



WKBT-DT 8.1 La Crosse, Wisconsin

Quarterly Issues and Programs List

October 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022

In accordance with Section 73.3526(a) (9) of Federal Communications Commission Rules, WKBT-DT 8.1 has determined the following as the most significant problems and needs of the community for the **fourth quarter of 2022**. There is no particular order of importance regarding this list. On the following pages we identify programming providing the station's most significant treatment of these community issues. This list was determined by contact with community leaders, and with input from viewers in the various communities we serve.

Special Note: All program times are listed as scheduled. Actual airtime may have deviated because of unforeseen scheduling circumstances. Newscasts indicated in this report are 30 minutes in length, with the exception of the 10 PM News which is 35 minutes in length.

1. Economy
2. Education
3. Health/Safety
4. Crime
5. Government
6. Community

The list below reflects some of the programming broadcast in this quarter that shows how WKBT responded to and treated those issues. This list does not include all the issues responded to by the station or all the ways the station responded to those issues.

1. Economy

Responsive Programming (Including date and time aired)

Category	First Aired	Show	Story Slug	Story Summary
Economy	10/17/2022	5:00 PM	Heating Prep for Winter	Furnaces are firing up now– some for the first time this season. Heating technicians in the area are taking plenty of calls for service, and they have advice on how to prevent problems before they happen.
Economy	10/18/2022	5:00 PM	City Revaluation	If you're a La Crosse property owner, you may have seen a substantially large increase on your 2022 Notice of Assessment. Mayor Reynolds says the city of La Crosse has fallen behind dramatically for several years in regard to assessments.
Economy	11/14/2022	5:00 PM	Holiday Travel	Thanksgiving, which historically kicks off the holiday travel season, is just over a week away. La Crosse Regional Airport and travelers are planning for a busy season.
Economy	11/22/2022	5:00 PM	Energy Assistance	According to Xcel Energy, Coulee Region homeowners can expect bills to rise by 23%. As the cost of living also increases, more people are applying for energy assistance.
Economy	11/25/2022	6:00 PM	Black Friday	Plenty of people got up before daybreak to take advantage of Black Friday deals– but this year, the search for bargains looked a little different. The ones we spoke with noticed shorter lines and fewer crowds.
Economy	12/6/2022	5:00 PM	Inflation Impact	The Antique store of La Crosse has been around for over 35 years. Last year the store set a personal record for the most sales in the month of December. Despite their inflation concerns Calkin says business has been thriving.
Economy	12/8/2022	5:00 PM	Black River Falls loses shared ride taxi service.	Community members in Black River Falls will have to find a new way to get around town. The city's rideshare service ended last week. It wasn't financially feasible anymore.
Economy	12/26/2022	5:00 PM	Shopping Season	Some prices increased. Despite that, one local retailer said it was one of their best years yet.

2. Education

Responsive Programming (Including date and time aired)

Category	First Aired	Show	Story Slug	Story Summary
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Education	10/10/2022	6:00 PM	Top Notch Teacher-October	Special Education teacher from Central High got her bus license so she could pick up her students and take them home every day.
Education	10/14/2022	6:00 PM	UWL Hate Messages	UWL Republicans drew out some "hate" messages via chalk drawings on the sidewalk. They claim it's free speech. UWL Dems claim it's hate speech.
Education	10/20/2022	5:00 PM	Special Education Funding Crisis	School officials say when the district doesn't receive enough funding for special education, it has to remove funds from general operating costs and distribute them.
Education	10/24/2022	6:00 PM	Elected Officials Speak Out About Referendum	Some La Crosse City Council and County board members are speaking out against the referendum. Superintendent Engel and the Vote Yes committee respond.
Education	11/3/2022	6:00 PM	Referendums	A near-record number of Wisconsin schools can't afford the upgrades they need. So, they're asking taxpayers for help
Education	11/9/2022	6:00 PM	Voters Reject La Crosse School Referendum	Voters in the City of La Crosse rejected the nearly \$195 million plan to consolidate two high schools by a wide margin Tuesday.
Education	11/10/2022	6:00 PM	Next Steps for Holmen and Bangor School Districts	On Tuesday, voters statewide approved more than 60% of school referendums on the ballot. In the Coulee Region alone, three multi-million-dollar referendums will move forward. Duaa spoke to two of them.
Education	11/14/2022	6:00 PM	Top Notch Teacher-November	Josh Curtis, Band Director for Westby High School, wins Top Notch Teacher for November.
Education	11/14/2022	10:00 PM	La Crosse School Board Convenes After Referendum Rejected	The School District of La Crosse is heading back to the drawing board. Board members participated in a workshop to discuss the district's future after voters rejected its nearly \$195 million referendum.
Education	11/17/2022	5:00 PM	Sparta student's wild imagination inspires award-winning art	Carter Kalember is Artsonia's "Artist of the Week". The 5-year-old received more than 14,000 votes for this piece titled: "Texture Monster".
Education	11/18/2022	5:00 PM	Project Search	High school students with developmental and intellectual disabilities spend an entire year training at La Crosse's Gundersen Health System. And then they can apply to work there. We spoke to Antony who will be graduating from Project Search soon.
Education	12/1/2022	6:00 PM	Holmen Schools receive grant for critical incident mapping data	Holmen school staff are working alongside local law enforcement to make sure officers have the tools they need in an emergency.

