

Quarterly Issues Programs List for WXR-D-FM
 Fourth Quarter
 October 1, 2023-December 31, 2023

WXR-D-FM provides coverage of community issues in newscasts at regularly-scheduled times Monday through Friday. WXR-D-FM newscasts run approximately 90-to-120 seconds in length at the top of the hour, 5a-6p Mon-Fri, approximately 90-to-120-seconds bottom-of-hour 5:30a-6:30p. Community issues are chosen by assessing the various topics of concern that are evident in our listening area.

Description of Issue	Date	Approx. Length	Content of Program/Segment (news story) Providing Issue Coverage:
Transportation			
	10/02/23 10/03/23	:34	In Indiana, an effort is underway to “to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles” officials say, and the GO-E-V-Indiana team will be in the Region this week. Their stop at the NIRPC office in Portage Thursday October 5 th , 9 am to noon is an opportunity for residents to learn more about EV ownership and plans to create fast charging corridors along Indiana’s major highways. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management in partnership with Drive Clean Indiana and the Indiana Utility Group last week announced the statewide electric vehicle and E-V charging initiative. We have a link for more details at our website.
	10/09/23	:20	In Gary, Gary Public Transportation Corporation is seeking feedback on routing changes to areas currently served by routes L1, L3 and L5, including increased Grant Street service and new service to Hobart. A public hearing will be held Wednesday, November 1st, 3:30 pm in the Gary Metro Center Board Room. A virtual presentation will be provided by Gary transit staff at 3:30 pm Wednesday October 11th .
	11/03/23	:35	Cities, towns, and counties across Northwest Indiana are receiving portions of the 91-and-a-half-million dollars awarded through the Community Crossings matching grant program and announced today (Fri Nov 3 rd). INDOT says communities submitted applications during a highly competitive call for projects in July and 188 across the state will be getting funds for local road improvement projects. Beverly Shores, Burns Harbor, Cedar Lake, Chesterton, Crown Point, Dune Acres, Dyer, East Chicago, Goodland, Hammond, Kentland, Knox, Merrillville, Michigan City, Munster, New Chicago, Portage, Town of Porter, and Lake, Porter, LaPorte, Starke, and Pulaski counties are on the list. The next call for projects opens in January.

	11/06/23	:20	In Lake County, the U-S Department of Transportation says the town of Highland is getting 240-thousand-dollars to develop a new Comprehensive Safety Action Plan as part of the Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program. A news release says the federal funds are meant to help communities across the U-S identify solutions to make streets, roads, and highways safer for everyone who uses them.
	11/14/23	:30	In northern Indiana, INDOT says study teams have identified 55 potential solutions along parts of U.S. 30 and U.S. 31 to address issues and needs in areas like safety and traffic flow. The specific corridors are U.S. 30 from Valparaiso to the Indiana/Ohio state line, excluding I-69 and I-469 around Fort Wayne, and U.S. 31 between Hamilton County and Plymouth, excluding the Kokomo bypass. INDOT says it is seeking public feedback on what it is calling the “Universe of Alternatives” for the study areas by December 22 nd . We have a link for more information at our website.
	11/29/23	:34	Indiana communities will be sharing over 91-million dollars in the latest round of matching grants from the Community Crossings program. State representative Jim Pressel of Rolling Prairie, chair of the house roads and transportation committee, says the funding will be used for local infrastructure projects like road and bridge preservation, road reconstruction and intersection improvements: pressel_CommunityCrossingsNov23 :12 ...future needs The next call for projects opens in January.
	12/12/23	:35	State officials say the Federal Railroad Administration Friday (Dec 8) announced the Indiana Department of Transportation will get up to half-a-million dollars to support the assessment and potential development of the Indianapolis - Chicago passenger rail corridor. INDOT Commissioner Mike Smith said it’s a “first step toward expanding passenger rail” in the state. A news release said other corridors selected for Corridor ID funding in Indiana include: •Chicago - Fort Wayne - Columbus – Pittsburgh, Midwest Connect Corridor, applied for by the City of Fort Wayne •Louisville - Indianapolis, applied for by the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency, and •Daily service on the Cardinal long distance route, applied for by Amtrak
	12/19/23	:37	Governor Eric Holcomb has announced INDOT has received a 127-million-dollar grant award from the federal government to support a Flex-Road project along the 12 mile stretch of the Borman Expressway in Northwest Indiana. Experts say the program will leverage strategies to improve travel time, increase reliability,

