

Issues and Programs: Quarterly Topics: October – December 2023

During the period October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, WYSU-FM's programming treated the following issues of public concern:

ARTS AND LOCAL CELEBRATIONS

Art in Appalachia

Friday, September 1, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Trying to inspire people to look at that area of the state as a place to live, a place to raise your family. One welder's idea on how to transform the region. On Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

Goosebumps Author from Ohio

Tuesday, October 21, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

The creator of the best-selling children's book, *Goosebumps*, is from Ohio. More on how the state influences R.L. Stine. That's Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING

Where Is the Money Going from the ARPA in Ohio

Wednesday, November 8, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Ohio received more than 5 billion dollars in American Rescue Plan Act funding in its state fiscal recovery fund. By far, the biggest allocation went to the state's unemployment recovery fund. Water and sewer improvements were the second biggest— they made up 20 percent of the investments.

On Today from The Ohio Newsroom.

AUTO EMISSION STANDARDS IN OHIO

House Passes Ban on Required Emissions Standards

Tuesday, November 21, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The Senate will consider a bill to ban the state from demanding vehicles sold in Ohio meet clean air standards tougher than the federal requirements. It also specifically states that no Ohio agency can adopt emission standards set by California, which is banning gas-powered cars by 2035 - though there's never been a move to toward that in Ohio. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports.

CHILDCARE

Childcare Training

Tuesday, October 10, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Ohio is lacking childcare providers – and that's impacting the workforce. Here is one Ohio county's new approach to the problem. On Today from the Ohio Newsroom

COMMUNITY SERVICES

YMCA Live Strong Program

Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 6:45 & 8:45 am, 5 minutes

WYSU's Gina Marinelli speaks with Meri Fetkovich of the YMCA about the *Live Strong* program.

Junior Achievement

Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 6:45 & 8:45 am, 5 minutes

WYSU's Gina Marinelli speaks with Michele Merkel of Junior Achievement about what their mission is and how they serve the region.

Youngstown Flea Supporting Local Businesses

Tuesday, October 31, 2023, 6:45 & 8:45 am, 5 minutes

WYSU's Gina Marinelli speaks with Derrick McDowell of the Youngstown Flea about supporting local businesses in downtown Youngstown during a difficult time of construction.

Youngstown Initiative to Reduce Violence

Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 6:45 & 8:45 am, 5 minutes

WYSU's Gina Marinelli speaks with Guy Berney, Executive Director of the Youngstown Initiative to Reduce Violence.

Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation

Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 6:45 & 8:45 am, 5 minutes

WYSU's Gina Marinelli Gina speaks with Ian Beniston, Executive Director of The Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation about their accomplishments in 2023.

ACTION's Mobile Market Plan

Tuesday, December 12, 2023, 6:45 & 8:45 am, 5 minutes

WYSU's Gina Marinelli speaks with Kylie Christina, Marketing Director of ACTION. about their "mobile markets" and how they bring produce to food deserts in the area.

EDUCATION CONCERNS IN OHIO

Battle over Order to Stop Education Overhaul in Ohio

Wednesday, October 4, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The Ohio Department of Education is no more as of midnight, according to Gov. Mike DeWine. But he says part of the planned revamping of that agency will go forward, even though seven Democratic state school board members had won a court order last month to stop that from happening. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports.

Education for Prisoners in Ohio

Thursday, October 19, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

Ohio State University is bringing a liberal arts education to Ohioans behind bars. Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

Ohio State School Board Lawsuit – Next Moves

Monday, October 23, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The seven progressive-leaning elected state school board members who sued over the Republican-backed overhaul of K-12 education are considering their next move, after a judge allowed that transition to go into effect Friday. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports on the next move in the creation of the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce.

Catholic College in Steubenville Bucking Trends

Monday, October 23, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

How one Catholic college is bucking trends. The Franciscan University of Steubenville is a small Catholic school on the far-eastern edge of Ohio. It enrolls about 38-hundred students. For the past seven years, that number has been growing — even though college enrollment at many Ohio universities is dropping and Catholic churches in the state are consolidating due in part to low attendance.

Faculty Strike Ban Now Out of Ohio SB 83

Wednesday, November 1, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The bill that seeks to address what conservatives see as “cancel culture” and indoctrination at Ohio’s public colleges and universities is getting another makeover. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports on the new changes to the controversial bill.

The Increasing Tension Around Ohio School Board Races

Tuesday, November 7, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Voters across the state will cast ballots on school board elections today. Those boards’ meetings have gotten more contentious since the pandemic began. Is this contentiousness discouraging people from running for election? Today from the Ohio Newsroom on XX station at YY time.

