



WRBR-FM Issues and Programs List
4th Quarter, 2023

October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

Prepared by Kyle Guderian, Program Director
on January 5, 2024

Regularly Scheduled
News and Public Affairs Programming
Broadcast by WRBR-FM

Program Name	Schedule and Description
Local Newscasts	Three, one-minute news segments broadcast at the bottom of the 6am, 7am, and 8am hour; Covers news stories affecting the local cities, counties, and states.
Weather Forecasts	30 second segments broadcast one time each hour Monday through Sunday between 6 am and 12 midnight. Forecasts of the weather and updates on weather related watches and warnings.
Viewpoints Radio	30 minute program broadcast each Sunday at 6 am; Interviews with guests that have expertise and real-world experience regarding current issues.

Issues of Concern to the Communities Served by WRBR-FM

Subject	Description
Political/Election	Coverage of important politically-related news and the current primary election, general election on a local, state or national level.
Extreme Weather	Coverage of weather crisis and faced on a local level, including severe weather and it's lasting effects.
Health & Wellness	Coverage of public health issues faces on a state and local level, including effects on family, disease outbreaks and recall information.
Public Safety	Coverage of public safety issues faced on a national, state and local level including violent crimes against people, property crimes, ways to combat crime.
Personal Improvement	Coverage of personal betterment and self improvement
Economy	Coverage of the economy and employment issues on a local, state or national level as it affects listeners' money, as well as local and statewide economic initiatives.
Education	Coverage of school/education issues on a state and local level including graduation rates, extra-curricular and increasing children's GPA's and learning skills.
Coronavirus Pandemic	Coverage of the coronavirus pandemic and how it is affecting lives of residents on a local level.
Public Charity	Coverage of events that raise funds and/or awareness for charitable organizations in the community. This may also include organizations actively supported by local government

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Education

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Notre Dame elects new president

Broadcast Date: December 5, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a change at Notre Dame, this station aired a story about the naming of a new president.

The University of Notre Dame Chair of Board Trustees has named Reverend Robert Dowd as the university's 18th president.

He will replace Reverend Jenkins who's stepping down at the end of this academic year. Father Dowd will take over the role on July 1st.

Father Dowd currently serves as vice president and associate provost for inter-disciplinary initiatives at the university.

He's also an associate professor of political science.

A Michigan City native, Father Dowd graduated from Notre Dame in 1987.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Health, Public Safety

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Elkhart Common Council plans to replace lead water lines, sewer infrastructure

Broadcast Date: December 6, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a plan to improve safety, this station issued a story about the Elkhart Common Council's plans to replace lead water lines and aging sewer infrastructure.

The Elkhart Common Council has announced plans to replace lead water lines and aging sewer infrastructure and they plan to raise water and sewer rates to cover it.

Elkhart says this is to comply with federal unfunded mandates.

ABC 57 News reports for water customers, they can expect a \$6 per month increase by 2027. For sewers the increase will be \$6.86 starting in the summer.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Health

Program/Segment Title: News Story --American Red Cross searches for donors this holiday season

Broadcast Date: December 13, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a need for blood, this station aired a story about the American Red Cross' search for donors.

The holiday season of giving has people searching for the perfect present for loved ones. One gift can save lives, but only if you'll roll up your sleeve.

The American Red Cross said this time of year, a combination of winter weather, an increase in travelers and seasonal illness means blood donations typically decrease. But the need remains steady.

Beth Sweeney, executive director of the Southwest Indiana chapter of the American Red Cross, said all donations are needed, but especially from those with the universal 'O' blood type, and people giving platelets.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Political/Election

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Proposal to reshape Housing Authority fails in committee

Broadcast Date: December 13, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public of the failure of a proposal, this station aired a story about the proposal to reshape the Housing Authority.

The proposal to reshape the Housing Authority by allowing the common council to vote in half of the members failed in committee.

The six commissioners have historically been appointed by the Mayor as per state law.

On Monday afternoon, city attorney Bob Palmer confirmed changing the process violates that law so the bill was tabled indefinitely.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Economy

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Indiana sees increase in unemployment benefits

Broadcast Date: December 19, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about an increase in unemployment, this station aired a story about the increase in filings for unemployment benefits in Indiana.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor statistics there was an increase in filings for unemployment benefits in Indiana last week.

