

WXER-FM Program Listing
04/2023 - 06/2023

TITLE	SOURCE	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	TIME/FREQ
NEWS	L		BI-HOURLY BROADCASTS OF LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION	5AM-8AM M-F

A minimum of ten public service announcements per week address ascertained needs and problems as well as community events and needs, and addressing community concerns took place during regularly scheduled newscasts.

Prepared and submitted by



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06/30/2023

Wrong Way Driver on Hwy 57 Killed in Saturday Night Crash

Jun 25, 2023 | 11:31 AM

A driver headed the wrong way on a divided highway about a mile north of the Village of Waldo injured two, one fatally on Saturday night.

The Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office says the accident happened at 10:52 p.m. when a vehicle traveling north in the southbound lanes of Highway 57 collided head-on with another vehicle near County Highway "N" in the Town of Lyndon. The wrong-way driver was pronounced dead at the scene, while the driver of the other vehicle had serious injuries and was transported by ambulance to Aurora Medical Center in Grafton for treatment.

The Cascade Fire Department Jaws of Life Unit responded, as did the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office, Plymouth Police Department, Orange Cross Ambulance, Adell First Responders, City of Sheboygan Fire Department, Waldo Fire Department, the Wisconsin DNR and the Sheboygan County Highway Department.

The names of those involved have yet to be released, as the accident is still under investigation.

May Labor Statistics Show Sheboygan, County, Metro Area Experience Small Changes

Jun 21, 2023 | 3:27 PM

Data released by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development on Wednesday Afternoon Showed only minor changes in Employment and Unemployment statistics in Sheboygan County.

Non-Seasonally-adjusted employment in the Sheboygan Metropolitan Area indicated a May workforce of 62,400, up 100 from April and 300 more than a year ago. Seasonal adjustments would suggest a drop of 300 in the last month, but a net growth in the workforce of 500 over the past year.

Unemployment in the Sheboygan Metro Area rose to 2.3% for May, up from 1.7% in April, but down from 2.5% in May, 2022.

The City of Sheboygan saw May Unemployment rise a half percent from April to 2.4%. That compares to 2.8% a year ago, and ranks Sheboygan at 9th place, down one position from April. The State's lowest (1st Place) goes to Madison, Sun Prairie and Muskego sharing a 2.1% rate. Racine has the state's highest City Unemployment rate of 4.1% in May.

Sheboygan County had the 13th lowest Unemployment rate among Wisconsin's 72 counties in May, recording 2.3%, up from 1.7% in April, but down from 2.5% last year. The county with the lowest rate, 2.0%, was Lafayette, while Menominee County experienced the highest rate in May at 5.5%

SPD Deals With Two Weekend Firearms Incidents

Jun 19, 2023 | 3:56 PM

The Sheboygan Police Department said that it had to deal with two reports involving firearms over the weekend. Neither resulted in any injury, and they're considered isolated incidents with no ongoing threat to the public.

The first event happened shortly after 11 p.m. Saturday in the 1800 block of North 10th street. A group of juveniles said they were walking home when they were approached by four teens who stole a bicycle from one of the group, with one of the suspects displaying a handgun in the process.

Three hours later, at around 1 a.m. on Sunday, officers responded to a report of shots fired in the area of 10th and Michigan Avenue. Investigators were able to confirm that a single shot was fired by an adult male who had been involved in a physical fight with other adults in the area.

An active investigation is being conducted into both incidents, and the SPD is requesting anyone with information to call them at 920-459-3333. Those wishing to remain anonymous may do so by calling Sheboygan Countywide Crimestoppers at 877-238-8436, or online at cufthem.com

Indiana Avenue Reconstruction Makes Early Return

Jun 8, 2023 | 5:59 AM

A repair project initially scheduled for 2024 will take place this year as another stretch of Indiana Avenue is ready for a re-do. Sheboygan's Common Council voted in April to make the adjustment to better align schedules with a Taylor Drive project that will follow. As a result, the busy western gateway to Sheboygan's near south side will close between South 17th and 24th Streets beginning on Monday, June 12th.

During the reconstruction South 19th through 24th Streets between Indiana and Georgia Avenues will all become temporary two-way streets. Once reconstruction is completed those streets will return to their one-way configuration.

All business access will be maintained during the project which, like last year's work just west of the current stretch, will involve installing new utilities, sidewalks, street lighting and a new concrete road surface. But unlike last year's, which lasted from mid-March through November, this latest project should be completed by this coming October, weather permitting.

