

Blanchard River Broadcasting Company  
WFIN-AM  
Findlay, OH

Issues/Program Report for Q4 2022

WFIN makes an ongoing effort to serve the community of Findlay and the surrounding area. As part of this effort, WFIN has identified the most significant needs, problems and interests for our coverage area. This quarterly report documents the programming provided by WFIN in response to these identified community issues. Key areas and the issues addressed during this period are verified in the attached documentation. This list is not inclusive, but does represent primary focal areas.

WFIN News Director Matt Demczyk has noted the following as significant issues during the October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022 time period:

- Active shooter hoaxes resulted in big police responses to some schools
- A bill was introduced to name a highway in honor of a fallen police officer
- The health department issued alerts about a spike in overdoses
- A winter storm packing very strong winds and frigid temps hit the area
- A sheriff's office deputy was killed in a crash while transporting an inmate
- A request to rezone a property for a McDonald's was rejected amid citizen concerns

This letter with the attached documentation was placed in the WFIN Online Public Inspection File on January 9, 2023.



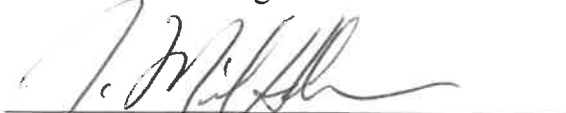
---

Matt Demczyk  
WFIN News Director



---

Bill Rice  
WFIN Brand Manager



---

J. Michael Holman  
WFIN General Manager

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Breaking News**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject: FHS Lockdown**

News Broadcasts: 10/26

Findlay High School was placed on a lockdown. The school district said the lockdown was initiated Wednesday after the school received what was later determined to be an unsubstantiated threat. The school district said they immediately contacted the police department to investigate. The lockdown began around 1 p.m. and, out of an abundance of caution, lasted until dismissal at 2:40 p.m.

**Subject: LB High School Shooter Hoax**

News Broadcasts: 11/16

Multiple police agencies rushed to Liberty-Benton High School on Wednesday morning on the report of an active shooter in the school. The Hancock County Sheriff's Office says the 911 call came in at 9:53 a.m. and the first deputies were on the scene within 90 seconds, and the school resource officer assigned to the school was already there. Deputies from the sheriff's office, as well as officers from the Findlay Police Department and troopers from the Ohio State Highway Patrol did a thorough search of the school and determined that the 911 call was a hoax, and that there was never any threat.

**Subject: Deputy Killed in Crash**

News Broadcasts: 12/15

A Wyandot County Sheriff's Office deputy was killed in a crash in Pickaway County. The crash happened at the intersection of State Route 56 and State Route 104. The Pickaway County Sheriff's Office said Deputy Daniel J. Kin was driving a Wyandot County Sheriff's Office transport van with an inmate in it when the crash happened. The sheriff's office said Kin was traveling north on State Route 104 and a pickup truck was going east on State Route 56 when the collision occurred in the intersection. Deputy Kin was flown to a Columbus hospital where he died.

**Subject:** Fatal Crash Closes I-75  
News Broadcasts: 10/21

A fatal crash involving multiple semis and a car closed a stretch of Interstate 75 just south of Findlay on Friday morning. The crash happened on northbound I-75 a little north of State Route 235 at approximately 2:44 a.m. The Ohio State Highway Patrol says their preliminary investigation shows that traffic was backing up due to a vehicle fire ahead.

**Subject:** Overdose Alert Issued  
News Broadcasts: 11/29

Hancock County health officials say there's been a recent spike in suspected overdoses in Findlay and Hancock County. Hancock Public Health on Tuesday said three overdoses occurred within three hours at separate locations. The health department sends out spike alerts when three overdoses occur within 24 hours. People are being asked to spread the following Harm Reduction messaging in their circles in the hope of avoiding future overdoses.

**Subject:** Dominic Francis Highway Bill  
News Broadcasts: 12/15

Fallen Bluffton Police Officer Dominic Francis was honored on the floor of the Ohio House of Representatives on Wednesday. State Rep. Jon Cross, of Kenton, spoke about Officer Francis, saying he served 19 years in law enforcement and is survived by his wife and children who were in attendance at the Ohio Statehouse. Cross said Officer Francis was a dedicated public servant who was awarded Officer of the Year twice, the Chief's Leadership Award and the Bluffton Police Department's Life-Saving Award. Cross also mentioned Dominic's work with his alma mater of Cory-Rawson High School. Cross says a bill to rename Interstate I-75 between mile markers 139 and 143 the Officer Dominic Francis Memorial Highway has been added to omnibus House Bill 578.

**Subject:** Winter Storm Warning  
News Broadcasts: 12/21

All of northwest Ohio is now included in a Winter Storm Warning issued by the National Weather Service, including Findlay and Hancock County. The Winter Storm Warning goes from 10 p.m. Thursday until 7 a.m. Saturday. Forecasters say the storm will include very strong winds as high as 60 miles per hour, extremely cold temperatures with wind chills as low as 25 below, and snow accumulations of 2 to

4 inches. The blowing snow could cause whiteout conditions at times making travel very difficult, especially on Friday.

**Subject:** Level 3 Road Alert

News Broadcasts: 12/22

The Hancock County Sheriff's Office at around 9 a.m. Friday upgraded the county's road alert to Level 3, the highest level. A Level 3 Road Alert means most roadways are closed and extremely hazardous. Employees should comply with workplace policies or contact their employer. Violators may be cited. This storm is producing very powerful wind gusts and blowing snow is causing whiteout conditions. A Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 7 a.m. Saturday.

