

Quarterly Issues and Programs List
Houghton Community Broadcasting - WHKB

For the quarter beginning July 1st through September 30th, 2023.

Compiled September 27, 2023

Section One - Issues

This station has identified the following issues facing our community during this quarter:

- Closure of Finlandia University, effect on education, employment, economy, cultural heritage, health care (nursing)
- Health - COVID-19; cost and availability of care; healthy living and local sports opportunities for residents
- Economy - jobs and economic development, and the effect wrought by COVID-19
- Affordable Housing
- Day Care
- State/Local Governmental Issues - Election
- Recreation
- Education, Job Training and Youth Services
- Public Infrastructure
- Mental Health - caring for those with mental health issues, addressing suicide
- Drugs and substance abuse
- Natural Resources - environmental issues, wildlife management, responsible use of resources, recycling
- Domestic Violence - creating awareness and victim support
- Social Services - support for financially challenged individuals and families
- Cultural Heritage
- Energy Costs and Availability.
- Public Safety
- Veterans Issues - availability of care and benefits
- Inclusion - making the community welcoming and safe for all
- Arts and Culture
- Disaster Preparedness
- Service Agencies and Nonprofits - support, and assistance in publicizing needed services they offer
- Agriculture

Section Two - Responsive Programs 2

This station has broadcast programming dealing with the above issues as follows. This list of programs does not necessarily include all broadcasts that may have addressed the above issues.

Copper Country Today - Aired Weekly on Sunday at 9:00 am

July 2, 2023 - Robin Meneguzzo of the Keweenaw Area Community Foundation talked about their mission, and their work on the Keweenaw Highlands project (Health, Service Agencies/Nonprofits, Natural Resources, Recreation). The new commander of the Calumet State Police Post, First Lieutenant Jason Wickstrom, spoke about the role of the state police, careers with the state police, and his previous work with the Upper Peninsula West Substance Abuse Team (Public Safety, Drugs/Substance Abuse).

July 9, 2023 - Alysa Cherubini Sutenen, Gail Ploe and Michelle Morgan discussed the results of the Hope Survey about community attitudes toward mental illness (Mental Health, Social Services, Drugs/Substance Abuse). Rachel Pressley from the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region, and local growers Ashley Ten Harmsel and Drew Cramer talked about the Farm to School program, which provides locally grown food to kids receiving school lunches (Health, Economy, Education/Youth Services, Agriculture).

July 16, 2023 - Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region Director Jerry Wuorenmaa discussed the housing shortage that has developed in the Keweenaw (Affordable Housing, Economy). Iola Brubaker and Julie Catherino talked about the critical lack of child care in the Copper Country (Child Care, Economy).

July 23, 2023 - Finlandia Foundation director Anne-Mari Paster provided an update about their involvement with Hancock's Finnish-American Heritage Center (Finlandia Closure, Cultural Heritage, Education). The Portage Health Foundation has changed its name to the Copper Shores Community Health Foundation, and taken on some unique commitments. Director Kevin Store talked about the changes (Service Agencies/Nonprofits, Health, Social Services).

July 30, 2023 - Halfway through the downtown Houghton parking deck project, City Manager Eric Waara provided an update (Public Infrastructure, Economy, Local Government). Ginny Hemmer and Doug McKenzie of the Copper Country Recycling Initiative talked about hazardous materials in many homes, and efforts to find ways to dispose of them properly (Natural Resources, Health).

August 6, 2023 - Finnish Consul General Jarmo Sareva discussed the nation from which many Copper Country residents trace their ancestry (Cultural Heritage, Education, Social Services). As efforts continue to honor 1913 Copper Strike leader "Big Annie" Clemenc with a statue, "Death's Door" author Steve Lehto talked about the strike, Clemenc' role, and the Italian Hall disaster (Cultural Heritage).

August 13, 2023 - Rozsa Center director Mary Jennings talked about the upcoming entertainment season, and their new "pay as you are able" pricing system (Arts and Culture). 110th District Republican State Representative Greg Markkanen brought an update from Lansing, including working with a Democratic majority, potential revisions to the road tax, and challenges within the state Republican party (State Government, Public Infrastructure, Education).

August 20, 2023 - Michigan Economic Development Corporation CEO Quentin Messer, Jr., talked about how the Keweenaw fits into statewide economic plans (Economy, State Government, Housing, Day Care). Rick Freeman and Debbie Winquist previewed the upcoming Houghton County Fair (Recreation, Cultural Heritage, Education, Agriculture).

August 27, 2023 - Copper Country Intermediate School District Superintendent James Rautiola talked about the upcoming school year, changes that parents can expect, and the continuing need for fulltime and substitute teachers (Education, Economy). Calumet Theatre Executive Director Jay Maki brought an update about the theatre's successful summer, ongoing operations, and what's coming up (Arts and Culture, Cultural Heritage).

September 3, 2023 - Aspirus Keweenaw Nurse Practitioner Shannon Handler talked about health issues kids will face as they head back to school (Health, Education). Democratic State Representative Jenn Hill, whose 109th District includes Baraga County, talked about state government issues (State Government, Education, Public Infrastructure).

September 10, 2023 - Kelly Raffaelli and Mariana Nakashima from Michigan Tech talked about international students at the university, and the upcoming Parade of Nations and Multicultural Festival (Inclusion, Education, Cultural Heritage). Jennifer Beaudette from the Copper Country Intermediate School District discussed the benefits of preschool, and options for parents (Day Care, Education).

September 17, 2023 - Portage Lake District Library Director Katrina Linde-Moriarty discussed library services, and recent upgrades to the facility (Education, Service Agencies). Patrick O'Keefe, the receiver who is overseeing the dissolution of Finlandia University and its assets, talked about the process, and the challenges involved (Finlandia Closure, Economy, Public Infrastructure).

September 24, 2023 - Ginny Hemmer and Mark Miron from Omega House talked about grief, local resources to help deal with it, and an upcoming Community Grief seminar (Health, Mental Health). Visit Keweenaw director Brad Barnett provided a review of the summer tourist season, a look at the fall color season, and the upcoming Plaidurday world record attempt (Economy, Recreation, Cultural Heritage).