Free Fun Weekend Coming to State Parks, Forests Saturday and Sunday

Jun 2, 2023 | 6:18 AM

Those looking for something free and fun this weekend need look no further than the nearest Wisconsin State Park or Forest. The Wisconsin DNR is waving all State Park admissions, fishing licenses and trail passes on Saturday and Sunday to celebrate its 11th Free Fun Weekend, and several nearby locations have special activities planned.

At Kohler-Andrae State Park there will be a “Music in the Park” presentation featuring Duane Steen on Saturday from 7-9 p.m.

Harrington Beach State Park near Belgium will hold the Ozaukee County Fishing Clinic on Saturday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Three special programs will take place in the Kettle Moraine State Forest – Northern Unit during the weekend. Saturday Morning Nature Sleuths will be held from 8-9 a.m. at Long Lake on Saturday, while a similar afternoon session will be held at Mauthe Lake from 3-4 p.m. And on Sunday, “Pop-Up: Alien Attack” will show invasive species and their impact to participants from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Long Lake.

Google Online Safety Roadshow Comes to Sheboygan

Jun 1, 2023 | 6:24 AM

Some lessons are learned the hard way through experience, but over 650 Sheboygan middle school students might avoid such painful experiences following a visit by the “Online Safety Roadshow” presented by Google on Wednesday. The event was part of Google’s initiative to create safe experiences for children across its platforms which include the popular video site Youtube.

Students from Horace Mann, Farnsworth, Urban, Etude, and Warriner middle schools gathered for about 45 minutes to learn skills to stay safe by following Google’s “Be Internet Awesome” curriculum, which focuses on five tips: sharing content with care, not falling for fake online scams, securing personal information with strong passwords, being kind to others online, and talking to trusted adults when in doubt.

Horace Mann Principal Nic Collins said that it is important to send students into the summer vacation season properly prepared to stay safe in the ever-changing world of the internet.

Google, which has kept offices in Madison since 2007, has awarded over \$4 million in grants to nonprofits and organizations throughout the state, and Google Public Affairs Manager M.J. Henshaw said the tech giant was excited to bring the Online Safety Roadshow to Sheboygan in order to empower students “...with the tools and training to stay safe in this interconnected world.”

One Dead, Another Injured in Plymouth Shooting

May 29, 2023 | 6:14 AM

One person is dead of a gunshot wound and another person was hospitalized after what Plymouth police call a “domestic situation”.

Plymouth Police and the Sheboygan County Sheriff’s Office responded after receiving a 911 call of a person shot at around 11:45 p.m. Saturday night, and found two persons suffering gunshot wounds in the 300 block of North Milwaukee Street. One of them was transported to an area hospital for treatment of their injuries; the other was pronounced dead at the scene inside of the residence.

Based on preliminary investigation by the Plymouth Police Department, both persons knew each other and there’s no indication of any ongoing threat to the public. The names of the victims are being withheld pending notification of the next of kin.

Deputy Chief Matthew Starker said that Plymouth Police are continuing their investigation of the incident, and anyone with information is requested to contact Investigator Paul Wagner at 920-893-6541.

Unsuccessful Search/Rescue for Missing Swimmer Now a Recovery Operation

May 16, 2023 | 5:30 AM

Rescue crews who responded to reports of a swimmer in trouble in the Sheboygan River on Monday evening were called back last night, and will focus on recovery of the victim when they return this morning.

Sheboygan Fire Department Battalion Chief Jamon Ingelse said that they got the call of a possible drowning shortly after 7 p.m., sending the Fire Department and Sheboygan City/County Dive Team to the Rotary Riverview Park area. Various reports indicate that a cellphone was found near the scene.

A team consisting of the Dive and support teams, Sheboygan Police and County Sheriff's Department, U.S. Coast Guard and Wisconsin DNR used sonar to locate several areas of interest, sending a rescue swimmer to examine those areas, but had to abandon the search due to darkness. Searchers planned to return to the scene around 10 a.m. on Tuesday to conduct a recovery operation in hopes of finding the body.

Meanwhile, the SFD is urging the public to avoid going into lakes or rivers while waters remain dangerously cold.

Sign Replacement, Power Line Placement Require I-43 Ramp Closures

May 15, 2023 | 5:31 AM

Those wishing to get on or off I-43 at Sheboygan overnight on Tuesday will want to plan ahead. That's because some ramps will be shut down to accommodate a pair of projects that it's hoped can be completed at the same time.