**Subject:** Car Crashes into Church

News Broadcasts: 11/4

A car crashed into the side of St. Michael's Church at the corner of Western Avenue and West Main Cross Street in Findlay. The Findlay Police Department says Ronald Dukes, 62, of Findlay, was driving his car southbound in the 300 block of Western Avenue and passed through the West Main Cross Street intersection when he then went into the oncoming lane of traffic and off the road to the left. His car hit the curb and then struck the side of St. Michael's Church, sustaining disabling damage. Dukes was taken to Blanchard Valley Hospital for treatment of possible injuries.

**Subject:** Flower Shop Closing

News Broadcasts: 11/15

A flower shop that's been in business in Findlay for 60 years is closing. Bo-Ka Flowers at 1801 South Main Street will be open for the rest of 2022 before closing up. In a Facebook post the owners of the shop wrote, "It makes me so sad to put an end to what was my family's dream, but it is time." The manager of the store, Christine Dillon, says the flower shop closing up will leave a void in Findlay and especially that neighborhood, where they have many customers they know by name.

**Subject:** High Speed Pursuit

News Broadcasts: 11/14

A Findlay man is facing a variety of charges after authorities say he led multiple agencies on a lengthy high-speed pursuit. The Findlay Police Department says it responded to an address in the 200 block of Monroe Avenue on Monday afternoon on the report of a man threatening another man with a knife. The suspect, later identified as Michael L. Struble, 46, of Findlay, left prior to police arriving and was located in the 1500 block of Bright Road. Police conducted a traffic stop and say the man initially complied but during the stop he fled in his vehicle.

**Subject: Record-Setting Food Drive**

News Broadcasts: 11/3

It was yet another record-setting year for The University of Findlay's Helping Hands Food Drive. The 2022 Helping Hands Food Drive gathered 238,732 pounds of food, donated by community members, students, and University employees. This year's total donations surpassed last year's total of 214,559 pounds of canned items and non-perishables.

David Harr, University of Findlay Director of Dining Services, takes charge of the event each year but was still shocked by the results.

**Subject: Water Safe to Drink**

News Broadcasts: 11/2

The City of Findlay water is experiencing an earthy taste and odor but is safe. The city says this is due to a mechanical failure, but points out that the water is safe to drink and will not cause any adverse health effects. On Wednesday afternoon, the city said the issue is anticipated to be resolved and taste and odor should normalize within 48 hours.

**Subject: Theft and Chase**

News Broadcasts: 10/30

The Findlay Police Department says two men led officers on a lengthy chase after being caught burglarizing the Best Buy Distribution facility. Police responded to Best Buy Distribution at 14401 County Road 212 in Findlay at 5:43 Sunday morning to investigate a report of a theft in progress. Officers located one of the suspect's vehicles in front of the facility and attempted to pull it over, but it fled to Interstate 75 where it went northbound. Police say the pursuit of the vehicle lasted 42 miles and ended when the suspects went northbound down a southbound exit ramp from Wales Road leading to I-75 and

crashed. Police say the two men were arrested and booked at the Hancock County Jail for felony eluding and felony theft.

**Subject:** Football Playoff Pairings Releases  
**News Broadcasts:** 10/23

The Ohio High School Athletic Association has released the first-round football playoff pairings. Unless otherwise noted, all first-round games will be played on Friday, October 28th, with kickoffs set for 7 p.m. The top eight seeds in each region will serve as hosts for the first-round games. For the second-consecutive season, the top 16 schools in each region have qualified for the postseason, giving playoff berths to 448 schools. In Division 1 Region 2, Findlay (5-5) will play at Perrysburg (9-1).

**Subject:** Two Injured In Findlay Fire  
**News Broadcasts:** 10/20

The Findlay Fire Department says two people were taken to Blanchard Valley Hospital from the scene of a house fire on Thursday morning. The fire was at 315 North Blanchard Street, which is a little south of Tiffin Avenue. Responding fire crews found one victim outside that was pulled from the house by a passerby, and located another on the second floor. Crews from all four Findlay fire stations responded to the scene and quickly knocked down the fire.

**Subject:** Bomb Threat Hearthside Foods  
**News Broadcasts:** 10/18

There was a bomb threat involving Hearthside Food Solutions in McComb. The Hancock County Sheriff's Office says it responded to the business on Radar Road at around 1:45 in the afternoon. The sheriff's office says the McComb Police Department had already advised the business to evacuate and the Allen County Bomb Squad was contacted. When the bomb squad arrived, they had their K9s search the area and there was no sign of a bomb.

**Subject:** Mayle Taking New Position  
**News Broadcasts:** 10/13

Tim Mayle is leaving the position of director of Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development. Bowling Green State University, the University of Findlay and Owens Community College have announced that

Mayle has been appointed executive director for the new Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics. "The Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics has incredible potential to shape our economy," Mayle said.

**Subject:** Mcdonald's Rezoning Denied  
News Broadcasts: 10/13

The Findlay City Planning Commission voted to deny a request to rezone a property that would be part of a proposed McDonald's on the south side of town. On the nw corner south main street and sixth street lake casecades parkway. The commission did vote to approve a request to vacate an alley that would be part of the project. However, at the following meeting of the City Council Planning and Zoning Subcommittee, the rezoning request was tabled to allow McDonald's to address some concerns raised by residents and commission members.