			enhance safety, and reduce carbon emissions on Interstate 80/94 in Lake County. INDOT Commissioner Mike Smith says there are 200-thousand vehicles per day and traffic is expected to increase 20 percent by 2040. Flex-Road is currently in its environmental and preliminary design phase and is expected to go to contractors in fall 2025 with construction activities anticipated to begin in 2026.
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Description of Issue	Date	Approx. Length	Content of Program/Segment (news story) Providing Issue Coverage:
Environment			
	10/02/23	:31	The California Condor is making a comeback after near extinction. Here's Dean'a (deena) Kodiak. IDDCondorsIDD_1 :26 SOQ
	10/03/23	:35	In Valparaiso... Valparaiso University, Porter County Recycling and Waste Reduction and area business Mermaid Straw are hosting a downtown Valpo cleanup Saturday, October 7 th , 9-11 a.m, beginning at the Rotary Library Garden on Jefferson Street. Chemistry professor Dr. Julie Peller is encouraging the community to participate. The event will include recording the types and origins of the collected garbage. Valparaiso University science students will compile the data to get a better understanding of what kind of litter is being left around town and start discussions of how to improve the area. We have more details at our website.
	10/09/23	:40	In Michigan, trash collected along beaches by a Muskegon man and his company is being turned into clothing. Jackson Riegler (reegh-ler) and Oshki (ahsh-kee) are turning the plastic collected into hats, T-shirts, and more. IDD1009GRRiegler1_1 :08 ...on beaches. He is focused on west Michigan beaches for cleanup and has a goal to collect over 100-thousand pounds of plastic waste by 2025. IDD1009GRRiegler2_1 :14 ...Lake beach cleanups. The company also gives five-percent of all proceeds to nonprofits.
	10/10/23	:48	In southeastern Indiana, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources today (Tue 10-10) celebrated the dedication of its 300th nature preserve, Toothwort Woods, in Jennings County. The DNR says it's the only place in the state where all four of Indiana's native toothwort plant species are found growing together. The preserve also protects multiple diverse habitat types that support other rare plants and animals.

			<p>Locally, Indiana’s Natural Resources Commission recently approved the dedication of North Woods Nature Preserve in LaPorte County, which increased the number of state-designated sites protected by the Nature Preserves Act to 299. The Indiana DNR says the 38 acres are in the Northwestern Morainal Natural Region and are one of the best examples of boreal (BORE-ee-el) flatwoods within the state, with some of the dominant tree species being red oak, white oak, red maple, American beech, pin oak, and black gum.</p>
	10/24/23	:29	<p>The Indiana DNR is encouraging schools in the Region and across the Hoosier state to have fifth graders participate in an Arbor Day poster contest - the theme, “Oak Trees: Superheroes of the Forest.” The DNR says the contest is designed to help students discover and foster their understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the trees around them. One poster will be accepted per school. The news release also said all Indiana schools and homeschooling families/ co-ops are eligible to participate by submitting their winning poster to the statewide contest by March 1st (2024).</p>
	11/01/23	:32	<p>In Portage, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management is hosting a public meeting this week to seek input on Climate Pollution Reduction Grants. It’s the third in a series of meetings to hear from community members on how to best use the funds. IDEM says it was awarded \$3 million in initial planning funds to conduct a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and develop a Priority Climate Action Plan to provide to the U.S. EPA by March 2024. The local meeting, the third in a series statewide, is Thursday, Nov. 2, 6-7:30 pm at Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, NIRPC (nerp-see) offices in Portage.</p>
	11/02/23	:75	<p>In environmental news... Shirley Heinze Land Trust invites the public to Appreciation Days happening over two days in early November -- Lydick Bog Nature Preserve in South Bend on Friday, November 3rd from 3 pm – 6 pm Eastern Time and Meadowbrook Nature Preserve in Porter County on Saturday, November 4th, 10am to 1pm. The event will include hands-on activities and refreshments as participants celebrate the ecosystems of Lydick Bog and Meadowbrook with guided hikes in the peak of fall colors. We have a link for more details at Green Zone under the Community dropdown menu at our website.</p> <p>In New York, Westchester County is launching a mobile app to help make recycling easier for residents. Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins says the app allows users to</p>