Jobless claims increased to 5,165, up slightly the previous week.

This comes after a national decrease in unemployment claims.

Roughly, 19,000 fewer claims were filed in the U.S. from last week to this week.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Scam/Fraud Prevention

Program/Segment Title: News Story --LaPorte County sees multiple telephone scams

Broadcast Date: December 21, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a recent scam in LaPorte County, this station issued a story to explain the calls and warn residents against falling for them.

There are two different telephone scams happening in LaPorte County. Both use Sheriff Ronald Heeg's name during the calls.

The first -- registered sex offenders are getting calls from someone saying they need to pay \$2,500 for a fine.

The second scam -- the caller says there is an arrest warrant for the person and that money is the only way to avoid arrest. If you get a call like that, hang up.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Public Safety, Transportation

Program/Segment Title: News Story – BMV Selling Driver Information

Broadcast Date: December 27, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about their information potentially being sold, this station aired a news story about how the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles will earn nearly \$26 million dollars from selling people's personal information. The BMV collects information like people's name, age, and address and has sold that for years. Bills have been introduced the last two years to give people the option to say no to that, but have not been given a hearing in the state Senate.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Environment

Program/Segment Title: News Story – Christmas Tree Disposal In South Bend

Broadcast Date: December 27, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about how to recycle their Christmas trees in South Bend, this station aired a news story about how South Bend is offering free Christmas tree recycling for residents within city limits from Tuesday, January 2nd to Thursday, February 1st. Christmas trees will be collected on the same day as trash pickup. Residents can schedule their pickup by submitting an online request on the city's website or by calling 3-1-1.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Public Safety, Childhood and Family Well-Being

Program/Segment Title: News Story – More Cameras At Silver Beach

Broadcast Date: December 27, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about beach-goers will be better-protected against violence at Silver Beach, this station aired a news story about officials in Berrien County are planning on adding more security cameras at the beach, all in the wake of an increase in fights there. The cameras are expected to cost around 20 thousand dollars to install, and the county Parks Department has applied for a grant to help cover the costs. It's hoped the cameras will help to deter fights and identify the responsible parties.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Education

Program/Segment Title: News Story – New Superintendent Named For Elkhart Schools

Broadcast Date: December 28, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform Elkhart parents of the change in the leadership of their children's education, this station aired a news story about the Elkhart Community School Board voting unanimously to hire Dr. Larry Huff as its new Superintendent. Huff served as Chief Academic Officer for the Metropolitan School District of Pike Township near Indianapolis. During his time there, student performance in IREAD-3 and ILEARN student increased. Also, the graduation rate rose to 96.2% for the 2022-23 school year. Huff is a former Teacher and Principal and has a doctoral degree. He's also certified in Crisis Prevention Intervention and a 3-time recipient of the Pike's Superintendent Above and Beyond Award.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Political/Election

Program/Segment Title: News Story – Goshen City Leaders Swearing In

Broadcast Date: December 29, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about the ongoing process in the change of leadership in their city, this station aired a news story about how the city of Goshen swore in its elected officials earlier this week. Mayor Gina Leichty was sworn in by City Clerk-Treasurer Richard Aguirre, then she swore him in. City Council members took the oath, as well. Leichty, who is the first female mayor of Goshen, won the title with 54% of the vote.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Extreme Weather

Program/Segment Title: News Story – Lack Of Snowfall In Michiana-Drought

Broadcast Date: December 29, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To keep listeners aware of ongoing drought issues and possible signs of weather stress to come, this station aired a news story about how, at the end of December, we're far below normal for snow. ABC 57 Meteorologist Maci Tetrick gave perspective in the stories saying with January and February being snowiest months of the year, so we will have time to potentially catch up. But, she also pointed out that it's an El Nino year, which means drier weather, so we may not reach snow totals like a normal season.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Education, Economy

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Benton Harbor Area Schools receive relief on \$12.5 million loan

Broadcast Date: November 6, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about relief on school funds, this station aired a story about Benton Harbor Area Schools receiving relief on a 12.5 million dollar loan.