**Subject:** AEP Work Road Restrictions  
News Broadcasts: 10/7

AEP Ohio is planning temporary lane closures near downtown Findlay while the company builds about a mile of underground electric transmission line. Weather permitting, the underground work will begin Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> and continues through the middle of December. Construction of the underground line requires lane closures in phases.

**Subject:** Woman Indicted For Shooting  
News Broadcasts: 10/6

A Hancock County woman has been indicted in connection with an alleged shooting incident in September. A Hancock County Grand Jury has indicted Crystal Sons, 34, of McComb, on two counts of 2<sup>nd</sup>-degree felonious assault. She was previously booked at the Hancock County Jail and since released. On September 26<sup>th</sup>, The Findlay Police Department says officers were dispatched to the area of Howard Street and Broad Avenue to investigate a report of shots being fired.

**Subject:** Argyle Lot Plans Approved  
News Broadcasts: 12/6

The Findlay City Planning Commission has approved the site plan and conditional use for a mixed-use building at the site of the long-vacant Argyle lot in downtown Findlay. The four-story building will be located at 526 South Main Street, across from Marathon Petroleum. The building will include 24

residential units on the top floors and a mix of commercial and amenities for the apartments on the first floor. There will be 25 parking spots for tenants behind the building. Dan Sheaffer, director of Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development, expects construction to begin in the second quarter of 2023 and to take about a year.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Business**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject: Flower Shop Closing**

News Broadcasts: 11/15

A flower shop that's been in business in Findlay for 60 years is closing. Bo-Ka Flowers at 1801 South Main Street will be open for the rest of 2022 before closing up. In a Facebook post the owners of the shop wrote, "It makes me so sad to put an end to what was my family's dream, but it is time." The manager of the store, Christine Dillon, says the flower shop closing up will leave a void in Findlay and especially that neighborhood, where they have many customers they know by name.

**Subject: Garner Trucking Fuel Costs**

News Broadcasts: 11/2

Garner Trucking President and CEO Sherri Garner Brumbaugh went on Fox News to talk about the high cost of fuel and the effect it's having on the industry and her operation in Findlay. Sherri says they're on track to spend around \$1.2 million more on diesel fuel this year compared to last. She says this week they bought diesel at \$5.25 a gallon, when a year ago it was \$3.60 and \$2.60 the year before that. "I'm putting more money in fuel tanks than I am into paychecks."

**Subject: Husted Tours Millstream Career Center**

News Broadcasts: 11/2

Ohio Lt. Governor Jon Husted toured Findlay's Millstream Career Center on Wednesday. Millstream Director Pam Hamlin led Husted's tour through the center. The tour started in a networking and cyber



security classroom with business partner RCR Technology. The tour then moved down the hall to health professions and then to Flow Studio, where students are learning to build a T-shirt business from the ground up. The tour then wrapped up in an engineering and robotics classroom. The Lt. Governor was impressed with the operation when we spoke with him after the tour.

**Subject: Marathon Big 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

News Broadcasts: 11/1

Marathon Petroleum had a big third quarter. The oil refiner headquartered in Findlay reported earnings of \$4.5 billion for the third quarter of 2022, which compares to \$694 million for the third quarter of 2021. "Market demand for our products remains strong, and our third-quarter results reflect our improving operational and commercial execution," said President and Chief Executive Officer Michael J. Hennigan. "We completed our \$15 billion share repurchase commitment and announced an increase to our quarterly dividend of approximately 30 percent."

**Subject: Hearthside Foods Bomb Threat**

News Broadcasts: 10/18

There was a bomb threat involving Hearthside Food Solutions in McComb. The Hancock County Sheriff's Office says it responded to the business on Radar Road at around 1:45 in the afternoon. The sheriff's office says the McComb Police Department had already advised the business to evacuate and the Allen County Bomb Squad was contacted. When the bomb squad arrived, they had their K9s search the area and there was no sign of a bomb.

**Subject: Mayle Taking New Position**

News Broadcasts: 10/13

Tim Mayle is leaving the position of director of Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development. Bowling Green State University, the University of Findlay and Owens Community College have announced that Mayle has been appointed executive director for the new Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics. "The Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics has incredible potential to shape our economy," Mayle said.

**Subject: Mcdonald's Rezoning Denied**  
News Broadcasts: 10/13

The Findlay City Planning Commission voted to deny a request to rezone a property that would be part of a proposed McDonald's on the south side of town. On the nw corner south main street and sixth street lake casecades parkway. The commission did vote to approve a request to vacate an alley that would be part of the project. However, at the following meeting of the City Council Planning and Zoning Subcommittee, the rezoning request was tabled to allow McDonald's to address some concerns raised by residents and commission members.

**Subject: Argyle Lot Plans Approved**  
News Broadcasts: 12/6

The Findlay City Planning Commission has approved the site plan and conditional use for a mixed-use building at the site of the long-vacant Argyle lot in downtown Findlay. The four-story building will be located at 526 South Main Street, across from Marathon Petroleum. The building will include 24 residential units on the top floors and a mix of commercial and amenities for the apartments on the first floor. There will be 25 parking spots for tenants behind the building. Dan Sheaffer, director of Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development, expects construction to begin in the second quarter of 2023 and to take about a year.