			<p>scan items to figure out how to recycle them and addresses something called "wish cycling" IDDRecyclecoach2_1 :12 ...tell you that. It also provides alerts for recycling events.</p> <p>In Porter County, this reminder from Porter County Recycling and Waste Reduction District, the district announcing new hours at the Valpo Compost site after Daylight Saving Time ends November 5th. Effective Monday, November 6th, Valparaiso compost site hours will be 8am-4pm Monday thru Saturday. Portage and Boone Grove sites will remain unchanged until winter hours begin. We have a link to Porter County Recycling and Waste Reduction at Green Zone under the Community dropdown menu at our website.</p>
	11/15/23	:43	<p>Governor Eric Holcomb has issued a proclamation declaring today Nov. 15 America Recycles Day in the state in partnership with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. A news release says more than half of Indiana's waste goes to landfills or incinerators instead of being recycled, and America Recycles Day serves as a reminder to not only increase recycling efforts but also to commit to reducing waste, making recycling an everyday habit, and buying recycled products. IDEM also says the statewide recycling rate is growing, up to 20-percent in 2022 from 12% in 2015. IDEM says Indiana diverted more than 1 million tons of recyclables like glass, metals, paper, and plastics from landfills last year. We have a link for more info on recycling at Green Zone under the Community dropdown menu at our website.</p>
	11/29/23	:63	<p>In Merrillville, the town is being recognized for their participation and accomplishments in the Indiana Clean Community Program. IDEM honored six pilot program communities at the program kickoff Tuesday (Nov 28). From April 2021 thru this month November 2023, Merrillville earned a bronze status as Stormwater Resource Director Matt Lake tells us... 11-28-23_MattLake1 :09 oc: that effort Lake explains why Merrillville won the award... 11-28-23_MattLake2 :21 oc: of all residents Town Council President Rick Bella says he looks forward to working with Lake towards a high distinction of silver or gold membership. The environmental program is now open to towns, cities, and counties statewide.</p>
	12/11/23	:25	<p>In Hammond, more than 60 Audubon members gathered at a recent event featuring a panel discussion with</p>

			environmental and policy experts on protecting Indiana wetlands and other natural spaces. Daniel Suarez, Conservation Manager for Audubon Great Lakes, said “By coming together and urging Indiana’s legislature to pass strong wetlands protections, we can ensure the survival of species across Indiana.” A news release said polling released by Audubon Great Lakes last year found 94 percent of Indiana voters believe that state leaders should either strengthen or maintain Indiana’s current wetlands protections.
	12/29/23	:52	In Porter County, the Recycling and Waste Reduction District says it is getting a 100-thousand-dollar state grant that will boost the quality of compost available to residents. Laura Waluszko has more: PCCompostgrant-lw voicer :42 ...lw. The IDEM grant will go toward the acquisition of a trommel screen the district says will play a significant role in minimizing debris that unavoidably ends up in the composting materials. The composting process spans over a period of eighteen months. The District says it anticipates the higher quality will generate a greater demand, encouraging more Porter County residents to visit the sites and collect free compost. Executive Director Keri Marrs Barron said, “With continuous requests from residents and municipalities, the District has been striving to pursue this goal for a long time” and “is honored to have been awarded this grant” and they eagerly look forward to making their vision a reality by refining the process that restores valuable nutrients to the environment. For the rnt I’m lw.

Description of Issue	Date	Approx. Length	Content of Program/Segment (news story) Providing Issue Coverage:
Education			
	10/02/23 10/03/23	:21	In LaPorte County, Ivy Tech Community College has announced an open house to spotlight the Information Technology program at the Michigan City Campus on Franklin Street. The event October 6 th noon-to-4pm is free of charge and will feature on-the-spot enrollment. In the I-T program, students can earn a variety of credentials, including technical certificate, program certifications, two-year degree and two-year transfer degree.
	10/02/23	:30	There is a notable change for a common form for college-bound students in Indiana and elsewhere. The FAFSA [[FAF-sah]], Free Application for Federal Student Aid form for the 2024-2025 school year, will not be available now, as it usually is starting October first. 20231002IAFAFSChange1_1:04 ...December.

