

**Quarterly Issues Programs List for  
WHLS, Port Huron  
October 1<sup>st</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021**

**Section I Issues**

The station has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community in the fourth quarter of 2021:

- A. Growing local industry while cutting carbon emissions
- B. Coronavirus vaccination
- C. Helping local families in need
- D. Border crossing restrictions with Canada
- E. Deer harvest and hunting conditions
- F. Coronavirus pandemic's impact on local schools
- G. Changes at local parks and recreation facilities
- H. Road repairs and infrastructure funding
- I. Public safety and fire protection

**Section II Responsive Programs**

**A. Growing local industry while cutting carbon emissions**

**Name: Blue Water Beat**                      **Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Date: October 2-3, 2021**                      **Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

DTE Energy says they are on track to begin operations of their new gas-fired Blue Water Energy Center. Trevor Lauer is the President and COO of DTE Electric and says trials will begin in the coming weeks with the nearly 1200 megawatt plant expected to come online in 2022. The Blue Water Energy Center is expected to replace much of the generating of the neighboring coal-fired St. Clair Power Plant. DTE expects to cut carbon emissions 50% by 2028 and 80% by 2040.

**Name: Blue Water Beat**                      **Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Date: October 9-10, 2021**                      **Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

Michigan Sugar is wrapping up a multi-year capital improvement project at their Croswell factory. Jason Lowry is the Vice President of Operations for the grower owned cooperative and says the \$65 million capital investment will increase the capacity and efficiency of the nearly 120 year old Sanilac County fixture. A new lime kiln helped increase production by 50% and converting the plant's boilers to natural gas is helping to reduce Michigan Sugar's carbon footprint.

## **B. Coronavirus vaccination**

**Name: Blue Water Beat**                      **Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Date: October 16-17, 2021**                      **Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

The St. Clair County Health Department is encouraging the public to get their annual flu shot in addition to their COVID-19 vaccine. Dr. Annette Mercatante says last year with many wearing masks and practicing social distancing flu cases were very low. However she expects that not to be the case again this flu season. The St. Clair County Health Department and Teen Health locations throughout the county are offering the flu vaccination by appointment. To schedule a flu shot you can call the St. Clair County Health Department main office at 987-5300 or the teen health center 987-1311.

**Name: Blue Water Beat**                      **Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Date: November 20-21, 2021**                      **Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

COVID-19 cases are on the rise locally and the St. Clair County Health Department says now may be a good time for you to consider getting your COVID-19 booster shot. Dr. Annette Mercatante, the county's Medical Health Officer, says her office is now booking appointments for booster shots and the flu shot. To schedule an appointment you can visit [SCHealth.co](http://SCHealth.co). Mercatante recommends getting both the flu vaccine and booster shot simultaneously which will save time for both you and the health department.

**Name: Blue Water Beat**                      **Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Date: December 25-26, 2021**                      **Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

Cases of the coronavirus locally are starting to wane, that's according to the Chief Medical Officer at McLaren Port Huron Hospital. Dr. John Brooks says the hospital is easing up on some of their visitation restrictions due to a downward trend in new COVID-19 cases. That could change however, as we learn more about the new Omicron variant of the Coronavirus. The hospital had restricted visitation to patients who tested positive or were awaiting test results for COVID-19.

## **C. Helping local families in need**

**Name: Stuff the Bus**                      **Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Date: Nov. 8-Dec. 2, 2021**                      **Air Time: 12am-12pm ROS**

All Liggett Communications radio stations teamed up to help deliver some holiday cheer to local families in need. Our radio stations partnered with the Port Huron Area School District and transportation contractor First Student to help "Stuff a Bus" with holiday clothing and toys. Several drop off locations were placed at area school and governmental buildings and at participating local businesses. Promotional announcements aired across all five Liggett Communications stations between November 8th and December 2nd to solicit donations. On December 3rd, local radio personalities went to each donation site to gather up the donated items and deliver them to Kids in Distress Services in St. Clair with the help of a First Student bus. A total of 5,000 items were collected.

## **D. Border crossing restrictions with Canada**

**Name: Blue Water Beat**  
**Date: November 6-7, 2021**

**Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

US officials are getting ready to reopen the border with Canada to non-essential traffic starting Monday. Customs and Border Protection Agency Executive Director Matthew Davies spoke to the media earlier this week about the anticipated border reopening and shares a few reminders to those hoping to come to the United States at ports of entry such as the Blue Water Bridge. Vaccines will be required for those entering the United States and Director Davies says those hoping to enter the country should be prepared to present their proof of vaccination. The border with Canada has been closed for things such as tourism and leisure travel since March of 2020.

#### **E. Deer harvest and hunting conditions**

**Name: Blue Water Beat**  
**Date: November 13-14, 2021**

**Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

Monday November 15th marks the start of the firearms deer hunting season in Michigan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources projects 500,000 hunters to take to the woods and fields this year - down slightly from last year - which saw some of the highest hunting participation numbers in over a decade. One of the factors that may affect the deer harvest this year is the recent discovery of a disease called EHD among deer in lower Michigan including St. Clair County. Mike Avery is the host of the Outdoor Magazine Radio Show heard Saturdays and says the virus is spread by midge flies and is fatal.