**Subject: Seneca Love Local Campaign**  
News Broadcasts: 10/30

The Seneca Regional Chamber of Commerce has announced the launch of their second annual Love Local campaign. The official campaign will begin on November 1<sup>st</sup> and is meant to encourage those living in Seneca County to support all things local instead of going out of town or online to non-locally owned and operated entities as the holiday season approaches. This year the campaign will include social media features, videos, contests, and more.

**Subject: Garner Trucking Award**  
News Broadcasts: 10/26

Garner Trucking, which is headquartered in Findlay, was presented with the inaugural ATA Diversity Equity and Inclusion Change Leader Award. American Trucking Associations (ATA) recognized Garner Trucking for commitment to creating a culture of acceptance and belonging for their employees. The Diversity Equity and Inclusion Change Leader Award, sponsored by TenStreet, encourages ATA members to implement a DEI program or continue to improve an established company DEI program. The nominations were critiqued on the ability to develop a program, improve an existing program, and measure and benchmark a successful culture of acceptance and inclusion.

**Subject: Skill Games Moratorium**

News Broadcasts: 10/20

Findlay City Council recently passed an ordinance authorizing a six-month moratorium on the establishment of any new skill-based amusement businesses in the city. The city says the moratorium will allow city officials to consider incorporating such businesses into the current zoning code before enacting them as part of the codified ordinances of the City of Findlay. Also at the City Council meeting, a proposed six-month moratorium on small box discount stores/dollar stores received its second reading and will be up for a third reading at the November 1<sup>st</sup> council meeting and action will be taken on it.

**Subject: Small Business Awards**

News Broadcasts: 10/19

The Findlay-Hancock County Chamber of Commerce held its 2022 Small Business Awards on Wednesday afternoon at the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts. Each year, the Chamber highlights local individuals, who through their independent entrepreneurial spirit, play a vital role in building the community and the economy. We spoke with Mike Gomez of Garden Central after they were awarded Family-Owned Small Business of the Year, and asked him what it means to win the award. "Well, it means quite a bit, it just goes to show you that with a little bit of hard work you can get some stuff done, and we appreciate Findlay for giving us the opportunity to do this here in this town."

**Subject: United Way Restaurant Tour**

News Broadcasts: 10/4

United Way of Hancock County will host its annual World of Downtown Restaurants Tour on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5 to 9 p.m. This self-guided tour celebrates the many culinary offerings in downtown Findlay. Customers will buy a passport for \$30, which allows them to receive a free sample from each participating bar and restaurant. Passport holders will visit each destination on the tour at their leisure.

**Subject:** Visit Findlay Shop Local  
News Broadcasts: 11/22

The Findlay-Hancock County Convention and Visitors Bureau invites you to kick off your holiday shopping on Small Business Saturday on November 26th with a ribbon cutting across Main Street at 9 a.m. Santa and his elves will be on-hand to cut the ribbon to mark the beginning of the holiday shopping season. Small business owners and Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors will join the celebrations. Many small business owners will then return to their stores to open early for the day. The ribbon cutting will take place across Main Street in-between Sandusky and Crawford Streets. Main Street will temporarily be closed for the ribbon cutting.

**Subject:** Sack for a Sack  
News Broadcasts: 11/17

Golden Reserve and the WFIN Trojans play-by-play team presented CHOPIN Hall with a \$675 check as part of the Sack for a Sack program. Golden Reserve sponsored the Sack for a Sack program in which every Trojans sack over the season meant another 25 bucks for the food pantry. The Findlay Trojans tallied 27 sacks this season, meaning a total of \$675 for CHOPIN Hall.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Education**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject:** Arlington Schools Levy  
News Broadcasts: 11/4

Arlington Local Schools has an income tax and bond issue on the ballot on Tuesday. The half percent income tax would be for the purpose of current expenses and begin January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The 9.9 mill bond issue is for the purpose of building a new school to replace their current building that is more than 100-years-old. School Board member Rachel Gerber says even though the building has been very well maintained, there in a position where they can't continue to fix things as they have in the past.

**Subject:** LB Schools Facility Dog  
News Broadcasts: 10/31

Students at Liberty-Benton Elementary School have had a fun time this school year getting to know Otis, the elementary school's School Facility Dog. School Counselor Barb Gazette says Otis has been with the school since the beginning of September and helps the students with their emotional needs. "He greets the kids of the buses, he goes on classroom visits, I take him in the hallways. Just places where they can see him and have some time to lift their spirits."

**Subject:** Findlay High School Orchestra  
News Broadcasts: 10/30

The Findlay High School Orchestra program is celebrating the cultures and countries around the globe with a concert entitled "Epic Adventure Around the World" on Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. in the R.L. Heminger Auditorium at Findlay High School. General admission tickets are \$10 and will be available at the door the night of the concert.

**Subject:** Arlington Supt. On New School  
News Broadcasts: 11/23

The Arlington Local School District has a lot of work ahead of it now that voters approved an income tax and bond issue for a new school earlier in the month. Superintendent Kevin Haught was on with WFIN's Chris Oaks to talk about the timeline for the new school. As Kevin mentioned in the audio above, he expects the design phase to take from 12 to 18 months, and the building phase to take 18 to 24 months. The new school will be located on 40 acres of land the school district purchased behind the current school. Kevin says they hope to begin the public input process on the design for the new school in April.