			That's Jerry McKeen of the financial aid office at Des Moines Area Community College. He says changes are being made to make the form simpler.
	10/04/23	:30	In West Lafayette, Purdue says it has received approval for what is believed to be Indiana's first comprehensive rural education center. The Purdue Center for Rural Research, Education, and Outreach launches this fall. Phillip J. VanFossen, interim dean of the College of Education, said "As part of Purdue's Land Grant mission, the College is committed to addressing both the state-wide teacher shortage and the unique needs of Indiana's rural schools." Purdue says Indiana is among the top ten states with the largest population of students in rural school districts.
	10/05/23 10/06/23	:70	A closer look... In Crown Point, German teacher Candis Carey is receiving an award from the American Association of Teachers of German recognizing members who've made contributions to the advancement of German language education in the U-S... Carey_world :42 ...for my students. Carey is one of six German educators to be selected for the award out of numerous nominations from across the country. Carey teaches German 1, 3, and Advanced Placement German at Crown Point High School. In addition to her teaching, she will lead a group of students on an international field trip and exchange program to Germany and Austria this summer.
	10/05/23	:27	The Indiana Department of Education says a new early warning dashboard is under development to help educators identify students who may be at risk of not graduating and direct resources accordingly. State education officials say chronic absenteeism went up significantly after the pandemic, to 19.3% for the 2022-23 academic year, meaning nearly one in five students missed about three and a half weeks of school. They also said rates of chronic absenteeism are highest amongst students in grades nine through 12.
	10/31/23	:55	Spotlight on education...In East Chicago, Ivy Tech Community College Automotive Technology Department has recently invested in two Hybrid Vehicles for the purpose of teaching students repair and maintenance. The program now has two hybrid Prius vehicles to teach hybrid safety and to familiarize students with operating systems on the vehicle. Program Chair Javier Rivera.... 10-25-23_hybrid :15 oc: on these vehicles The two vehicles cost 62-thousand dollars and were purchased with Perkins Grant funds, which assist school districts and public two-year colleges in improving secondary and postsecondary-level career and technical

			education programs. You can hear more Region Newsmakers at News Audio on Demand at our website.
	11/02/23	:90	Spotlight on education... Ivy Tech Community College Lake County recently bought a high tech hydrotherapy tank for their classes as Mike Bonaventura reports... 10-27-23_ivytankwrap_MB 1:14 oc: standard In Crown Point, Ivy Tech’s two year Physical Therapy program recently upgraded equipment to include new aquatic-therapy equipment. Program Chair Dawn Banchi: 10-26-23BANSCI1 :21 oc: to learn She says aquatic therapy is a little better for some patients... 10-26-23BANSCI2 :31 oc: diagnoses Bansci says the cost of the 500-gallon aquatic therapy pool was 81-thousand dollars. Tag:You can hear more Region newsmakers at news audio on demand at our website.
	11/10/23	:50	Spotlight on education... There’s a form to help Region students pay for college, but it doesn’t always get filled out. Indiana Youth Institute President/CEO Tami Silverman says it’s called FAFSA (faf-suh) – Free Application for Federal Student Aid... Tami_fafsa_1 :26 ...or four-year institution. Silverman says this year marks the introduction of an improved process being called “Better FAFSA”. The form is usually available in October, but this year’s FAFSA, for the 2024-2025 school year, is not expected to be out until December.
	11/14/23	:24	In Lake County, the Indiana Court of Appeals says its award-winning civics education outreach program, Appeals on Wheels, is coming to Munster High School this morning November 14th at 10:30 AM. A panel of judges will hear live, in-person arguments in a specific case. The news release said the event is open to the public and the audience will have a chance to ask the judges questions about the judiciary following the argument; however, judges are unable to speak about the specific case.

Description of Issue	Date	Approx. Length	Content of Program/Segment (news story) Providing Issue Coverage:
Public Safety/ Emergency Preparedness			
	10/03/23	:22	In Hammond, Congressman Frank J. Mrvan Monday (Oct 2) announced the city’s police department will receive a 300-thousand-dollar federal grant to implement gunshot