Education	12/6/2022	6:00 PM	Manufacturing Jobs	Manufacturing jobs are plentiful in Wisconsin. That's a good sign for students who are hoping to go into hands-on fields... like welding and precision machining.
Education	12/16/2022	5:00 PM	School delay vs school closure and who is behind that decision	There are two words nearly every kid wants to hear – “school’s canceled.” But who makes that decision? West Salem school district’s director of transportation has been making the call for more than 30 years.
Education	12/20/2022	10:00 PM	La Crosse students create Islamic Tiles	Students at La Crosse’s Longfellow Middle School are traveling 7,000 miles to the Middle East – using just a paintbrush.

3. Health/Safety

Responsive Programming (Including date and time aired)

Category	First Aired	Show	Story Slug	Story Summary
Health	10/10/2022	5:00 PM	Flu Expected to be Worse This Year	Experts say because flu cases were down last year---- people have few antibodies to fight the flu. That plus the fact that fewer people masking.-- leads doctors to believe-- this flu season will be more severe
Health	10/19/2022	5:00 PM	Farm to Table Hemp	Since 2018, people across the country have taken advantage of legal CBD. One Westby Farm has been growing hemp for four years and is now looking to do even more.
Health	10/26/2022	6:00 PM	PFAS Testing	Wisconsin DNR launches PFAS testing requirement across the state
Health	10/28/2022	6:00 PM	Narcans Installed at UWL	In a partnership with Wisconsin Voices of Recovery, University of Wisconsin La Crosse has installed 13 boxes around campus with Narcans.
Health	11/15/2022	5:00 PM	PFAS Test Well	The La Crosse County Board passed a resolution giving the Town of Campbell \$100,000 to drill a test well.
Health	11/16/2022	6:00 AM	Snow on Roads	La Crosse County Highway Department warns drives about snowy roads after head-on collision
Health	11/23/2022	5:00 PM	Drinksgiving	Some people call it Blackout Wednesday. It’s also known as Drinksgiving — a night to binge before Thanksgiving.
Health	11/30/2022	5:00 PM	Sheriff Death Investigation	the sheriff’s department said today-- Cramer died by suicide. Going forward, the Eau Claire law enforcement community will require officers to take part in mandatory one-on-one meetings with a mental health professional.
Health	12/7/2022	5:00 PM	Mental Health First Aid	According to the National Alliance on Mental Health, 1 out of every 5 adults nationwide experiences mental illness. The La Crosse P-D and CouleeCap are working together to expand mental health resources,
Health	12/12/2022	5:00 PM	Area fire chiefs offer advice for staying fire safe after	Over the weekend, area departments responded to multiple fires. The causes of both are unknown, but area fire chiefs say this weekend’s events serve as a reminder– many fires are preventable

			weekend fires	
Health	12/13/2022	5:00 PM	Recreational therapists help keep La Crosse seniors' holiday spirits bright	The holiday season is a time for family and friends to come together– but that time can be tough on seniors. For seniors in assisted living facilities, recreational therapists work to make them feel at home over the holidays.
Health	12/20/2022	5:00 PM	Winter weather system will be hitting the Midwest	La Crosse experts say you may need to change your holiday travel plans
Health	12/27/2022	6:00 PM	Addiction Tree	There Are many decorated trees at La Crosse's rotary lights. But one tree is still being decorated... in memory of nearly 100 loved ones. Families are using the tree to raise awareness about overdoses.
Health	12/28/2022	5:00 PM	Cashton EMS Shortage	Medical responders Are the first people to arrive at the scene of an emergency. In rural communities, most first responders are volunteers. But few people are joining their ranks.