**Subject:** Findlay City Schools Perfect Scores  
News Broadcasts: 10/27

The 25 students had their names read and received a certificate during the most recent Board of Education meeting. "We are proud to celebrate 25 Findlay Trojans who demonstrated academic excellence on Ohio State Tests last spring," said Katie Abbott is director of Whole Child and Secondary Instruction for Findlay City Schools. "This is an amazing feat that should be celebrated. Congratulations to our scholars!"

**Subject:** Blanchard Valley Center Open House  
**News Broadcasts:** 10/22

Blanchard Valley Center is celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and is hosting an Open House on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7 p.m. Nadine Weininger, Quality Services Manager for Blanchard Valley Center, says Hancock County residents are invited to stop out to BVC (1700 E Sandusky St) and learn more about what it is they do for people with developmental disabilities and how they've changed over the past seven decades.

**Subject:** Gift Of Reading  
**News Broadcasts:** 11/28

The Findlay-Hancock County Public Library is once again giving library patrons the opportunity to share the joy of books with children during the annual Gift of Reading program. Donations will support Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a free book-gifting program. A new carefully selected book will be mailed, in the child's name, to his or her home each and every month from birth until he or she turns five years of age. Each \$25 donated provides a Hancock County child with an age appropriate book delivered to their home monthly for one year, and \$125.00 will support a child for all five years.

**Subject:** Sensory Santa event  
**News Broadcasts:** 11/27

A Christmas Party for kids with special needs is being held at Jefferson Primary School in Findlay. ADDAPTCO is putting on the party on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The Sensory Santa portion of the party begins at 7 p.m. People are invited to attend the party and enjoy some cookies, hot cocoa, crafts, pictures with Santa and more in a sensory-friendly environment.

**Subject:** Husted Tours Millstream Career Center  
**News Broadcasts:** 11/2

Ohio Lt. Governor Jon Husted toured Findlay's Millstream Career Center on Wednesday. Millstream Director Pam Hamlin led Husted's tour through the center. The tour started in a networking and cyber security classroom with business partner RCR Technology. The tour then moved down the hall to health professions and then to Flow Studio, where students are learning to build a T-shirt business from the ground up. The tour then wrapped up in an engineering and robotics classroom. The Lt. Governor was impressed with the operation when we spoke with him after the tour.

**Subject:** FHS Lockdown  
News Broadcasts: 10/26

Findlay High School was placed on a lockdown. The school district said the lockdown was initiated Wednesday after the school received what was later determined to be an unsubstantiated threat. The school district said they immediately contacted the police department to investigate. The lockdown began around 1 p.m. and, out of an abundance of caution, lasted until dismissal at 2:40 p.m.

**Subject:** LB High School Shooter Hoax  
News Broadcasts: 11/16

Multiple police agencies rushed to Liberty-Benton High School on Wednesday morning on the report of an active shooter in the school. The Hancock County Sheriff's Office says the 911 call came in at 9:53 a.m. and the first deputies were on the scene within 90 seconds, and the school resource officer assigned to the school was already there. Deputies from the sheriff's office, as well as officers from the Findlay Police Department and troopers from the Ohio State Highway Patrol did a thorough search of the school and determined that the 911 call was a hoax, and that there was never any threat.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Flood Mitigation**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject:** Properties Removed For Rec. Area/Benching  
News Broadcasts: 10/1

The City of Findlay recently had some properties it purchased on Taylor Street that it says were in rough shape torn down. The removal of the properties will make room for parking for the planned Downtown Recreation Area that's part of the Phase 2 Benching project that will be happening east of North Main Street. "I'm super excited, really this is just step one of the work that will be put into this downtown area," said Findlay Mayor Christina Muryn.

"I think over the next year or so people are gonna really see it being transformed."

The city wanted to ensure that the benching area east of North Main Street not only serves its primary purpose of flood mitigation but also provides a broader community benefit as a recreation and gathering area.

**Subject:** Flood Mitigation Project Timelines  
News Broadcasts: 10/2

Findlay Mayor Christina Muryn says the project to replace the Norfolk Southern railroad bridge and eliminate a choke point on the river, and the Phase 2 Benching project east of North Main Street will go out to bid in 2023. We spoke with the mayor about the downtown recreation area that will be part of Phase 2 benching. The city wanted to ensure that the benching area east of North Main Street not only serves its primary purpose of flood mitigation but also provides a broader community benefit as a recreation and gathering area.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Government**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**



**Subject:** City of Findlay Budget Hearings

News Broadcasts: 12/16

People can review the City of Findlay 2023 Budget In Brief and full budget on the city's website. The city recently held its 2023 budget hearings and you can watch the hearings below or by clicking here. Mayor Christina Muryn said although the 2023 proposed general fund budget does have a deficit projection of around \$3.4 million, she's confident that their team will continue to manage operations throughout the year to ensure that a strong cash position is maintained.

**Subject:** Dominic Francis Highway Bill

News Broadcasts: 12/15

Fallen Bluffton Police Officer Dominic Francis was honored on the floor of the Ohio House of Representatives on Wednesday. State Rep. Jon Cross, of Kenton, spoke about Officer Francis, saying he served 19 years in law enforcement and is survived by his wife and children who were in attendance at the Ohio Statehouse. Cross said Officer Francis was a dedicated public servant who was awarded Officer of the Year twice, the Chief's Leadership Award and the Bluffton Police Department's Life-Saving Award. Cross also mentioned Dominic's work with his alma mater of Cory-Rawson High School. Cross says a bill to rename Interstate I-75 between mile markers 139 and 143 the Officer Dominic Francis Memorial Highway has been added to omnibus House Bill 578.