			<p>detection technology in areas designated as gun violence hot spots to improve public safety and increase timely medical assistance for residents experiencing gun violence. The funds are from the Department of Justice Rural and Small Department Violent Crime Reduction program</p>
	10/02/23 10/03/23	:30	<p>In Merrillville, Town Council President Rick Bella and Police Chief Kosta Nuses are leading efforts to secure funding to add a social worker position at the town's police department. In the coming months, Bella, Nuses, Interim Town Manager Michael Griffin, and the town's financial advisor Cender & Dalton will be engaging in discussions with community members, advocacy groups, and funding organizations to further develop the initiative, a news release said. Nuses says other Region law enforcement agencies have social workers on their staff, and they're having positive impacts in those communities.</p>
	10/09/23	:35	<p>In Crown Point, the Police Department announces the return of its police trading cards. The program debuted in 1998 and came back in 2002. The 3rd edition features 64 cards highlighting the entire department, including specialty units - K-9, motorcycles and bicycles, former officers and other police and city personnel. Each officer will have 1,000 cards to pass out to local children. They were funded through a grant from the Crown Point Community Foundation. A news release also said Crown Point children ages 4 to 12 can participate in the trading card contest now underway thru Wednesday, Nov. 1., with the goal of collecting all 64.</p>
	10/10/23	:30	<p>In Merrillville, residents can learn more about local law enforcement during an upcoming Town Talk, a TED Talk-style program. The event will include presentations from the Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and K-9 Unit, which now features four dogs, allowing for a K-9 officer to serve on each shift, and Interim Town Manager Michael Griffin will provide a history of policing. Police Chief Kosta Nuses will serve as emcee of the event scheduled for 6 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Dean and Barbara White Community Center.</p>
	10/26/23	:27	<p>In Valparaiso, the Police Department says it has recently completed its annual assessment for accreditation by the Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, or CALEA (cuh-LEE-uh), and is on track for receiving its fifth award of accreditation in 2024. In a news release Mayor Matt Murphy said the department is one of 14 departments in Indiana and 105 nationwide "to earn this gold standard for municipal policing accreditation." The recent annual assessment reviewed nearly 70 standards and included in-depth interviews.</p>

	11/17/23	1:45	<p>A closer look... On Region newsmakers... The Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA (fee-muh) says in partnership with the Ad Council it is launching a series of public service announcements to help older adults prepare for disasters. Laura Waluszko has more: FEMAAdminwrap-lw wrap 1:35 ...lw. FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell talked to us about the new campaign... FEMACriswell_1 :44 ...better prepared. Criswell says the message is about three simple steps - assess needs, make a plan, and engage support networks... and may include, for instance, medicines needing to be refrigerated, or knowing where you and your pet can stay together... FEMACriswell_2 :28 ...on there. You can hear more of our conversation at News Audio on Demand at our website. for the rnt i'm lw.</p>
	12/19/23	:57	<p>In Porter County, the Sheriffs Department has been awarded a 400-thousand dollar federal grant for technology through Community Oriented Policing Services – better known as “COPS”. Sheriff Jeff Balon: Balon_121823_COPSgrant :16 ...achieve that goal. Indiana First District Congressman Frank J. Mrvan was at Monday’s announcement: Mrvan_121823_COPsfunds :17 ...of these funds. The sheriffs office said among other things the funds will go toward 77 laptop computers for the department’s patrol officers, network storage device for the Detective Bureau, and the Flock License Plate Reader system.</p>

Description of Issue	Date	Approx. Length	Content of Program/Segment (news story) Providing Issue Coverage:
Local Government / Infrastructure/ Programs			
	10/02/23 10/05/23	:20	In Merrillville, the community is invited to an open house this week on the Merrillville Momentum Comprehensive Plan. It’s an opportunity to hear ideas developed from summer workshops and to share thoughts for Merrillville’s future. Town Council President Rick Bella says the document is a major undertaking as it will include projects for the next 20 years and resident participation is crucial. The open house is 5 to 7 p.m. October 5th at the Dean and Barbara White Community Center.
	10/04/23	:40	In Porter County, Indiana Dunes Tourism recently hosted

			<p>a dedication and fundraiser for the Indiana Dunes Indigenous Cultural Trail, celebrating progress on the trail infrastructure. Officials say it will offer an interactive experience, weaving Indigenous cultures with the natural ecology of the Indiana Dunes, one of the most biodiverse areas in the country. A bridge and crosswalks are now in place, and tourism officials say the next steps toward completion are signage, a welcome shelter and limestone sculptures. The trail is a collaboration between Indiana Dunes Tourism, the Porter County Community Foundation, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Tribe, the National Park Service and the Chicago Field Museum.</p>
	10/24/23	:27	<p>The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning Monday announced the Employer-Sponsored Child Care Fund to assist employers and communities in creating or expanding child care offerings to address the needs of working Hoosiers.</p> <p>The news release said grant funding from the \$25 million program can be used in a variety of ways, including for on-site or near-site child care or offering child care tuition benefits, and applications will be accepted until November 22nd.</p>
	11/03/23	:35	<p>Cities, towns, and counties across Northwest Indiana are receiving portions of the 91-and-a-half-million dollars awarded through the Community Crossings matching grant program and announced today (Fri Nov 3rd). INDOT says communities submitted applications during a highly competitive call for projects in July and 188 across the state will be getting funds for local road improvement projects. Beverly Shores, Burns Harbor, Cedar Lake, Chesterton, Crown Point, Dune Acres, Dyer, East Chicago, Hammond, Merrillville, Michigan City, Munster, New Chicago, Portage, Town of Porter, and Lake, Porter, LaPorte, and Pulaski counties are on the list. The next call for projects opens in January.</p>
	11/13/23	:29	<p>The Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority has issued a Request for Qualifications for firms to develop a comprehensive strategic development plan to guide its mission and investments over the next two decades. A news release from the RDA said its "mission to build the Region's major multi-jurisdictional infrastructure assets continues. However, the specific projects, the timing of those investments, and the possible returns to the regional economy have yet to be determined." Deadline for submissions is December 8, 2023</p>
	12/08/23	:31	<p>In Merrillville, the town says a proposed food and beverage tax could generate an estimated \$1-point-8</p>