4. Crime

Responsive Programming (Including date and time aired)

Category	First Aired	Show	Story Slug	Story Summary
Crime	10/12/2022	5:00 PM	State Patrol - Fentanyl Freeway Pt 2	Emily rides along with a State Patrol Officer. They talk about the enforcement of drugs on the fentanyl freeway.
Crime	10/17/2022	6:00 PM	Buckle Up Phone Down	Monday, October 17 is Buckle Up Phone Down Day in Wisconsin. It's an opportunity for us to share the lifesaving impact those two simple steps can have for drivers and passengers involved in a crash.
Crime	10/21/2022	5:00 PM	Court Slow Down	Attorney Gener, Josh Kaul, and District Attorney, Tim Gruenke, talk about the reasons for court hearings on hold (Prosecutor shortage, bail/bond issues)
Crime	10/26/2022	6:00 PM	Jail Voting	Former Wisconsin inmate says barriers make voting difficult
Crime	10/27/2022	6:00 PM	Holmen Safety Referendum	On November 8, the Village of Holmen and Town of Holland are asking residents to approve a public safety referendum to fund police and fire-EMS
Crime	11/4/2022	5:00 PM	Body Found in Cameron Park	A body has been discovered in La Crosse's Cameron Park. Police say there are no safety concerns, but some community members disagree.
Crime	11/7/2022	5:00 PM	How LaX PD Trains for Assault on Officer Situations	After the Houska Park Incident where an officer was surrounded by people and in a dangerous situation, the PD sat down with Emily and explained how they train for these situations.

Crime	11/16/2022	5:00 PM	La Crosse County first in WI to offer free phone calls for incarcerated people	This week, the La Crosse County board unanimously voted to drop the cost of a phone call for anyone in jail from 21 cents a minute to free.
Crime	11/24/2022	5:00 PM	Tomah Stabbing	A man was stabbed in Tomah early Thursday morning. Tomah Police Department arrived at the scene at 1:19 a.m. and found a 58-year-old man with a stab wound in his chest.
Crime	11/28/2022	5:00 PM	La Crescent PD New Safe Cam Program	The La Crescent Police Department is asking community members to help officers solve more crimes. The department wants access to doorbell cameras and other devices.
Crime	11/30/2022	10:00 PM	The Viroqua Police Chief was recently placed on administrative leave.	Tonight, the police commission is holding a public hearing to go over the charges.
Crime	12/2/2022	6:00 PM	Local woman files lawsuit against La Crosse County Clerk	Judge Elliot Levine threw out one of the arguments made by a La Crosse voter who claims the La Crosse County sheriff's race recount was unfair.
Crime	12/7/2022	10:00 PM	Viroqua Police Chief Update	The Viroqua Chief of Police is suspended--- without pay. The decision-- by the city's police commission-- follows an outside investigation into Chief Rick Niedfeldt's professional conduct.
Crime	12/13/2022	6:00 PM	End of an era: Jeff Wolf reflects on his last days as Sheriff of La Crosse County	After nearly 35 years with La Crosse County, Sheriff Jeff Wolf is retiring. Behind every badge is a person willing to put their life at risk day in and day out. For Sheriff Wolf, law enforcement runs in his blood.
Crime	12/14/2022	5:00 PM	Wisconsin State Patrol reminds people to slow down during winter storm	When severe weather is on the way, the only thing you can do before it arrives is be prepared. In Eau Claire, state and local officials are preparing for the worst.
Crime	12/29/2022	5:00 PM	777,000 people in WI have a first offense DUI/OWI.	Trooper Christina Holtz says when someone gets behind the wheel while intoxicated, they're putting their life and the lives of everyone on the road at risk.