**Subject:** Strategic Plan Feedback

News Broadcasts: 12/6

The City of Findlay is inviting the community to the release of the draft Findlay Forward Strategic Plan. Mayor Christina Muryn says everyone who lives, works or cares about the future of Findlay is invited to the final public event for the Findlay Forward planning process, the Findlay Forward Open House, on Monday, December 5th from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts.

**Subject:** Mayle Taking New Position

News Broadcasts: 10/13

Tim Mayle is leaving the position of director of Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development. Bowling Green State University, the University of Findlay and Owens Community College have announced that

Mayle has been appointed executive director for the new Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics. "The Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics has incredible potential to shape our economy," Mayle said.

**Subject:** Findlay employees recognized  
News Broadcasts: 12/3

The City of Findlay honored 107 employees at a luncheon held on December 6th, 2022, for their years of service with the City for years ending 2021 and 2022. The following individuals were recognized:

**Subject:** Argyle Lot Plans Approved  
News Broadcasts: 12/6

The Findlay City Planning Commission has approved the site plan and conditional use for a mixed-use building at the site of the long-vacant Argyle lot in downtown Findlay. The four-story building will be located at 526 South Main Street, across from Marathon Petroleum. The building will include 24 residential units on the top floors and a mix of commercial and amenities for the apartments on the first floor. There will be 25 parking spots for tenants behind the building. Dan Sheaffer, director of Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development, expects construction to begin in the second quarter of 2023 and to take about a year.

**Subject:** Skill Games Moratorium  
News Broadcasts: 10/20

Findlay City Council recently passed an ordinance authorizing a six-month moratorium on the establishment of any new skill-based amusement businesses in the city. The city says the moratorium will allow city officials to consider incorporating such businesses into the current zoning code before enacting them as part of the codified ordinances of the City of Findlay. Also at the City Council meeting, a proposed six-month moratorium on small box discount stores/dollar stores received its second reading and will be up for a third reading at the November 1<sup>st</sup> council meeting and action will be taken on it.

**Subject:** Overdose Alert Issued  
News Broadcasts: 11/29

Hancock County health officials say there's been a recent spike in suspected overdoses in Findlay and Hancock County. Hancock Public Health on Tuesday said three overdoses occurred within three hours at separate locations. The health department sends out spike alerts when three overdoses occur within 24 hours. People are being asked to spread the following Harm Reduction messaging in their circles in the hope of avoiding future overdoses.

**Subject:** Husted Tours Millstream Career Center  
News Broadcasts: 11/2

Ohio Lt. Governor Jon Husted toured Findlay's Millstream Career Center on Wednesday. Millstream Director Pam Hamlin led Husted's tour through the center. The tour started in a networking and cyber security classroom with business partner RCR Technology. The tour then moved down the hall to health professions and then to Flow Studio, where students are learning to build a T-shirt business from the ground up. The tour then wrapped up in an engineering and robotics classroom. The Lt. Governor was impressed with the operation when we spoke with him after the tour.

**Subject:** Properties Removed For Rec. Area/Benching  
News Broadcasts: 10/1

The City of Findlay recently had some properties it purchased on Taylor Street that it says were in rough shape torn down. The removal of the properties will make room for parking for the planned Downtown Recreation Area that's part of the Phase 2 Benching project that will be happening east of North Main Street. "I'm super excited, really this is just step one of the work that will be put into this downtown area," said Findlay Mayor Christina Muryn.

"I think over the next year or so people are gonna really see it being transformed."

The city wanted to ensure that the benching area east of North Main Street not only serves its primary purpose of flood mitigation but also provides a broader community benefit as a recreation and gathering area.

**Subject:** Mcdonald's Rezoning Denied  
News Broadcasts: 10/13

The Findlay City Planning Commission voted to deny a request to rezone a property that would be part of a proposed McDonald's on the south side of town. On the nw corner south main street and sixth street lake casecades parkway. The commission did vote to approve a request to vacate an alley that would be part of the project. However, at the following meeting of the City Council Planning and Zoning Subcommittee, the rezoning request was tabled to allow McDonald's to address some concerns raised by residents and commission members.

**Subject:** Argyle Lot Plans Approved  
News Broadcasts: 12/6

The Findlay City Planning Commission has approved the site plan and conditional use for a mixed-use building at the site of the long-vacant Argyle lot in downtown Findlay. The four-story building will be located at 526 South Main Street, across from Marathon Petroleum. The building will include 24 residential units on the top floors and a mix of commercial and amenities for the apartments on the first floor. There will be 25 parking spots for tenants behind the building. Dan Sheaffer, director of Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development, expects construction to begin in the second quarter of 2023 and to take about a year.

**Subject:** Seneca Love Local Campaign  
News Broadcasts: 10/30

The Seneca Regional Chamber of Commerce has announced the launch of their second annual Love Local campaign. The official campaign will begin on November 1<sup>st</sup> and is meant to encourage those living in Seneca County to support all things local instead of going out of town or online to non-locally owned and operated entities as the holiday season approaches. This year the campaign will include social media features, videos, contests, and more.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Health & Safety**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject:** Overdose Alert Issued  
News Broadcasts: 11/29

Hancock County health officials say there's been a recent spike in suspected overdoses in Findlay and Hancock County. Hancock Public Health on Tuesday said three overdoses occurred within three hours at separate locations. The health department sends out spike alerts when three overdoses occur within 24 hours. People are being asked to spread the following Harm Reduction messaging in their circles in the hope of avoiding future overdoses.