#### **F. Coronavirus pandemic's impact on local schools**

**Name: Blue Water Beat**  
**Date: November 27-28, 2021**

**Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Air Time: 4 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

In what is being described as a "mental health day" the Port Huron Area School District will be giving students and staff a day off on December 10th. Superintendent Theo Kerhoulas says he and the board of education came to the realization that students and staff needed a break following a tour of all of the district's buildings. Also in November the Port Huron School board approved the purchase of a new communication platform. Kerhoulas says the new platform will make the district's website more phone-friendly and will also involve building a mobile application for the district.

#### **G. Changes at local parks and recreation facilities**

**Name: Blue Water Beat**  
**Date: October 23-24, 2021**

**Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

Marysville's Mayor says the demolition of one of the oldest structures in the city is likely following the purchase of a new building earlier this week. Mayor Wayne Pyden says he supports razing the 1912 built Carpenter and Cuttle family homestead that most recently housed the Marysville Historical Museum. Pyden says the cost to maintain the building has become unfeasible and that he would like the museum's contents to be incorporated into a new building that was purchased this week and is adjacent to Morton Park. Located at 502 Busha Highway, the house turned insurance agency is in much better shape, says Pyden. The agreement approved by council is for the city to purchase it for \$210,000 dollars.

**Name: Blue Water Beat**  
**Date: December 4-5, 2021**

**Run Time: 3 minutes**  
**Air Time: 6:05am, 7:05am, 8:05am**

The City of Marysville has completed its acquisition of another parcel of property adjacent to Morton Park. Located at 502 Busha Highway, the city closed on the house for \$210,000 in November. Marysville Mayor Wayne Pyden says the building could possibly be used for museum artifact displays as well as changing areas for the nearby SC4 soccer field. Pyden also announced a \$225,000 dollar project to rehab the seawall and stairs at Mermaid Park are nearly complete. The city received \$100,000 dollars from Enbridge Energy to help with the project. In addition to fixing the seawall and the steps, Pyden says there will be more work done this spring including landscaping and new park benches.

#### **H. Road repairs and infrastructure funding**

**Name: Blue Water Beat**  
**Date: December 11, 2021**

**Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

With the president signing a \$1.2 trillion bipartisan federal infrastructure bill, local road commissions are wondering just how much of that money they will see. About \$7.3 billion is slated to head to Michigan but it's unknown yet how much of that will end up being used to fix St. Clair County Roads, said Kirk Weston, managing director of the St. Clair County Road Commission. He is hoping to use part of that infrastructure bill to help improve traffic flow and safety along area roadways. Earlier in December, the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners approved a plan to spend an initial \$145,000 worth of federal COVID-19 relief funds to begin a study on the Marine City Highway/26 Mile Road corridor, something Weston says is much needed.

#### **I. Public safety and fire protection**

**Name: Blue Water Beat**  
**Date: December 18, 2021**

**Run Time: 1 minute**  
**Air Time: 8 times daily 12am-12pm ROS**

The City of Port Huron will be spending nearly a half million dollars for the design of a new central fire station. The proposal, from Partners in Architecture, would be the first step in moving the city's main fire station to a new location. Port Huron Fire Chief Corey Nicholson says two proposed sites were studied, with both proposals calling for a consolidation of the city's fire stations from three to two. The proposed new station would serve as a replacement for both the current Central Fire Station on River Street near SC4 and station number 4 on 24th Street. The \$472,000 bid was approved unanimously by Port Huron City Council. The estimated cost for the new central fire station, if the blueprints are approved by city council, could be between \$7-10 million dollars.

### **Section III Public Service Announcements**

**Name: Community Events**  
**Date: Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 2021**

**Run Time: 30 seconds**  
**Air Time: 12 times per day 12am-12pm ROS**

The Following Public Service Announcements aired on WHLS:

- Arts and crafts show to benefit the Knights of Columbus in Marysville October 16th
- Friends of the St. Clair River virtual presentation on water quality October 19th
- United Way of St. Clair County Fashion Show October 23rd at Port Huron Elk's Lodge.
- Council on Aging Senior Power day at Washington Life Center in Marine City October 29th
- Brown City Schools Country Christmas Craft Show November 6th
- Blue Water Audubon Society winter bird watching meeting November 8th at Goodells County Park.
- Family Connect Conference at Colonial Woods Missionary Church November 12th-13th
- Free gospel concert featuring the "Foresters" at First Baptist Church in Port Huron November 14th
- An old fashioned country Christmas at the Ruby Community Church to benefit Tires and Treads Community project Sunday November 28th
- Lake Huron tunnel explosion 50th year anniversary memorial Saturday December 11th
- Blankets with Care craft show at the Port Huron American Legion December 11th
- Free Christmas Concert featuring the Salvation Army band at the Yale United Methodist Church on Sunday December 19th
- Marysville Wills Ste. Clair Museum offering free admission to all Marysville Residents on Saturday December 12th
- New Horizons community band presenting a Christmas Concert Sunday December 19th at Lakeshore Presbyterian Church.
- Blue Water Immunization Partnership holiday Coronavirus vaccination message.