5. Government

Responsive Programming (Including date and time aired)

Category	First Aired	Show	Story Slug	Story Summary
Government	10/13/2022	6:00 PM	Common Council Votes on Affordable Housing	Duaa will be at Common Council when they vote to decide on a real estate purchase to be used for affordable housing.
Government	10/18/2022	6:00 PM	Abortion History	La Crosse public library hosted a UW La Crosse research fellow who took a look at the history of abortion access in our area.
Government	10/24/2022	5:00 PM	Polarizing Politics	Politics have become polarizing. Last night a Huebsch sign was found with a Swastika painted on it. Both candidates comment and a local political expert on what the current political climate is like.
Government	10/25/2022	6:00 PM	Soldiers Return	Wisconsin troops have heartfelt homecoming from deployment at Volk Field
Government	10/27/2022	5:00 PM	Poll Worker Training	Poll workers in Onalaska go through election day training
Government	11/1/2022	6:00 PM	3rd District-No Debates	3rd District (Pfaff and Van Orden) didn't have any public debates because Van Orden refused to participate. A political expert also talks to Jordan Fremstad.
Government	11/1/2022	6:00 PM	Sheriff Race	Leinfelder vs Siegel for La Crosse County Sheriff. The candidates for La Crosse County Sheriff are taking the political high road
Government	11/2/2022	6:00 PM	Political Ads	Wisconsin has the highest number of political ads on air during this midterm election.
Government	11/4/2022	10:00 PM	Bernie Sanders in La Crosse	Senator Sanders is meeting with college students on 4 Wisconsin campuses urging them to vote for Democrats on Election Day. UWL was one of those stops today.
Government	11/7/2022	6:00 PM	Young Voters	Duaa talks with young voters on the UWL Campus and then interviews Joe Heim, a political analyst, about the importance of the young vote.
Government	11/9/2022	6:00 PM	3rd Congressional District Was a Close Race	Derrick Van Orden won an unexpectedly close race for Wisconsin's Third Congressional District; he defeated Democrat Brad Pfaff by 4%.
Government	11/18/2022	6:00 PM	Sheriff Recount	Republican Fritz Leinfelder lost to Siegel by 175 votes. Earlier this week, Leinfelder filed a petition for a recount. When the recount was over, Siegel gained two votes. Leinfelder gained one.
Government	11/21/2022	5:00 PM	Fritz Leinfelder concedes after objecting to the recount.	Republican candidate for La Crosse County Sheriff--- Fritz Leinfelder has conceded. Leinfelder's concession comes *after he filed an objection to the recount results.

Government	12/5/2022	6:00 PM	Communities along the river are facing different challenges.	Mayor Reynolds, as a part of the Mississippi River Cities and Towns initiative, is heading to Washington, D.C. this week to talk about low water levels—and the lack of a national drought policy
Government	12/12/2022	6:00 PM	La Crosse County Board to vote on \$3 million of ARPA funds for affordable housing	La Crosse County is working on a new plan to expand access to affordable housing. The County Board's Executive Committee wants to set aside \$3 million of American Rescue Plan Act funds.
Government	12/15/2022	5:00 PM	Explaining La Crosse's alternate side parking: When and where to park your car	According to a City of La Crosse ordinance, when there are three inches of snow or more on the ground, drivers have to be careful about what side of the street they're parking on. Odd side on the odd days and even side on the even days.
Government	12/22/2022	6:00 PM	Expect shipping delays this week.	Post office supervisor Jon Schouten says many packages are still at the USPS location in the Twin Cities and many may be a day or two late due to the weather.

7. Community

Responsive Programming (Including date and time aired)

Category	First Aired	Show	Story Slug	Story Summary
Community	10/11/2022	5:00 PM	Cranberry Harvest	Warrens family cranberry farm sees generational success this harvest season
Community	10/11/2022	5:00 PM	YMCA Expansion	The La Crosse area YMCA is expanding. The YMCA announced it will open a 3rd location in Holmen.
Community	10/12/2022	6:00 PM	Pumpkin Season	Duaa Israr visits Ferguson's Orchard as pumpkin patch season begins.
Community	10/19/2022	5:00 PM	Houska Park Homeless Update	The clock is ticking for unsheltered people in Houska Park. The campground is set to close in 11 days, but there are still many tents in the park and some unsheltered people say they don't know where they will go.
Community	10/20/2022	6:00 PM	Clear Eyes	Local Surgeon has career ending accident. He's now enrolled in the welding program at Western Technical College making the best of a tragic situation.
Community	10/25/2022	5:00 PM	Drug Take Back	Some of the most dangerous drugs are easy to get. According to state and local health officials, you can find them in your medicine cabinet. Saturday is Drug Take Back Day.
Community	10/31/2022	6:00 PM	Houska Park Homeless Deadline to Leave is Here	They will be shutting down water and power at Houska Park at Midnight. The city is working with local agencies to find shelter for the homeless.

