

# COMMUNITY ISSUES & PROGRAMMING

## 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2023



**WMJK – FM 100.9**  
BAS Broadcasting, Inc.  
1640 Cleveland Road  
Sandusky, Ohio 44870

Friday, July 7, 2023

*Stephen L. Shoffner*

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Director of News Operations

## **OVERVIEW OF NEWS OPERATIONS**

### **LOCAL / REGIONAL COVERAGE**

The news department of BAS Broadcasting, Inc. provides WLEC, WCPZ and WMJK with full service local news coverage. The news staff attends Erie County Commission and Sandusky City Commission meetings whenever possible or as needed, and also attends hundreds of other community meetings or special events throughout each year. All of our local / regional news is written, produced and directed locally and focuses on Erie, Huron, Ottawa, Sandusky and Seneca counties.

WLEC offers nine (9) different local / regional newscasts each weekday (Monday – Friday) with additional news headlines airing throughout each day.

WCPZ and WMJK offer seven (7) different local / regional newscasts each weekday (Monday – Friday).

All three stations provide coverage of live, breaking news events as needed.

### **STATE COVERAGE**

The news department has teamed up with the Ohio News Network (ONN) as the exclusive state news provider for each of our stations. Reports produced by ONN are broadcast thirteen (13) different times each weekday on WLEC and on WCPZ and WMJK as needed. Six (6) Saturday morning ONN newscasts also air on WLEC.

### **NATIONAL COVERAGE**

WLEC, WCPZ and WMJK are all affiliates of the ABC News radio network based out of New York City, New York. ABC News reports can be heard at the top of every hour seven days a week on WLEC. WCPZ and WMJK provide hourly updates during each weekday morning and again each weekday at noon.

### **LOCAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMMING**

"North Coast Journal" is a public affairs program that varies in length depending on the show and its content, but at times has lasted up to thirty (30) minutes. The show airs Sunday mornings at 6 AM on WLEC, and at 7 AM on WCPZ and WMJK. The show is produced locally.

## **KEY ISSUES**

During the second quarter of 2023, the news department was able to broadcast a number of reports and various public affairs programming that dealt specifically with a number of key issues that were identified as important to the community. The staff at BAS Broadcasting, Inc. received feedback from community leaders and the general public during their decision making process.

The following listing includes a brief description of each issue and the times, dates and duration of each broadcast.

The length of each news story will be considered to be between thirty seconds (:30) and one (1) minute in length.

The length of each public affairs (long form) interview will be considered to be between five (5) and fifteen (15) minutes in length.

**TOURISM / OHIO BIKE WEEK / BIRDING**

Various Coverage

The news department followed the planning and development of various tourism related activities in our listening area during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023. The local tourism bureau (Shore and Islands Ohio) helped to coordinate a number of events, but there were also other several other stand alone events that were planned and hosted in the region.

Ohio Bike Week is a 10 day festival that is based in Erie county and the city of Sandusky. The news department helped to share the planning and finalized schedules of the event in the weeks leading up to the event, which began just after Labor Day.

The news department also followed the extensive planning and preparations that were needed for the annual "Biggest Week in American Birding" a several week long event that occurs in early May each year. Thousands of birding enthusiasts arrive each year at a number of locations in our listening area to see a one of a kind global migration of birds.

The news department shared details and information about the events including behind the scenes planning meetings and decisions.

**NEWS COVERAGE**

(All 3 stations) 6 AM / 7 AM / 8 AM / 9 AM / 12 PM / 5 PM

04/11	04/19	04/21
04/24	04/26	04/28
05/02	05/05	05/15
05/23	05/26	05/30
06/01	06/02	06/05
06/22	06/29	06/30

**NORTH COAST JOURNAL**

There were no dedicated long form interviews on the subject of tourism / Ohio Bike Week or birding on our North Coast Journal program.

**SANDUSKY RECREATION CENTER PROJECT**

Various Coverage

The news department began covering the city of Sandusky's plan to build a new recreation center / community center in 2021. As the planning slowly began to take shape, the city eventually hired a person specifically to oversee the process and the news department was able to share information about the planning process throughout the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023.

The city will be using dedicated funding sources for the planning, design and ultimately the construction of the new facility, but before they could finalize those plans, they had to hear feedback from the community. The news department was able to share information about how community members could get involved in the process. Information about the finalized plans was also shared when available.

The final site selection process was also covered extensively in our news reporting. The city is now making plans to ask residents to support a levy dedicated to the operation of the facility moving forward and the news department will continue to share information as available regarding those plans.

**NEWS COVERAGE**

(All 3 stations) 6 AM / 7 AM / 8 AM / 9 AM / 12 PM / 5 PM

04/18	04/20	05/02
05/03	05/15	05/18
06/07	06/09	06/21
06/26	06/29	06/30

**NORTH COAST JOURNAL**

There were no dedicated long form interviews on the subject of the creation of a new Sandusky recreation center facility on our North Coast Journal program.

**REGIONAL HOUSING STUDY**

Various Coverage

The news department was able to share information about a new multi-county housing study that was commissioned through the local economic development organization called, "Firelands Forward."

The news department shared information about how residents in the multi-county area could get involved in the information gathering phase of the study. Information was also shared about who and how the data was being studied and used to create the study.

Public meetings were also held to share the data and final reports, and the news department was also share details of each of those meetings including their location and how they could be attended by those interested.