One of those projects involves ongoing construction of a new 6-1/2 mile, 138,000 volt transmission line between the Howards Grove Substation and the Erdman Substation just north of Sheboygan. Part of that project will require shutting down ramps at State Highway 42 for the placement of those power lines.

The other project is being undertaken by the State Department of Transportation, which will be replacing large highway signs on the I-43 overpass at State Highway 23. As the timing of both projects align nicely, access to on-and-off ramps at both highways 42 and 23 will be shut down at 8 p.m. Tuesday evening, and plans are to complete both projects before reopening access at 5 a.m. on Wednesday. It's hoped that this will be the only shutdown needed.

Meanwhile, anyone needing to get on or off I-43 at Sheboygan on Tuesday night will need to use either the Highway "V" or Highway 28 access until Wednesday morning.

Falls Mom Sentenced to Mental Institution in Strangulation Death of Son

May 12, 2023 | 6:07 AM

The Sheboygan Falls woman who killed her son last year and tried to kill her other son is headed to a mental institution for the rest of her life.

Natalia Hitchcock was sentenced by Sheboygan County Judge Daniel Borowski on Thursday. Borowski found Hitchcock guilty of the crime, but not legally responsible due to a plea of “Not Guilty by Reason of Mental Disease or Defect”. Hitchcock had been evaluated by a number of professionals, all of whom reached the same conclusion. Natalia Hitchcock had also tried to drown her other son in a bathtub, but that attempted murder charge was dismissed as part of a plea deal.

Before she was sentenced, Hitchcock thanked the people who tried to save the little boy, and said she misses her son.

Parklet Returning to Downtown St. Clair Avenue

May 11, 2023 | 6:16 AM

Beginning today, St. Clair Avenue between North 8th and 9th Streets in downtown Sheboygan will close to through traffic for the next six months. Instead of accommodating cars, the 1-block stretch will undergo a transformation into an area for people on foot or bicycles to gather together for a little something to eat and drink, or to just spend time enjoying the outdoors. The idea is called a “Parklet” that will feature landscaping, bike racks and other features that make visiting downtown Sheboygan something special.

The parklet first appeared two years ago as an effort to make the downtown area more attractive to pedestrians and those who use non-motorized transportation, support local businesses, and enhance the public space.

Good ideas tend to come back, and this will be the third year for the feature that will be available until November 15th on St. Clair Avenue between Paradigm Coffee & Music and the 8th Street Ale Haus.

Suspects in Thefts From Vehicles Apprehended – Advise People to Check for Missing Items

May 8, 2023 | 6:08 AM

Recent thefts from vehicles have Sheboygan Police asking people to check if they also were victims. Reports of several possible vehicle entries were received by the SPD at around 12 a.m. Sunday morning. Those were in the area of South 15th and Mead Avenue. At around the same time another report of vehicle entries was received, this time from the area of Geele Avenue between North 20th and 22nd Streets.

Police were able to contact suspects connected to each incident, and both were found with items in their possession. Police say that people living near those locations should check their vehicles for any missing items and if so, then contact the Sheboygan Police Department at 920-459-3333.

Another Fire for SFD to Handle on Thursday Morning

May 4, 2023 | 4:48 PM

The third in a series of significant fires in two days was handled by the Sheboygan Fire Department on Thursday morning. A 911 call was received by the Sheboygan County Joint Communications Center at around 9:45 a.m. from Torke Coffee Company on Paine Avenue in Sheboygan's south side industrial park. The first units arrived in about five minutes to find heavy smoke coming from the roof vents, and the employees already evacuated from the building and informing the crews that the fire was in a coffee roaster. A hose line was employed within the building and the fire extinguished after about ten minutes.

The fire was contained to the roaster, and crews remained on the scene for about two hours to ventilate the building, and also to ensure the fire would not reignite.

Nobody was injured, and there's neither an estimate of damage nor cause determined at this time.

Sheboygan Area Sees Record Low Unemployment in March

Apr 27, 2023 | 6:10 AM

Record low unemployment figures for March were revealed on Wednesday by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. The information, compiled by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, showed historically low unemployment rates in 69 of the state's 72 counties compared to previous years, while four cities and two counties also saw all-time lows.

The City of Sheboygan's unemployment rate was at an all-time record low 1.8% in March, down from 2.1% in February and nearly 1% (0.9%) lower than March last year. Sheboygan's rate is the 5th lowest among Wisconsin cities.