Community	11/3/2022	5:00 PM	First Library in WI Hits 150 Years Old	150 years ago, Wisconsin passed a law creating what's now known as public libraries. Black River Falls became the first community in the state of Wisconsin to open one.
Community	11/8/2022	6:00 PM	Holmen Mom Spreads Kindness	Being an adult is challenging, and being a parent is even harder. A Holmen mom knows that well– and she is paying it forward with her “Adulting is stupid” baskets.
Community	11/11/2022	6:00 PM	Veterans Day	Duaa spent some time with Veterans at the UWL 10th Annual Freedom Honor Flight Veterans Day Breakfast
Community	11/15/2022	6:00 PM	La Crosse releases emergency overnight shelter plans for homeless population	The City of La Crosse released the names of several city buildings that could be used for emergency overnight shelter for the homeless population. One of those buildings is the Harry J. Olson senior center.
Community	11/16/2022	6:00 PM	A Holmen family welcomes a family from Ukraine into their home.	Lukash's son goes to Melrose Mindoro High School, but her husband and her other son remained trapped in Ukraine.
Community	11/17/2022	6:00 PM	Harry J Olson Senior Center Update	The City of La Crosse says it will begin evicting members of the Harry J. Olson Senior Center if they do not vacate a city-owned building. Earlier this week, the city said it plans to use the Center as an emergency overnight shelter. Center staff say they still want to purchase the building.
Community	11/21/2022	6:00 PM	Local food pantries warn that food insecurity is worse than it has been in years.	Wafer executive director Erin Waldhart sees food insecurity every day, and now even more people are turning to food banks for help.
Community	11/22/2022	6:00 PM	Everyone Needs a Helping Hand	La Crosse community group makes Thanksgiving dinner possible for 100 area families
Community	11/23/2022	6:00 PM	No Christmas Trees	Trempealeau family tree farm closing ahead of Christmas season due to drought conditions, low supply.
Community	11/28/2022	6:00 PM	Jail Ministry Program helping to break the cycle of incarceration	They are also in need of donations. Some of the funding comes from the La Crosse County budget. The rest is donation-based. It takes monetary donations... but also items for activity... comfort items and clothing for people upon release
Community	11/29/2022	5:00 PM	Giving Tuesday- Are there too many nonprofits	Experts say the total number of non-profits doesn't matter... as long as the community can support them

			in La Crosse County?	
Community	11/29/2022	6:00 PM	Linda Lyche Tribute	The Coulee Region is remembering a member of the community who dedicated her life to giving back. Linda Lyche PASSED AWAY Sunday. Name any charity or non-profit and there's a good chance Linda was a part of it.
Community	12/5/2022	5:00 PM	Tomah fire displaces residents in from a community home	The Trowbridge Personal Care Residence has been serving veterans in the Tomah community for over 30 years.
Community	12/14/2022	6:00 PM	Loved ones say death of woman found in Cameron Park was preventable	It has been about a month since La Crosse police discovered the body of a woman in Cameron Park. Her name was Eve Mulac, and her loved ones believe her death could have been prevented.
Community	12/19/2022	6:00 PM	La Crosse residents with disabilities urge people to shovel snow	Shoveling your driveway and clearing the sidewalk isn't everyone's favorite winter activity. For others, their safety depends on it. When sidewalks and curbs aren't clear, Mickelson, who uses a wheelchair, has to find another way to get around.
Community	12/19/2022	5:00 PM	After State St flooded and froze, a resident steps forward to say it was preventable	One week after a water main break on La Crosse's south side, that same block of State Street flooded again. That water froze and became thick ice. A man who lives on State Street said this safety hazard could have been prevented.
Community	12/21/2022	6:00 PM	A beloved north La Crosse shoe store is closing its doors.	Lenny from Lenny's Shoe Repair is retiring after 64 years in the shoe business.
Community	12/23/2022	5:00 PM	Spring Grove Fire	A small community is impacted by an apartment fire in downtown Spring Grove, MN.
Community	12/27/2022	5:00 PM	The Spring Grove community responds following devastating fire.	Community members in Spring Grove opened up their homes to provide shelter for the victims of the fire.
Community	12/28/2022	6:00 PM	Emergency Shelter Update	Roughly 25 people used the La Crosse's southside neighborhood center as a shelter during last week's winter storm. Homeless service coordinator Brian Sampson says this deceleration was solely because of weather.
Community	12/30/2022	5:00 PM	Amish Funeral Procession	Some Amish helped honor an Ontario man with a unique, Amish funeral procession.