Benton Harbor Area Schools are receiving relief on a 12 and a half million dollar loan.

The district will receive part of a supplemental spending bill passed by Michigan lawmakers that relieves 114 million dollars in debt from school districts around the state.

The loans were emergency loans taken out in the past.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Political/Election

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Voters choose candidates for offices in municipal elections

Broadcast Date: November 7, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about the municipal elections, this station aired a story about this year's election and the low voter turnout in 2019.

Voters are choosing candidates for a variety of offices in Tuesday's municipal elections.

One of the big contests we're watching is for Goshen Mayor. Republican Benjamin Rogers faces Gina Liechty, who's finishing out Jeremy Stutsman's term and wants a full four years of her own in the Mayor's seat.

Rogers says though it's an off-year, election-wise, your vote matters more than ever.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Scam/Fraud Prevention

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Toll Road traffic stop leads to discovery of skimming devices

Broadcast Date: November 14, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a scam prevention, this station aired a story about a Toll Road stop that led to the discovery of skimming devices.

A traffic stop on the Toll Road led to the discovery of skimming devices.

It happened earlier this month, when an Indiana State Police trooper stopped a 2023 Chrysler for a moving violation in Elkhart County.

They say that during the stop, the vehicle was found to be stolen.

Police say they also found items that they suspected were used for credit card skimming.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Political/Election

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Some Michigan State House Republicans want to impeach AG Dana Nessel

Broadcast Date: November 15, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a situation in the Michigan State House, this station aired a story about some Republicans in the House wanting to impeach AG Dana Nessel.

Some Republicans in the Michigan State House want to impeach Attorney General Dana Nessel.

State Representatives Joseph Fox, Matt Maddock, and James DeSana allege that Nessel has operated with "a disregard to the perimeters of her office, and in several cases, has used her office to attack political enemies and to benefit friends and associates."

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Health

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Veterinarians see new mystery illness in dogs

Broadcast Date: November 27, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a new illness in dogs, this station aired a story about the mystery illness that vets are seeing all across the country.

There appears to be an illness going around amongst dogs in Indiana.

It's a mystery respiratory illness, according to veterinary experts.

They are not sure where it came from and they are even still trying to pinpoint the exact symptoms of the illness.

But, they say if you have the slightest suspicion your dog may be ill you best take them to get checked.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Public Charity, Health

Program/Segment Title: News Story --Bears in the Air program to take off at South Bend International Airport

Broadcast Date: November 29, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a local fundraiser, this station aired a story about the 12th annual Bears in the Air program.

The 12th annual Bears in the Air program will take off this Friday night.

The South Bend International Airport is hosting the party for those 21 and older.

Guests will enjoy small plates, a free drink from the cash bar, music and door prizes, including airline tickets from multiple airlines.

The \$35 per person entry fee will provide a teddy bear to a child in an area hospital as well as assistance to the Veterans at the Robert L. Miller Sr. Veteran's Center.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Public Safety

Program/Segment Title: News Story – Nationwide emergency alert test messages sent out

Broadcast Date: October 4, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about an alert that may show up on their devices, this station aired a story about the nationwide emergency alert test sent out by the government.

You may hear an alarm or see a message pop up on your phone, TV screen, or other devices this afternoon.

A nationwide emergency alert test will take place around 2:20.

The purpose of the test is to help organizations ensure that they are prepared to update the public about emergencies.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Public Charity, Public Safety

Program/Segment Title: News Story – South Bend Alive grant program applications open

Broadcast Date: October 5, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about money available to keep youth safe from violence, this station aired a story about the South Bend Alive grant program.

Applications are now open for the South Bend Alive grant program.

It provides funding to South Bend organizations that work to keep area youth safe from violence.

This year's recipients will get up to \$25,000 toward its programming. Applications are open through October 27.

The City of South Bend will contact grant recipients by the last week of November.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Public Safety

Program/Segment Title: News Story – AG Rokita urges customers not to use recalled products

Broadcast Date: October 9, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public of recalls on items, this station aired a story about AG Todd Rokita's alerts, urging consumers not to use the products.

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita has issued alerts regarding several items that have been recalled.