			million a year. A news release says the excise tax would cost a penny on every dollar spent on prepared food and beverage purchases. The Merrillville Town Council will have a special meeting at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 20, and the tax is the only topic on the agenda. The town says state law allows Merrillville to use the funding for two specific purposes -- Parks and Recreation as well as tourism, and residents are encouraged to visit the town's website to learn more. If adopted on two readings this month, it could become effective Jan. 1, 2024.
	12/28/23	:66	In Lake County, a Region town gave the go-ahead this week for a food and beverage tax as Mike Bonaventura reports... 12-27-23_mvltaxwrap_MB 1:00 oc: standard In Merrillville, the town council approved a one cent food and beverage tax Tuesday night which will bring in additional funding for the town. Town Councilman and current President Rick Bella says the state General Assembly granted the tax for Merrillville and the city of Jasper... 12-27-23_bellatax1 : 20 oc: implemented Bella says the tax will only fund parks and recreation and tourism... 12-27-23_bellatax2 :11 oc: general fund According to the law the penny tax is only on food and beverage that is furnished, prepared and served and it goes into effect on January 1, 2024.

Description of Issue	Date	Approx. Length	Content of Program/Segment (news story) Providing Issue Coverage:
Health/Outreach			
	10/02/23 10/03/23		There's one more local fundraising walk for the Alzheimer's Association coming up... the third and final one in the Region this fall will be in Michigan City this Saturday October 7 th . Development Manager Heather Donofry (DONNA-free) explains the activities at each walk.... 9-18-23_donofry2 :13 oc: much more The Porter County walk was in Valparaiso yesterday (Sun Oct 1) and the Lake County walk was in Highland in September. We have a link for more information on participating in Alzheimer's Association fundraising walks in Northwest Indiana at Adams Radio Cares at our website.
	10/04/23	:95	Spotlight on health:

	10/05/23		<p>Nearly 20-million Americans say they experienced Long COVID last year according to a new study from the CDC. It's something researchers are getting a better handle on understanding CDCLongCOVID1_1 :06 ...for it. Baylor infectious disease expert Dr. Peter Hotez says this is important to keep tracking CDCLongCOVID2_1 :05 ...work in progress. Dr. Hotez added the report signals impending problems for the nation's healthcare system. CDCLongCOVID3_1 :05 ...long COVID. Long COVID is a condition where patients still have symptoms for weeks after they have cleared the infection. Those include fatigue, difficulty breathing, headaches and brain fog.</p> <p>In LaPorte County, the public is invited to a “Blow Away Breast Cancer” rally noon Wednesday, October 4th in the main lobby of Northwest Health – La Porte. It will feature comments from hospital officials, a breast cancer survivor and others, a flag-raising ceremony, and “planting” of decorative pinwheels. Northwest Health says it’s hoped the breast cancer flag waving and pinwheels spinning will create awareness about the importance of screening mammograms to detect breast cancer in its earliest stages. October is breast cancer awareness month.</p> <p>A new study suggests what types of food to eat and avoid to prevent or lessen weight gain for middle-aged people. The study published in "The BMJ" shows there was less weight gain in those who ate whole grains, fruit and non-starchy vegetables like broccoli, carrots and spinach. They also avoided sugary drinks and starchy vegetables such as peas, corn and potatoes. Researchers studied more than two decades of data from almost 137-thousand people.</p>
	10/06/23 10/09/23	:60	<p>A closer look... October is Safe Sleep and S-U-I-D Awareness Month. Porter County Coroner Cyndi Dykes says about 35-hundred infants die annually in the United States from safe-sleep-related infant deaths including sudden unexplained infant deaths: Dykes_SafeSleep :38 ...safe sleep. Again, that website is cdc-dot-gov, and search “safe sleep”.</p>
	10/30/23	:68	<p>Neighbors helping neighbors A region non-profit has a silent auction everyone is invited to this Friday night as Mike Bonaventura reports... 10-24-23_heartsauctionwrap_MB 1:09 oc: standard</p>