**Subject: Water Safe to Drink**

News Broadcasts: 11/2

The City of Findlay water is experiencing an earthy taste and odor but is safe. The city says this is due to a mechanical failure, but points out that the water is safe to drink and will not cause any adverse health effects. On Wednesday afternoon, the city said the issue is anticipated to be resolved and taste and odor should normalize within 48 hours.

**Subject: Medication Collection Event**

News Broadcasts: 10/29

You can safely get rid of your old, unused medications at an event in Findlay on Saturday, October 29th. There will be a medication collection event at the Findlay Municipal Building parking lot off of West Crawford Street from 8 to noon. People can simply drive in, drop off their old medications for safe disposal and go on their way. The Findlay Police Department says, not only will you be cleaning out those cluttered cabinets but you'll be doing so in a safe manner.

**Subject: Winter Storm Warning**

News Broadcasts: 12/21

All of northwest Ohio is now included in a Winter Storm Warning issued by the National Weather Service, including Findlay and Hancock County. The Winter Storm Warning goes from 10 p.m. Thursday until 7 a.m. Saturday. Forecasters say the storm will include very strong winds as high as 60 miles per hour, extremely cold temperatures with wind chills as low as 25 below, and snow accumulations of 2 to 4 inches. The blowing snow could cause whiteout conditions at times making travel very difficult, especially on Friday.

**Subject: Level 3 Road Alert**

News Broadcasts: 12/22

The Hancock County Sheriff's Office at around 9 a.m. Friday upgraded the county's road alert to Level 3, the highest level. A Level 3 Road Alert means most roadways are closed and extremely hazardous. Employees should comply with workplace policies or contact their employer. Violators may be cited. This storm is producing very powerful wind gusts and blowing snow is causing whiteout conditions. A Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 7 a.m. Saturday.

**Subject:** Sack for a Sack  
News Broadcasts: 11/17

Golden Reserve and the WFIN Trojans play-by-play team presented CHOPIN Hall with a \$675 check as part of the Sack for a Sack program. Golden Reserve sponsored the Sack for a Sack program in which every Trojans sack over the season meant another 25 bucks for the food pantry. The Findlay Trojans tallied 27 sacks this season, meaning a total of \$675 for CHOPIN Hall.

**Subject:** City Mission/Health Department partnership  
News Broadcasts: 10/28

Hancock Public Health and the City Mission of Findlay are partnering to help people staying at the City Mission get basic healthcare without having to go to the emergency room or urgent care centers. Laura Reinhart, certified nurse practitioner with the Hancock Public Health's Mobile Health Clinic, says the mobile clinic has the initiative of making healthcare equitable to all, and it seemed like a natural partnership to bring healthcare to people who need it the most.

**Subject:** Fire Prevention Week  
News Broadcasts: 10/11

The week of October 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> is Fire Prevention Week and we spoke with the Findlay Fire Department about ways to keep you and your family safe. The theme of Fire Prevention Week this year is "Fire Won't Wait, Plan Your Escape!" Inspector Eric Wilkins of the Findlay Fire Department says to make sure you and your family have a plan in case of a fire. This should include knowing two ways out of every room, having a meeting place, and practicing the plan at least twice a year.

**Subject:** BVHS Updated Mask Policy  
News Broadcasts: 10/5

Blanchard Valley Health System has updated its organization-wide COVID-19 masking policy in response to the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Effective Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, vaccinated BVHS associates working in non-clinical areas will be able to unmask in specified areas during all transmission levels. BVHS clinical-working associates will continue to mask, regardless of vaccination status, during periods of high transmission, as defined by the CDC.

**Subject:** Senior Cheer Program  
News Broadcasts: 11/27

The United Way of Hancock County's Senior Cheer program is back for a third year, accepting your uplifting cards, notes, art or small gifts designed to brighten the day of seniors living in local care facilities. Last year, the United Way delivered about 1,800 items of Senior Cheer to seven participating care facilities in the county. "Everybody has someone they know in one of those facilities — a gramma, a grampa, a neighbor, a friend," said Maria Sellers, a United Way Volunteer Ambassador who delivers Senior Cheer and played a major role in the start of the program.

**Subject:** New traffic light needed

News Broadcasts: 11/11

A traffic light is in the works for an intersection just east of Findlay. The traffic signal project is planned for the intersection of U.S. 224 and Township Road 237. The Ohio Department of Transportation says traffic there is near the threshold of warranting a signal, and traffic will increase even more once further development occurs on the north side of the intersection. ODOT says they also want to get a signal in place there before the bridge replacement project occurs involving the bridge over the Blanchard River on State Route 568.

**Subject:** COVID and flu clinics

News Broadcasts: 12/29

Effective in January of 2023, Hancock Public Health will be offering COVID-19 and flu vaccines for adults, adolescents, and children each Friday from 9 – 11:30 a.m. and 1 – 3:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary. People should bring a form of identification, insurance cards and COVID-19 vaccination card.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

**SUBJECT: Major Crime**

Stories run an average of 30 seconds.