Anyone who purchased the following items in September before the recall is urged to refrain from using them, check the product's recall notice, and contact the manufacturer.

Some examples include STIHL chainsaws, Honda lawnmowers and pressure washers, Generac Portable Generators and many more.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Political, Family/Childhood Well-being

Program/Segment Title: News Story – Pokagon Band of Potawatomi requests City of Niles to stop being called ‘Four Flags”

Broadcast Date: October 13, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a request for Niles to stop being called the “Four Flags,” this station aired a story about the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi’s statement that the name does not represent the city at all.

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi wants the City of Niles to stop using the “Four Flags” name.

The Band sent to a letter to the Niles City Council, upset that the Four Flags moniker doesn't represent them at all.

WSBT reports the letter states that “Those who invaded and claimed the land for themselves worked to erase the deep and rich cultures and contributions of the Indigenous People who cared for the land for thousands of years and who continue to enrich and contribute to the community.”

No word on whether the council will follow-through with their request.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Political/Election

Program/Segment Title: News Story – Mike Pence faces financial difficulties with campaign

Broadcast Date: October 17, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about Mike Pence's campaign, this station aired a story about his financial difficulties.

Mike Pence's presidential campaign is facing financial difficulties.

Pence has invested \$150,000 of his funds in the campaign.

Despite having \$1.2 million in cash reserves, the campaign is still over \$600,000 in debt.

With the next Republican primary less than a month away, and there's a question whether he'll qualify for the stage.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Health, Public Safety

Program/Segment Title: News Story – South Bend Medical Foundation looking for Type O blood donors

Broadcast Date: October 20, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public of a need for Type O blood, this station aired a story about the South Bend Medical Foundation's available appointments for donations.

The South Bend Medical Foundation is asking the public's help donating type O blood. The foundation also says there's an urgent need.

If you're interested in donating blood, you can sign up online or call to schedule an appointment.

You can also visit donor centers in South Bend on Douglas Road and in Goshen on Rieth Blvd.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Public Safety, Family/Childhood Well-Being

Program/Segment Title: News Story – Indiana one of 33 states suing Meta

Broadcast Date: October 25, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a lawsuit against social media companies, this station aired a story about Indiana being one of 33 states to participate in the suit against Meta.

Indiana is one of 33 states that's suing Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram.

The states involved in the suit say that Meta designs features to make it so that kids get addicted easily to their platforms and did so without trying to protect them from the toxic effects that addiction can cause their mental health.

Multiple states also sued TikTok for similar conduct.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Health

Program/Segment Title: News Story – Edwardsburg officials issue boil order

Broadcast Date: October 26, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about a health concern in Edwardsburg, this station issued a story about a residential boil order.

Officials in Edwardsburg are advising residents to boil their water for a few days.

The precautionary boil order was prompted by the construction of an iron removal plant.

There is no confirmed contamination, but safety measures are planned to reduce the risk. Edwardsburg residents should refrain from using tap water without first boiling it for any purpose.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Public Safety, Family/Childhood Well-Being, Economy

Program/Segment Title: News Story – Indiana awarded over \$790 thousand to stop domestic violence

Broadcast Date: October 30, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about funds committed to stop domestic violence, this station aired a story about Indiana being awarded \$790 thousand.

The U.S. Attorney's Office of the Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana have awarded the state of Indiana more than \$790-thousand dollars to bolster community responses aimed at stopping domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

They made the announcement as Domestic Violence Awareness Month comes to a close.

The latest stats show more than 40% of women and more than 25% of men experience some sort of violence through a partner.

Most Significant Issue Responsive Programming

Issues Addressed: Economy

Program/Segment Title: News Story -- I&M Power wants to increase monthly bills

Broadcast Date: October 31, 2023

Broadcast Time: 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m.

Duration: 1 minute/each story

Summary: To inform the public about an bill increase they may see, this station aired a story about the I&M Power price increase.

Indiana-Michigan Power wants to increase your monthly by nearly three dollars a month. The rates would go up again in 2025.

They say the increase would boost revenues by almost 7 percent.

The utility says they need the money for new grid technologies, resulting in fewer and shorter power outages.

State Regulators met with customers, last night, during a public hearing to talk about the increase.