Sheboygan County and the Sheboygan Metropolitan Area recorded identical figures of a 1.8% unemployment rate during March, down from 2% in February, and seven-tenths of a percent lower than March last year. That ranks Sheboygan County as the 3rd lowest rate in the State.

Prescription Drug Take Back Day is This Saturday

Apr 18, 2023 | 6:14 AM

The first Prescription Drug Take Back Day of 2023 is coming this weekend. In Sheboygan County, four locations will be staffed by teams that will collect household waste pharmaceuticals and safely remove them from circulation – and from the environment. During the previous event last October, Wisconsin topped the nation with a collection of over 27 tons of unwanted medications...that according to the State Department of Justice.

The collection on Saturday is sponsored by Healthy Sheboygan County, and will be held at Generations in Plymouth, the Random Lake Fire Department, the Sheboygan Falls Police Department and at HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital in Sheboygan, where the North Taylor Drive entrance will be employed during the event, which runs Saturday from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. at all locations.

4-Year-Old Bystander Perishes in Sheboygan Crash

Apr 13, 2023 | 5:24 AM

The drivers involved in a north side Sheboygan neighborhood crash are OK, but a child nearby died as a result.

The Sheboygan Police Department responded to the crash at the intersection of 21st and Saemann Avenue at around 5 p.m. on Wednesday. Initial investigation indicates that a pickup truck operating southbound on North 21st Street collided with an eastbound vehicle on Saemann Avenue. One of the vehicles involved left the roadway and struck a group of pedestrians. Among that group was a 4-year-old girl that sustained a fatal injury as a result. Three other individuals received minor injuries and were treated at local hospitals.

Both drivers remained on the scene and were cooperating with investigators, who are continuing their look into the circumstances that led to the crash.

Teen Hospitalized After Drowning at North High

Apr 12, 2023 | 6:14 AM

A teen was hospitalized after a drowning incident at North High School on Tuesday afternoon. School administrators sent a message to parents yesterday afternoon to inform them of the situation, which reportedly happened during 7th period gym class.

Emergency responders were called to the school shortly before 3 p.m. The 14 year old victim was initially hospitalized and later airlifted for further treatment.

The letter to parents also states that staff at the school is available for any student needing help processing the incident. The condition of the student was not released.

Sheboygan Jaycees Cancel 2023 Brat Days

Apr 11, 2023 | 6:25 AM

The Sheboygan Jaycees announced on Monday that in 2023 there will be no Bratwurst Days celebration. The event, which first appeared on Sheboygan streets and in city parks 70 years ago, has seen both good times and bad, but recent challenges had prompted the Jaycees to announce last year that changes were in the wings. Changes, it seems, have become a part of the festival given its history.

The event had drawn as many as an estimated 100,000 people during the '60s. After crowds that large brought troubles like vandalism and rampant drunkenness the festival was cancelled by referendum in 1966, but then returned as "German Days" four years later. That observance would morph into "Sheboygan Days" until 1978 when the beloved "Bratwurst Days" returned.

Recent pressures of time, effort and the people power required to put on the annual event brought an advisory from the Jaycees last year that changes would be coming, and this year's cancellation is one of those. However the Jaycees added that Brat Days isn't going away entirely. And they're asking for patience and understanding as the organization works to put a new Bratwurst Days on the Sheboygan Calendar in the future.

Spring Election Results

Apr 4, 2023 | 8:02 PM

Liberals are gaining control of Wisconsin's Supreme Court for the first time in 15 years. On Tuesday, Janet Protasiewicz defeated conservative Dan Kelly and won a seat on the state's Supreme Court. Protasiewicz's victory gives the court a liberal majority to determine the future of pivotal issues in the state, like abortion and voting rights. Protasiewicz was elected to a ten-year term. This Supreme Court election was the most expensive in U.S. history, with over 40-million dollars being funneled into the race.

Tuesday's election didn't change anything on Sheboygan's Common Council. Amanda Salazar, Angela Ramey, Grazia Perrella, and Trey Mitchell all retained their seats in Districts 1,3,5,and 7 – meantime, the makeup of the Sheboygan Area School District's board of education didn't change much last night. Sarah Ruiz-Harrison, Kay Robbins, and Heidi Boehmer were the top vote-getters in yesterday's election. In the race for Sheboygan County Circuit Court, Natasha Torry walked away with the victory in Branch 2, and George Limbeck takes the bench in Branch 5.