

Problems/Programs Report

October 2015 – December 2015

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WQPC airs locally produced news reports at 7am, 8:30am, 12:30pm and 5:00pm. A community affairs/interview program airs weekdays at 9am.

In 2015 WQPC added additional newscasts to the morning drive at 6am, 6:30am, and 7:30am. Extra newscasts were added on Saturday morning, as well.

In the Fall of 2015, we added a second part-time reporter, Doug Wagen to the staff. He brings over three decades of news experiences to the team. His availability will increase our coverage efforts in Grant County – especially in Fennimore, Lancaster, and Platteville. This compliments our already strong coverage efforts in Prairie du Chien and Crawford County, and our growing coverage capabilities in northeast Iowa.

WPRE airs locally produced news reports at 7am, 8:30am, and 12pm. A community spotlight interview program airs at 10am.

In 2015 WQPC added an additional newscast at 4:00pm.

A number of significant local news stories were covered. Some of the highlights include:

- We followed up on the “deactivation” of the old Crossing Rivers Health building after their move. We spoke with various hospital officials about that process. (October 2015)
- Longtime PdC business, Kozelka’s Mens & Western Wear is closing after 88 years in business. They join a group of long-time popular family own business – such as Hamann’s Variety Store – to close their doors recently. (November 2015)
- A Prairie du Chien business owner, Key Kim, was beaten and robbed in his own store allegedly by a group of men who were in town working on the railroad. We spoke with police, concerned neighbors/citizens, about the incident – and followed up with funding support efforts, etc. (November 2015)
- More significant changes to Wisconsin’s 9 day gun deer season are implemented this year. Per usual, we host a special program with DNR conservation wardens to discuss hunting news and topics. This program is live and takes questions/calls from listeners. (November 2015)
- The Safe Ride program is in danger of losing funding from the city of PdC. We spoke with the Tavern league president as well as city leaders about the issue. (November 2015)
- After several years of planning, problem solving, and some litigation, the Nelson True Value Hardware store moved into a new facility on Marquette Road. The store was located next to the Slumberland Furniture store that burned – along with other adjacent buildings at Blackhawk Junction Mall in 2013. We spoke with store managers about the move...and the difficulties involved, especially during a busy Christmas shopping season. (December 2015)

- A couple council vacancies is leading the city of PdC to actively seek people to fill the temporary vacancy and run in the upcoming Spring 2016 election. We spoke with PdC Mayor Dave Hemmer about the openings. (December 2015)
- Governor Scott Walker visited Prairie du Chien to hold a special roundtable discussion to discuss the positives/problems in Wisconsin. We covered the event and spoke with Governor Walker, Representative Lee Nerison, and other community leaders about the discussions that were held. (December 2015)
- Recent train derailments continue to cause area emergency responders and government officials along the railroad tracks to discuss options on how to respond. We spoke with Congressman Ron Kind about what is being considered on the federal level. (December 2015)

In addition to the coverage of significant news stories and community issues, WQPC/WPRE continued to broadcast interviews with local and regional elected officials, including (but not limited to):

- Aaron Kramer, Prairie du Chien Administrator
- Various Prairie du Chien city council and committee members
- Representative Lee Nerison
- Representative Travis Tranel
- Congressman Ron Kind
- State Senator Jennifer Shilling

Other local community events, services, people were featured on our news and interview programming. Some of the highlights include:

- PdC Historic Cemetery Tour (October 2015)
- Halls of Terror Haunted House (October 2015)
- Fallfire Art Contest (October 2015)
- PdC Downtown Trick or Treat (October 2015)
- Driftless Wisconsin Summit (November 2015)
- Dementia Free Communities Workshop Series (November 2015)
- Annual Pickett Fence pillowcase sewing drive (November 2015)
- Salvation Army – projects, need for volunteers/support (November 2015)
- Bloomington St. Mary's Breakfast with Santa (November 2015)
- McGregor Festival of Trees (December 2015)
- New prenatal and birthing care services at local hospital (December 2015)
- Holiday Tours at Villa Louis historic site. (December 2015)
- Ft. Crawford Cookie Fundraiser (December 2015)
- Christmas in Bagley event (December 2015)