Ohio School Levies, Part 1

Tuesday, November 28, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

More than a fourth of Ohio school districts were on the ballot this election, asking voters for their financial support. A look at one district's struggle for a new high school building. Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

Ohio School Levies, Part 2

Wednesday, November 29, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Fifty years ago, Ohio was facing high inflation and rapidly rising property values. It's led to Ohio having more school levies than any other state. Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

Banning Books in Ohio

Monday, November 29, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Communities across the state are debating what books are appropriate to read. How one Ohio business is pushing against book bans. Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

Repurposing Vacant Schools in Ohio.

Wednesday, October 25, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes

Every year, more than a thousand public schools across the country close. They sometimes sit empty for years – decades even. Some are finding a new purpose. Adams School on the south side of Youngstown. The school is one of three abandoned by Youngstown City Schools and one of dozens across the state.

EMPLOYMENT

Jobs Program for Recover Substance Abuses in Appalachia

Monday, October 16, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Ohio recently received two million dollars to help people recovering from substance use disorders find jobs. How that money will help one Appalachian community. On Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

ENVIRONMENT: GENERAL

Preserving Ohio's Old Growth Forests

Wednesday, October 18, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

The Old-Growth Forest Network is on a mission to preserve the nation's oldest forests. And this month, it welcomed two more Ohio forests: Stage's Pond State Nature Preserve just south of Columbus and the Lindy Rosenburg Preserve near Athens. Ohio now has 30 forests in the network. The Ohio Newsroom.

Dealing with Ohio's Least Popular Bird.

Friday, November 3, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Canada geese are embarking on their annual migratory trip out of Ohio, but some will stick around, thanks in part, to people feeding geese. One Ohio city is cracking down.

Dupont Agreement

Thursday, November 30, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

A \$110 million settlement has been reached between the state and Dupont over chemical contamination in Southeast Ohio. Statehouse correspondent Jo Ingles reports.

Repurposing Abandoned Coal Mines

Monday, November 27, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources is repurposing abandoned coal mines across Appalachian Ohio. It's part of a broader, federal effort to find new economic uses for the land. The Ohio Newsroom's Erin Gottsacker reports.

Dupont Settlement

Wednesday, December 6, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

After a settlement with Dupont was announced last week, the state of Ohio will get more than 100 million dollars to fight so-called "forever chemicals." Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES

Refugees from Mauritania

Wednesday, October 1, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Thousands of people from Mauritania have come to Ohio to seek refuge from ethnic discrimination and violence. Advocates for these migrants want to protect their legal status in the U-S. More on the difference protected status could make. On Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

Ursuline Sisters Immigrant Outreach

Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 6:45 & 8:45 am, 5 minutes

WYSU's Gina Marinelli speaks with Sister Norma Raupple of the Ursuline Sisters about their immigration outreach program.

LABOR

UAW Strike in Toledo

Thursday, October 5, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

The United Auto Workers strike continues, including at the Stellantis Jeep plant in Toledo. How the UAW union has been keeping the Big 3 automakers on their toes. On Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

LGBTQ+ ISSUES

Ghost Hunting Gays of Ohio

Friday, October 6, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

A new paranormal investigation group hopes to find LGBTQ plus community while searching for ghosts. They call themselves The Ghost Hunting Gays of Ohio. On Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

Ohio Bill to Protect Same-Sex, Interracial Marriage

Monday, November 27, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

More than half of Ohio House Democrats have signed onto a bill introduced before the Thanksgiving holiday to protect same-sex and interracial marriage. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports the US Supreme Court decision last year striking down the right to abortion has some concerned that those other rights derived from Supreme Court cases could be overturned too.

MEDICINE & HEALTH

Ohio Bipartisan Bill to Address Nursing Shortage

Monday, October 2, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The nursing shortage that started during the pandemic hasn't gotten any better, with thousands expected to leave the profession in the next five years. A bipartisan bill that seeks to address Ohio's nursing shortage was put forward this week. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports.

Hospital Therapy Dogs

Wednesday, October 4, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

Throughout Ohio, therapy dogs roam hospital halls lifting spirits. Research suggests there are health benefits too. The people who pet the dog had a clinically significant decrease in the amount of pain they were feeling. On Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

Covid, Flu and RSV

Tuesday, October 17, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

Ohio health officials are preparing for what they call a winter wave of illness. Statehouse correspondent Jo Ingles reports.

