

**Quarterly Issues Programs List for Station WUEZ-FM**  
**October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023**  
**Placed in the Public File November 14, 2023**

**Section I. Issues.**

The station has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community in this quarter:

- A. Labor Market**
- B. Public Health**
- C. Economy / Tourism**
- D. Crime**
- E. Inflation**

**Section II. Responsive Programs**

The station has broadcast programming dealing with each of the above-referenced issues. Programming dealing with each issue is set out below.

**A. Labor Market**

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: November 12, 6:02 a.m. | Duration: 18 minutes

One major component of the recent phenomenon of supply chain disruptions is a lack of trained workers. In this interview with Bill Orrill and Jack Skelcher from the local chapter of the Laborer's Union, listeners learn that, nationally, there is a reported shortage for 650,000 laborers and the situation locally is even more dire; the local union hall has no laborer's available to fill open positions.

**B. Public Health**

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: October 8, 6:22 a.m. | Duration: 8 minutes

Once again this year, demand is expected to outnumber the resources available through the LIHEAP program. The program connects residents that meet income eligibility requirements to funding to pay winter home heating bills. In this interview with Crosswalk Community Action's Kim Rutherford, listeners learn how the program works, income guidelines, and signup deadlines.

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: October 8, 6:02 a.m. | Duration: 18 minutes

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. In this interview with SIH Breast Center's Dr. Catherine O'Connor, listeners learn about the symptoms and treatments for breast cancer. Listeners also learn about the "COVID catch up" – patients putting off regular screenings, like mammograms, only to later find diseases, like cancer, have already past the earliest and most easily treated stage.

### **C. Economy / Tourism**

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast: October 15, 6:02 a.m. | Duration: 8 minutes

In the spring of 2024, southern Illinois will once again find itself in a prime position for viewing a total solar eclipse. In this interview with scientists Bob Baer and Mike Kentrianakis, listeners learn about what preparations are being made for a massive public viewing event on the SIU campus.

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast October 29, 6:02 a.m. | Duration: 18 minutes

One of the region's most popular outdoor destinations, the Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge, will welcome over 1 million visitors in 2023. In this interview with Visitor Services Director Neil Vincent, listeners learn that the refuge is the most visited site of its kind in the Midwest. Listeners also learned about an upcoming "Discovery Auto Tour" that would give individuals a peek inside portions of the refuge that are usually off limits to the public.

### **D. Crime**

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast: October 22, 6:02 a.m. | Duration: 8 minutes

Retail theft is a problem across the nation and southern Illinois has not been spared. In this interview with Illinois Retail Merchants Association Executive Director Rob Karr, listeners learn about laws and common store policies surrounding stopping shoplifters as well as the growing trend of organized retail crime rings.

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast: October 22, 6:12 a.m. | Duration: 8 minutes

On September 18, 2023, Illinois became the first state in the nation to abolish cash bail. Most defendants accused of low level, non-violent crimes are issued citations and released from custody until their court date. In this interview with Franklin County Sheriff Kyle Bacon, listeners learn how the first month of the new bail policy has played out in southern Illinois, and problems associated with accused criminals not showing up for court dates.

### **E. Inflation**

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast: October 22, 6:22 a.m. | Duration: 8 minutes

Inflation is impacting everyone in the supply chain, including those near the beginning. In this interview with Illinois Department of Agriculture Director Jerry Costello II, listeners learn how much the cost of seed and fuel has increased as well as issues farmers have getting their crops to market cause by low water levels on the Mississippi River.