

**Quarterly Issues and Programs List for Station WUEZ-FM**  
**January 1, 2021 – March 31, 2021**  
**Placed in the Public File April 8, 2021**

**Section I -- Issues**

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

- A. COVID-19 Vaccinations**
- B. COVID-19 Effect on Local Economy**
- C. Food Insecurity**
- D. Crime**
- E. Effect of Census on Redistricting**
- F. Transportation Infrastructure**
- G. Higher Education**
- H. Tourism**

**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. COVID Vaccinations**

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: January 10, 6:00 AM | Duration: 6 minutes

More and more Americans are receiving the new COVID-19 vaccine. And as with anything new, there are questions, answers, and some misinformation. For clarification, we spoke with Associate Medical Director for SIH Emergency Departments Dr. Kasey Nelson.

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: January 24, 06:00 AM | Duration: 6 minutes

Government guidance on who can receive a COVID-19 vaccination and when left many people confused or intimidated by the process. We spoke Franklin-Williamson Bi-County Health Department Director Carrie Eldridge who explained the local vaccination rollout.

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: February 7, 06:00 AM | Duration: 10 minutes

By early February, over one million Illinoisans had received the COVID-19 vaccine. In an effort to get more people vaccinated against the coronavirus, Governor JB Pritzker deployed the National Guard to assist local health departments in administering vaccines. We spoke with Governor Pritzker about the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast: February 28, 06:00 AM | Duration: 8 minutes

By late February, roughly one in seven Illinois residents had received at least their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Two mass vaccination clinics also opened in the area. We spoke with Jackson County Health Department Director Bart Hagston who explained how these facilities work and how to sign up to get the vaccine.

## **B. COVID-19 Effect on Local Economy**

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast: January 24, 06:06 AM | Duration: 5 minutes

COVID-19 restrictions had a devastating effect on the local economy, not just for business owners, but for local governments as well. We spoke with Williamson County Commissioner Brent Gentry who outlined what the impact the loss of sales tax dollars would have on residents in terms of county services.

## **C. Food Insecurity**

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast: February 7, 06:10 AM | Duration: 9 minutes

Food insecurity, while always an issue, was exacerbated by COVID-19. Many services that many people once depended on have modified or ceased operations. One of the most vulnerable populations to COVID-19, senior citizens, are also one of the most vulnerable groups when it comes to food insecurity. We spoke with Marion Senior Citizens Center director Jill Granskewicz on what she's experiencing at her facility and where local seniors can go for assistance.

## **D. Crime**

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast: January 31, 06:00 AM | Duration: 20 minutes

The death of multiple black men at the hands of police across the country becomes one of 2020's main issues. The death of George Floyd in Minneapolis in particular resulted in the rallying cry of "defund the police." We spoke with Stan Reno, the Interim Chief of Police for the City of Carbondale, about some of the issues facing law enforcement in 2021.

***Week in Review*** | Broadcast: March 7, 06:00 AM | Duration: 13 minutes

A proposed police resource center inside Carbondale's Eurma C Hayes Center generated controversy. Locals living near the center, who are predominately Black, said they didn't want more police in their neighborhood. But supporters said a recent spike in gun crime necessitates it. We spoke with Carbondale Mayor Mike Henry about the city's approach to dealing with crime.

## **E. 2020 Census and Political Redistricting**

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: March 28, 06:00 AM | Duration: 10 minutes

Results from the 2020 Census have already been delayed and are likely to be delayed even further. The delay complicates the redrawing of political districts in the state.

CHANGE Illinois executive Director Madeleine Doubek informs listeners on her groups efforts to make the map making process as transparent and apolitical as possible.

## **F. Transportation/Infrastructure**

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: March 28, 06:10 AM | Duration: 18 minutes

Southern Illinois sits on top of three seismic zones, including the New Madrid Seismic Zone. While the area hasn't experienced a major earthquake in decades, experts warn one could strike at any time. We spoke with geology professor Harvey Henson who explained what a damage a major earthquake would cause to the areas roads, bridges, and buildings and how to prepare for disaster.

## **G. Higher Education**

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: January 24, 06:11 AM | Duration: 17 minutes

Education during COVID-19 has been a challenge for many, including those in higher education. We spoke with SIU-C Chancellor Austin Lane who outline the university's COVID-19 testing protocols, the return of face-to-face instruction, the possibility of an in-person graduation ceremony, and what socially distanced athletic events might look like.

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: February 14, 06:00 | Duration: 8 minutes

With the COVID-19 pandemic putting a big strain on the economy, many are wondering if state budget cuts will have to be made and what they might be. One possible area for cuts is higher education. We spoke with John A Logan Community College President Kirk Overstreet who outlined the college's plan to deal with the unknown.

## **H. Tourism**

*Week in Review* | Broadcast: March 21, 06:00 AM | Duration: 12 minutes

The first weekend of spring in southern Illinois brought sunny skies and mild Temperatures. After nearly a year of COVID-19 lockdowns and stay at home order, locals as well as out of state visitors flocked to the Crab Orchard Wildlife refuge to take advantage of the good and explore outside. We spoke with Visitor Services Director Neil Vincent about what coronavirus restrictions would be in place.