Mental Health on the Farm

Thursday, November 2, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Farming can be an unpredictable and stressful job, and that can take a toll on the mental health of agricultural workers. But rural areas don't always have the resources to get people the help and support they need. A newly formed alliance is hoping to fill that gap. Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

COVID and Respiratory Illnesses Coming for Christmas

Monday, December 18, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The Ohio Department of Health has an important and less-than-uplifting message for upcoming holiday season gatherings – cases of respiratory illness are on the rise, and lots of Ohioans aren't protected from them. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports.

OHIO ABORTION AMENDMENT

March for Life Rally 2023

Monday, October 9, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

Just a month ahead of the vote on a constitutional amendment to enshrine abortion rights in the constitution, a rally and march was held at the Ohio Statehouse by those who oppose the measure. Statehouse correspondent Jo Ingles reports.

Clearing Confusion over Abortion Laws

Friday, October 20, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

Opponents of Issue 1 are not talking about a six-week abortion ban many of them fought for that's now in legal limbo. Instead, they're noting current law allows abortion up to 22 weeks. Backers of a November amendment on abortion access are not focusing on the current law and are talking about the six-week ban that could be reinstated. Statehouse correspondent Jo Ingles reports.

DeWine - Exceptions Could Happen if Issue 1 Fails

Friday, October 27, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

Early voting continues for the Nov. 7 election, which includes Issue 1, the abortion access and reproductive rights amendment. Republican Gov. Mike DeWine says Issue 1 will stop debate about sensible restrictions on abortion. But Issue 1 supporters are pushing back. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports.

Doctors See More Permanent Contraception

Wednesday, November 1, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Since the Supreme Court overturned Roe v Wade and the state legislature passed a six-week abortion ban, some Ohioans are changing their birth control plans. More Ohioans are turning to permanent contraception. Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

Ohio Decides: An Issue 1 Forum

Wednesday, November 1, 2023, 6:00 pm, 1 hour

The Ohio Debate Commission in partnership with the Columbus Dispatch, the Cincinnati Enquirer, and Spectrum News 1 presents a forum on Issue 1.

Lots of Questions About New Abortion Amendment

Thursday, November 9, 2023, 6:06. 7:06. 8:06 am, 1:30 minutes.

Now that Ohioans have passed Issue 1 to enshrine abortion rights into the Constitution, the question turns to how those rights will affect laws on the books. Statehouse correspondent Jo Ingles reports.

House GOP Statement and Proposed Changes on Issue 1

Monday, November 13, 2023, 6:06. 7:06. 8:06 am, 1:30 minutes.

Republicans are expected to unveil their proposals on abortion-related laws in the wake of the passage of Issue 1, which put abortion rights in Ohio's constitution. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports a statement about Issue 1 on the House Republicans' official government website this weekend has raised questions about what those plans will look like – and whether they'll be constitutional.

Steinglass and Weaver on Issue 1 Implementation Act

Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 6:06. 7:06. 8:06 am, 1:30 minutes.

A Republican state lawmaker is proposing what's been titled the Issue 1 Implementation Act, to set a standard for deciding the constitutionality of laws under the new reproductive rights and abortion access amendment approved by voters as Issue 1. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler has seen a draft of the bill and talked to one of the state's leading legal experts about it.

Taking Authority Away from Courts Regarding Abortion Appears to be Dead in the Ohio House

Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 6:06. 7:06. 8:06 am, 1:30 minutes.

Some Republicans, including state lawmakers, are pushing the legislature to take authority away from courts on laws involving Issue 1, the abortion rights amendment approved last week by voters. But as Statehouse correspondent Jo Ingles reports, the GOP leader of the House isn't giving that idea much credence.

OHIO JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Benjamin Flowers Leaves as Ohio Solicitor General

Tuesday, October 3, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The state's lawyer in cases before the Ohio Supreme Court is leaving that job. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports the announcement comes a few days after Benjamin Flowers argued a case that both sides agree is critical in abortion policy in Ohio.

Is Death Certificate Info Public Records?

Wednesday, October 25, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The Ohio Supreme Court will answer a question that's lingered since the pandemic – is the information on a death certificate a public record? Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports on a case filed by a journalist against the Ohio Department of Health.

OHIO LEGISLATURE

Replacing Ohio State Representative Bob Young

Thursday, October 5, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

Bob Young is now a former state representative since his resignation became effective yesterday. Statehouse correspondent Jo Ingles reports on finding a replacement for the Summit County Republican who resigned after two arrests in two months.