Programming as Follows:

**Subject: Bank Robbery**  
News Broadcasts: 12/24

The Hancock County Sheriff's Office is seeking help from the public in identifying a bank robber. The sheriff's office says the suspect in the surveillance pictures entered Premier Bank at 112 East Liberty Street in Arlington at 9:52 Saturday morning. Investigators say the individual showed the teller a note demanding money and then fled the business with an undetermined amount of cash. The suspect is described as a white male between five-feet-eight and five-feet-ten inches tall and weighing between 225 and 250 pounds.

**Subject: High Speed Pursuit**  
News Broadcasts: 11/14

A Findlay man is facing a variety of charges after authorities say he led multiple agencies on a lengthy high-speed pursuit. The Findlay Police Department says it responded to an address in the 200 block of Monroe Avenue on Monday afternoon on the report of a man threatening another man with a knife. The suspect, later identified as Michael L. Struble, 46, of Findlay, left prior to police arriving and was located in the 1500 block of Bright Road. Police conducted a traffic stop and say the man initially complied but during the stop he fled in his vehicle.

**Subject: Theft and Chase**  
News Broadcasts: 10/30

The Findlay Police Department says two men led officers on a lengthy chase after being caught burglarizing the Best Buy Distribution facility. Police responded to Best Buy Distribution at 14401 County Road 212 in Findlay at 5:43 Sunday morning to investigate a report of a theft in progress. Officers located one of the suspect's vehicles in front of the facility and attempted to pull it over, but it fled to Interstate 75 where it went northbound. Police say the pursuit of the vehicle lasted 42 miles and ended when the suspects went northbound down a southbound exit ramp from Wales Road leading to I-75 and crashed. Police say the two men were arrested and booked at the Hancock County Jail for felony eluding and felony theft.

**Subject: Bomb Threat Hearthside Foods**  
News Broadcasts: 10/18

There was a bomb threat involving Hearthside Food Solutions in McComb. The Hancock County Sheriff's Office says it responded to the business on Radar Road at around 1:45 in the afternoon. The sheriff's office says the McComb Police Department had already advised the business to evacuate and the Allen



County Bomb Squad was contacted. When the bomb squad arrived, they had their K9s search the area and there was no sign of a bomb.

**Subject:** Woman Indicted For Shooting

News Broadcasts: 10/6

A Hancock County woman has been indicted in connection with an alleged shooting incident in September. A Hancock County Grand Jury has indicted Crystal Sons, 34, of McComb, on two counts of 2<sup>nd</sup>-degree felonious assault. She was previously booked at the Hancock County Jail and since released. On September 26<sup>th</sup>, The Findlay Police Department says officers were dispatched to the area of Howard Street and Broad Avenue to investigate a report of shots being fired.

**Subject:** FHS Lockdown

News Broadcasts: 10/26

Findlay High School was placed on a lockdown. The school district said the lockdown was initiated Wednesday after the school received what was later determined to be an unsubstantiated threat. The school district said they immediately contacted the police department to investigate. The lockdown began around 1 p.m. and, out of an abundance of caution, lasted until dismissal at 2:40 p.m.

**Subject:** LB High School Shooter Hoax

News Broadcasts: 11/16

Multiple police agencies rushed to Liberty-Benton High School on Wednesday morning on the report of an active shooter in the school. The Hancock County Sheriff's Office says the 911 call came in at 9:53 a.m. and the first deputies were on the scene within 90 seconds, and the school resource officer assigned to the school was already there. Deputies from the sheriff's office, as well as officers from the Findlay Police Department and troopers from the Ohio State Highway Patrol did a thorough search of the school and determined that the 911 call was a hoax, and that there was never any threat.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Politics**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject:** Lt. Governor Husted in Findlay

News Broadcasts: 11/2

Ohio Lt. Governor Jon Husted toured Findlay's Millstream Career Center on Wednesday. Millstream Director Pam Hamlin led Husted's tour through the center. The tour started in a networking and cyber security classroom with business partner RCR Technology. The tour then moved down the hall to health professions and then to Flow Studio, where students are learning to build a T-shirt business from the ground up. The tour then wrapped up in an engineering and robotics classroom. The Lt. Governor was impressed with the operation when we spoke with him after the tour.

**Subject:** Congressman Tim Ryan in Findlay

News Broadcasts: 11/3

Congressman Tim Ryan brought his U.S. Senate campaign to Findlay on Thursday. The Democrat spoke before a crowd of supporters at the Wine Merchant. During his remarks Ryan reinforced how high the stakes are in this election. On Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> voters will decide whether Ryan or Republican JD Vance will take over for retiring Ohio U.S Senator Rob Portman.

**Subject:** Nan Whaley in Findlay

News Broadcasts: 11/6

Candidate for Ohio Governor, former Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley was in Findlay over the weekend. The Democrat spoke to a crowd of supporters at the Black History Library and Multicultural Center. She says Ohioans are tired of being ignored by the Governor's office and by the statehouse. In the video below she talks about how Governor DeWine came to Dayton for a vigil after a deadly shooting there. Learn more about Whaley here and more about Governor DeWine here.

**Subject:** Jennifer Brunner in Findlay

News Broadcasts: 11/1

Ohio Supreme Court Justice Jennifer Brunner made campaign stop in Findlay on Tuesday night. Brunner, a Democrat, is running for Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, a position that's being vacated by current Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor due to term limits. "For me, public service is doing whatever I can in my job to make people's lives better," Brunner said to supporters in front of the Hancock County Courthouse.