			<p>In Schererville, Non-Profit Hearts in Motion is holding a huge silent auction to benefit their many causes. Executive Director Karen Scheeringa-Para... 10-24-23_auction1 :18 oc: full house She explains how the night will unfold... :25 oc: basket She says every penny supports their 14 charitable programs including "new directions" which helps those in need locally after living in a shelter. Hearts in Motion is just south of US 30 on US 41. Tag: You can hear more Region Newsmakers at News Audio on Demand at our website.</p>
	11/13/23	1:49	<p>Spotlight on Health: Researchers at the University of South Florida Health are making a breakthrough regarding treatments for people with Alzheimer's disease. Officials are looking for FDA-approval for a drug that is already given to people with significant dementia as part of the AHEAD Study. They want to give the medication to people who are at-risk of undergoing symptoms to see if it delays the process. Clinical trials are already underway.</p> <p>Firefighters face a higher risk of cancer than anyone else, officials say. Lucinda Kay explains. IDD247FIREFIGHTERSCANCER2_1 :31 oc: standard</p> <p>COVID, influenza, RSV, a cold? It can be difficult to know what's causing a respiratory infection because the symptoms can be so similar. Here's Dean'a Kodiak with more: IDDRespiratoryInfectionsIDD_1 :38 oc: standard</p>
	11/15/23	1:49	<p>Spotlight on Health...</p> <p>Ground-level falls are the single most common cause of traumatic injury treated at Oregon Health & Science University Hospital. Experts say injuries caused by ground-level falls can be fatal for older adults. The hospital says it's important that older people remove clutter that could be a tripping hazard, get exercise to strengthen muscle control, and use caution with medication that can cause dizziness.</p> <p>New research suggests gargling with salt water can help keep COVID patients out of the hospital. Doctors in Texas found patients saw a reduction in symptoms. COVIDSaltWater1_1 :08 ...particles. Dr. Jimmy Espinoza with the University of Texas Health</p>

			<p>System: COVIDSaltWater2_1 :07 ...explanation Dr. Espinoza says this adds to the research about how the virus replicates. COVIDSaltWater3_1 :09 ...mouth. He adds the effectiveness of the treatment needs to be proven in larger studies to see if it works on all strains of COVID. But, for now, he says it's an inexpensive and easy addition to vaccines.</p> <p>Valparaiso University says it is launching a new training program with University of Chicago Medicine that gives future health care professionals in the Region vital and practical experience before they begin their careers. Under the agreement, students in V-U's College of Nursing and Health Professions will have priority for placement to complete required clinical, practicum, internship, fieldwork, and other learning opportunities at UChicago Medicine's new multispecialty care center and micro-hospital in Crown Point, a news release said, that will be UChicago Medicine's largest off-site facility when it opens in spring 2024.</p>
	12/08/23	:77	<p>The bell-ringing season is underway across the Region... Salvation Army Northwest Indiana Area Commander Major Chris Marques (mark'-ess) on the iconic Red Kettle campaign: Marques_BellRingers :09 ...forward. Also this holiday season NIPSCO is again helping The Salvation Army to "Share the Warmth" in Northwest Indiana. Amanda Maynard with The Salvation Army of Northwest Indiana says the focus is on collecting winter clothing for those in need... SharetheWarmth_Maynard :22 ...beneficial for us. Donations of new or gently-used clothing can be dropped off during one of our Strack & Van Til broadcast stops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tuesday, December 12th ,10am-11am, at Strack & Van Til on Broadway in Crown Point, and ○ Wednesday, December 13th ,10am-11am, at Strack & Van Til on U.S. 30 in Valparaiso <p>We have more details including a list of other clothing dropoff locations at our websites. You can also hear our full Region Newsmakers interview online at News Audio on Demand.</p>
	12/07/23	:90	<p>Spotlight on Health... In the world of healthcare, experts say A-I, artificial intelligence, is helping breast cancer screenings be more accurate.</p>

