

Quarterly Issues and Programs List  
Houghton Community Broadcasting - WHKB

For the quarter beginning January 1st through March 31st, 2024.

Compiled April 4, 2024

Section One - Issues

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

- Health - COVID-19; cost and availability of care; healthy living and local sports opportunities for residents
- Economy - jobs and economic development, tourism
- 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
- Closure of Finlandia University, effect on education, employment, economy, cultural heritage, health care (nursing)

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

March 31 - Host Todd VanDyke welcomed Dan Jamison from the Calumet Theatre and Andrew Ranville from the Keweenaw Outdoor Recreation Coalition, in advance of a joint fundraiser the two organizations are planning. Arts and Culture, Recreation, Service Agencies and Nonprofits, Cultural Heritage. Kyle Hubert, Ben Manchester and Leila Larson from the Houghton High School Robotics Team join host Todd VanDyke for a discussion about their activities. Education, Job Training.

March 24 - Visit Keweenaw Director Brad Barnett talked with host Todd VanDyke about the challenges faced by businesses following a disastrous winter tourism season, and a new effort to make more of the Keweenaw's attractions handicap accessible. Economy/Tourism, Recreation, Cultural Heritage. Host Todd VanDyke welcomes Houghton County Veterans Service Officer Joe Battisfore, with news about expanded availability of health care for some veterans. Veterans Issues, Health, Social Services.

March 17 - Host Todd VanDyke talked with Dr. Robert Van Howe of the Western U.P. Health Department about a recent report revealing that vaccination rates in the region are below the state average. Health. Portage Lake Little League President Daron Durocher joined host Todd VanDyke to talk about how the league works, and the need for parental involvement. Recreation, Education.

March 10 - Host Todd VanDyke welcomed Houghton-Portage Township School District Superintendent Anders Hill about the potential expansion of school facilities. Education, State/Local Government. Kathleen Harter and Jessica Mills from Copper Shores Senior Meals joined host Todd VanDyke to talk about their program, and the people they serve. Social Services, Health.

March 3 - Host Todd VanDyke welcomed Northern Michigan University President Dr. Brock Tessman for a discussion about the college, and its impact on the Upper Peninsula. Education, Economy/Job Training, Public Infrastructure. State Police Trooper Alan Narhi from the Calumet Post talked with host Todd VanDyke about scams that have become prevalent in the area, and prevention techniques. Public Safety, Finlandia Closure.

February 25 - With their annual Bowl for Kids Sake approaching, host Todd VanDyke welcomed Maggie Munch from U.P. Kids Big Brothers Big Sisters to discuss their program, and how people can become involved. Mental Health, Education, Social Services, Service Agencies and Nonprofits. Rachel Lamma and Virginia Lambert from Copper Shores spoke with host Todd VanDyke about the recently accredited Child Advocacy Center, and how it works with abused children and their families. Domestic Violence, Social Services, Public Safety, Service Agencies and Nonprofits.

February 18 - Doug Harrer from the CopperDog 150 board talked with host Todd VanDyke about the difficult decision to cancel the race events on CopperDog weekend, and outlined events that are still planned. Recreation, Economy/Tourism, Cultural Heritage, Service Agencies and Nonprofits. Host Todd VanDyke welcomed Jim Kurtti from the Finnish Theme Committee for a conversation about the upcoming National Sauna Week, the history of saunas, and plans to celebrate locally. Cultural Heritage, Service Agencies and Nonprofits.

February 11 - Iola Brubaker and Abbey Carlson from the Copper Country Great Start Collaborative talked with host Todd VanDyke about a new program that can help new child care providers set up their businesses. Day Care, Economy, Social Services, Service Agencies and Nonprofits. Host Todd VanDyke welcomed Corey Soumis, Director of Career and Technical Education for the Copper Country Intermediate School District, for a discussion about the benefits of that program for area youth. Education/Job Training, Economy.

February 4 - Host Todd VanDyke talked with Krissy Tepsa and Tony Shephard about the upcoming CopperDog 150 sled dog races, including new features, and opportunities for volunteers. Tourism/Economy, Cultural Heritage, Service Agencies and Nonprofits, Recreation. Elizabeth Benyi of the Copper Country League of Women Voters talked with host Todd VanDyke about changes in Michigan's voting system, and this year's big elections. State/Local Government.

January 28 - Darren Young and Cynthia Revis from the Upper Peninsula Commission for Area Progress discussed dispute mediation, support for custodial grandparents, the 2-1-1 information system, and other programs they offer with host Todd VanDyke. Energy Costs, Social Services, Service Agencies and Nonprofits. Host Todd VanDyke welcomed Joe Dlugos and Skyler Spizley of the Michigan Tech Blue Key Society Chapter, with a preview of this year's Winter Carnival. Cultural Heritage, Education.

January 21 - The tragedy of the treatment of children at Indian orphanages and boarding schools has gained nationwide notoriety in recent years. Mitch Bolo from the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community talked with host Todd VanDyke about research being done on the orphanages at Assinins and other Northern Michigan locations. Cultural Heritage, Inclusion. With Heikki Lunta having finally started the Copper Country winter, host Todd VanDyke discussed winter safety with State Police Trooper Alan Narhi from the Calumet Post. Disaster Preparedness, Public Safety.

January 14 - Host Todd Van Dyke welcomed new Houghton County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Helmer for a discussion about the challenges his office faces. Public Safety; State and Local Government. With Heikinpäivä activities underway, host Todd VanDyke welcomed David Maki from the Finnish American Heritage Center for an update, and discussion about the Center's new relationship with the national Finlandia Foundation. Arts and Culture; Cultural Heritage; Finlandia Closing; Service Agencies and Nonprofits.

January 7 - As the state legislature prepared to open its 2024 session, host Todd VanDyke talked with 110th District Republican Representative Greg Markkanen. State/Local Government; Education. Host Todd VanDyke talked with Becki Clouthier from the Copper Country Humane Society about their 50th anniversary, and the upcoming Raise the Woof Comedy fundraiser. Service Agencies and Non Profits.