Ohio Bathroom Bill Gets First House Hearing

Friday, October 6, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

An Ohio House committee heard from the Republican sponsors of a bill that requires K-12 and college students use bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond to the gender on their birth certificates. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports lawmakers heard misinformation about the issue and questions about the prevalence of the problem the bill seeks to correct.

Lawsuit over Campaign Funds

Thursday, October 12, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

Three Republican state representatives have filed a lawsuit against the leader of the Ohio House over the administration of campaign funds. Republican reps Derek Merrin, Ron Ferguson and Phil Plummer have filed a suit in the Franklin County Common Pleas Court, saying Speaker Jason Stephens doesn't have the authority to manage the Ohio House Republican campaign fund. Statehouse correspondent Jo Ingles has details.

Ohio Democrats Push Gun Safety Bills

Tuesday, December 12, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

Democrats in the Ohio Senate say now is the time for the state legislature to pass some gun safety provisions – though the Republican-dominated legislature has been expanding gun rights for more than a decade. Statehouse correspondent Jo Ingles reports.

OHIO MARIJUANA AMENDMENT

Changes Ahead if Issue 2 Passes

Wednesday, October 11, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The Republican-dominated Ohio Senate passed a resolution opposing the two issues on the Nov. 7 ballot – Issue 1, an amendment on reproductive and abortion rights, and Issue 2, a law to legalize recreational marijuana. But the Republican leader of the Senate – who opposes legalized marijuana – says while there aren't immediate plans to repeal the law if Issue 2 passes, it would likely undergo some changes. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports.

Changes Coming to Issue 2 Soon

Friday, December 1, 2023; 6:06, 7:06, 8:06 am; 1:30 minutes.

The state's new recreational marijuana passed by nearly 57% of Ohio voters takes effect next Thursday. Republican lawmakers have said they want to tweak the law before that. Statehouse correspondent Karen Kasler reports it's likely some changes will come out Friday or Monday.

Ohio Senate Weed Changes

Monday, December 4, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

With less than 72 hours until recreational marijuana would be legal in Ohio, Republican state senators are just now unveiling what they want to see modified about the state's soon-to-be program. Statehouse correspondent Sarah Donaldson reports on the list of changes to Issue 2, which were added to a bill on liquor control laws.

RACE, IDENTITY & CULTURE

Earthworks in Ohio Designated as New International Landmarks

Tuesday, October 3, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

Late last month, UNESCO or the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, designated the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks and other earthwork sites as a world heritage site. This weekend, Fort Ancient in southwest Ohio is offering tours of a giant Earthwork made thousands of years ago. On Today from the Ohio Newsroom.

REGIONAL, NATIONAL, & INTERNATIONAL NEWS

National News Headlines

Monday – Friday, 5 minutes at the top of every hour
Hourly from National Public Radio.

Business Journal Report

Monday – Friday, 4:35 pm & 5:35 pm, 5 minutes
Local business news.

The World

Monday – Friday, 6:00 pm, 1 hour
A PRX program that crosses borders and time zones to bring home the stories that matter.

Today from the Ohio Newsroom

Monday – Friday, 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes

Regional News Headlines

Monday – Friday, 6:06 am, 7:06 am & 8:06 am, 3 minutes
News report consisting of stories from the Ohio Statehouse News Bureau.

Morning Edition from NPR

Monday – Friday, 6:00 am – 9:00 am, 3 Hours

All Things Considered from NPR

Monday – Friday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, 2 Hours

Fresh Air

Monday – Friday, 3:00 – 4:00 pm, 1 hour
In-depth interviews with prominent cultural individuals.

Weekend Edition from NPR

Saturday – Sunday, 8:00 – 10:00 am, 2 hours

UKRAINE

Ohio Senators on Ukraine

Monday, October 9, 2023; 8:45 am, 4:45 pm; 4:30 minutes.

A resolution to temporarily fund the federal government cleared Congress at the start of the month, without additional dollars for Ukraine -- and Ohio's two U.S. senators are still divided on what role the U.S. should play in Russia's invasion of the country. Statehouse correspondent Sarah Donaldson reports.

NPR Programs Subject List (Detailed story list available upon request)

Aging and Retirement

Agriculture and Environment

Arts and Entertainment

Business, Economics and Finance

Crime and Law Enforcement

Education

Immigration and Refugees

Medicine and Health

Military, War and Veterans

Politics and Government

Race, Identity and Culture

Religion

Science and Technology

Completed on January 10, 2024 – Gary Sexton, Director, WYSU-FM