			<p>AlBreastCancer1_1 :07 ...exams Frederick Howard with the University of Chicago is in San Antonio this week for one of the nation's largest breast cancer symposiums and it has been dominated by talk of AI. Howard says the goal of using AI is to find patterns in the mountain of data that's collected during screenings</p> <p>AlBreastCancer2_1 :06 ...results. Howard says, with more accurate screenings, it cuts down on false positives</p> <p>AlBreastCancer3_1 :06 ...risky cancers. He says radiologists already use computers in their screenings so adoption of this new technology is being embraced.</p> <p>Health officials say many people in the U-S are not getting enough sleep. Rebecca Hughes has more. ImportanceOfSleepWRPrh_1 :33 soq</p>
	12/19/23	:67	<p>Spotlight on health...One Indiana researcher says children who are taught to be involved in public service are grateful givers as Mike Bonaventura reports.... 12-18-23_giverstorywrap_MB 1:05 oc: standard The old adage that it's better to give than receive is being proven in recent studies from the Journal of American Medicine or JAMA. President and CEO of the Indiana Youth Institute Tami Silverman says this time of year is the perfect time to invite children to engage in community service.... 12-18-23_tami1 :17 oc: that giving Silverman says, the JAMA study shows kids who participate in community service are healthier than those who do not... 12-18-23_tami2 :18 oc: well being Find out more at I-Y-I-dot-org Tag: You can hear more Region Newsmakers at news audio on demand at our websites.</p>

Description of Issue	Date	Approx. Length	Content of Program/Segment (news story) Providing Issue Coverage:
Business/Economy/ Jobs			
	10/05/23	:30	<p>Region business news... Indiana's three ports generate \$8-point-7 billion annually for the state's economy and support more than 49,000 jobs statewide, according to a new study that also shows more than half of that is out of Northwest Indiana. Ports of Indiana commissioned maritime economic and strategic assessment firm Martin</p>

			Associates to study the economic activities generated by domestic and international freight moving through Burns Harbor on Lake Michigan and downstate Jeffersonville and Mount Vernon on the Ohio River. It also looked at the economic output of port-related companies, wages, and taxes.
	10/10/23	:30	October is cybersecurity awareness month and NIPSCO is encouraging customers to take steps to keep their personal information from cybercriminals. The potential dangers can present themselves in many forms, including phony calls, emails and text messages. NIPSCO says changing your passwords often and not re-using passwords on multiple sites can help. Look for a “lock” in the URL of a website which indicates data is encrypted. They also say don’t click on links from unsolicited emails and keep software and apps updated. We have more information at our website.
	10/23/23	:27	In Valparaiso, the Northwest Indiana Business RoundTable will host a panel of regional business and economic experts on the forecast for business in 2024 for NW Indiana. The panel will be held Nov. 3 rd from 8am-noon at Ivy Tech in Valparaiso. The event is free, but interested attendees are requested to register prior to the event by visiting nwibr.org. NWIBRT is an independent, non-profit council of local firms committed to the improvement of construction and maintenance projects in Northwest Indiana.
	10/30/23	:25	In Lake County, IU Northwest says Futurecast 2024: Northwest Indiana’s economic outlook will take place Friday, November 17 th at Avalon Manor. Featured panelists will provide their insights on likely trends and provide local context about factors affecting companies and their employees and retirees. The Kelley School has presented these forecasts around the state since 1972, based on research from its Indiana Business Research Center. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased through the Legacy Foundation.
	11/21/23 11/22/23	:92; :68	In Valparaiso, United Way Northwest Indiana and WorkOne Tuesday (Nov 21) accepted a 100-thousand dollar contribution from NIPSCO and the NiSource Foundation for the new Mobile Services Unit van that will help expand the reach of the United Way’s Level Up Program. NIPSCO Public Affairs and Economic Development Manager Alexius Barber: Barber_NIPSCO_van :31 ...very exciting for us. NIPSCO Public Affairs and Economic Development Manager Denise Conlon: Conlon_NIPSCO_van :36 ...and collaborate. Tuesday’s event was held at the United Way Northwest

			<p>Indiana office in Valparaiso.</p> <p>In Valparaiso, a check presentation for a 100-thousand dollar contribution from NIPSCO and the NiSource Foundation for the United Way's Mobile Services Unit van. United Way Northwest Indiana President/CEO Adam O'Doherty says the new van will help take their Level Up program even further into the community:</p> <p>Odoherthy_NewMobileVan_1 :31 ...at this moment. Doherty said the idea of a mobile unit came up: Odoherthy_NewMobileVan_2 :14 ...explore here. Tuesday's (Nov 21) event was held at the United Way Northwest Indiana office in Valparaiso.</p>
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