The study showcased how the region is experiencing a severe housing shortage at this time and the news department will continue to share information about how local officials and developers are planning on dealing with the situation in the hopes of eliminating the shortage.

**NEWS COVERAGE**

(All 3 stations) 6 AM / 7 AM / 8 AM / 9 AM / 12 PM / 5 PM

04/17	04/20	04/24
04/28	05/05	05/08
05/11	05/23	05/25
06/01	06/07	06/08
06/22		

**NORTH COAST JOURNAL**

There were no dedicated long form interviews on the subject of a regional housing study that was undertaken across a three county area on our North Coast Journal program.

**OHIO STATE BUDGET PROCESS WITH LOCAL IMPACTS**

**Various Coverage**

The news department covered the process of creating a new 2-year Ohio State Budget through information provided by local state lawmakers and the governor’s office.

That information included details from legislative meetings in Columbus as well as from local county level meetings that involved discussions related to how state budget information would impact local counties.

The details of state level discussions were shared locally, while local discussions related to impacts were also shared with our listeners. As the process continued in Columbus, local community leaders continually shared their concerns or support for various aspects of the new two year state spending plans.

The news department continued to share details related to the budget approval process through the end of June, when the spending plans were finalized and ultimately approved by the governor.

**NEWS COVERAGE**

(All 3 stations) 6 AM / 7 AM / 8 AM / 9 AM / 12 PM / 5 PM

04/04	04/05	04/06
04/20	04/21	04/28
05/11	05/25	05/31
06/12	06/20	06/23
06/27	06/29	06/30

**NORTH COAST JOURNAL**

There were no dedicated long form interviews on the subject of the Ohio state 2-year budget and its related local impacts on our North Coast Journal program.





IN ADDITION TO THE ITEMS LISTED IN THE ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT, BAS SANDUSKY STATIONS ALSO PROVIDED THESE COMMUNITY SERVICES:

CHARITY: SANDUSKY KIWANIS. Interview with Heather Gilchrist about a fundraising golf scramble to help support the Imagination Library and get free books to children.

LENGTH-4:39

AIRED-on WCPZ Tuesday 4/4 at 7:47am

ISSUE: ECONOMY, SENIOR CITIZENS. Interview with Becca Davis from Goodwill about their SCSEP Program, which trains senior citizens to rejoin the workforce.

LENGTH-4:05

AIRED-on WCPZ Monday 4/10 at 8:32am.

CHARITY: EASTERSEALS OF NORTHERN OHIO. Interview with Patti Powers about their Taste of the Firelands food sampling event.

LENGTH-4:33

AIRED-on WCPZ Tuesday 5/9/22 at 8:16am and Thursday 5/18/22 at 7:16am.

ISSUE: COMMUNITY, CHILDREN, EDUCATION. Interview with Heather Gilchrist and Sara Godfrey about the Stuff The Bus school supply drive for families that cannot afford school supplies.

LENGTH-5:11

AIRED-on WCPZ Wednesday 5/15/23 at 8:32am and Wednesday 5/31/23 at 7:21am.

LENGTH-8:13

AIRED-on WLEC Monday 5/22/22 at 7:05am

ISSUE: EMPLOYMENT. Interview with Crystal Michel from Goodwill about their support programs and services for individuals with disabilities or barriers to employment.

LENGTH-3:35

AIRED-on WCPZ Monday 6/12/23 at 8:16am







ISSUE: CRIME, CHILD ABUSE. Interview with AJ Lill of Erie Co Jobs & Family Services on Child Abuse Awareness Month.

LENGTH-7:41

AIRED-on WLEC Wednesday 4/12/23 at 7:05am

ISSUE: CHILDREN. Interview with AJ Lill from Erie Co Jobs & Family Services on Foster Care Month.

LENGTH-9:20

AIRED-on WLEC Tuesday 5/23/23 at 7:10am

CHARITY: NEW PERSPECTIVE FOUNDATION. Interview with former local athlete Tyson Gentry who is using his paralysis to spread awareness for his foundation, which helps other paralysis victims and their families with financial and equipment support.

LENGTH-12:42

AIRED-on WLEC Friday 6/2/23 at 7:05am

CHARITY: MAXTON SOVIAK MEMORIAL FUND. Interview with Kip Soviak, father of late Navy Corpsman Maxton Soviak about a foundation set up in his honor.

LENGTH- 5:14

AIRED-on WCPZ Tuesday 6/6/23 at 8:11am.

LENGTH-11:12

AIRED-on WLEC Monday 6/5/23 at 7:05am

ISSUE: ECONOMY. Interview with State Theatre Executive Director Chris Parthemore with an update on rebuilding the historic theater.

LENGTH-4:31

AIRED-on WCPZ 7:50am Friday 6/9/23.





ISSUE: ECONOMY, TOURISM. Interview with McKenzie Spriggs and Abbie Fox from Destination Sandusky about the Party At The Pier events planned for the summer.

LENGTH-7:52

AIRED-on WLEC 8:08am Tuesday 6/20/23

LENGTH-3:10

AIRED-on WCPZ Tuesday 6/27/23 at 8:48am and Wednesday 6/28/23 at 7:18am

ISSUE: ECONOMY. Interview with Jami Tallman of Scarlett O'Hair Salon about her business expansion.

LENGTH- 4:02

AIRED-on WCPZ Monday 6/26/23 at 7:15am and Wednesday 6/28/23 at 8:31am

