roadways as part of the national "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign. St. Clair County Sheriff Mat King, says if you plan to celebrate the holidays with alcohol, designate a driver or make a plan to get a safe ride home. In fact, the sheriff's office is teaming up with Radio First and Blue Water Area Transit to do just that during this year's annual Safe Ride program. For more information, visit our website, WSAQ.com.

#### **Section III Public Service Announcements**

Name: Community Events Run Time: 30 seconds

Date: Oct. 1st – Dec. 31st, 2023 Air Time: 12 times per day 12am-12pm ROS

The Following Public Service Announcements aired on WSAQ:

- "Mental Health Minutes", monthly events announcements from St. Clair County Community Mental Health.
- Sanilac County Humane Society Bowling Fundraiser at Kautz Shore Lanes in Lexington on October 21st.
- Faith Lutheran Church Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner October 28th in Port Huron.
- McLaren Port Huron Hospital Volunteer Opportunities.
- Drive through Vaccination Clinic Saturday October 14th at the Marysville Public Safety Building.
- Blue Water Ally Center's First Annual Homecoming Gala on October 20th.
- Lakeshore Woods Pumpkin Decorating Contest October 23rd.
- Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Church raffles on Sunday October 22nd.
- Blue Water Women's League Annual Craft Show Saturday November 4th.
- Trick or Treat at the City of Port Huron's Halloween Stroll on Saturday October 28th.
- Donuts with Deputies Trunk or Treat event at the St. Clair County Sheriff's Office Friday October 20th
- Ouota Club of Port Huron Bowl-a-Thon November 12th at Port Huron Lanes
- A fundraiser for double lung transplant survivor Lorman Urban at the Port Huron Motorcycle Club on November 19th
- Fundraiser for Sanilac County Search and Rescue at Texas Roadhouse on December 21st.