



Pittsfield, Massachusetts

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT

OCTOBER—NOVEMBER—DECEMBER
Q4 2022

Compiled by Shawn T. Serre and David Cachat

WTBR 89.7 FM

Pittsfield, Massachusetts

QUARTERLY ISSUES & PROGRAMS LIST

October 1—December 31, 2022

Note: WTBR-FM, Facility ID 52749, was granted a License to Cover Construction Permit BPED-20190701AAX on January 14, 2020. The Application for Renewal of License 0000166230 was granted on 04/26/2022 for a term expiring on 04/01/2030.

Section I. Issues

This station has identified the following issues as significant ones that are facing our community in this quarter:

- A. **LOCAL NEWS & POLITICS:** Local issues that arose during this quarter included an odorous resurfacing of gym floors at two high schools, continued debate about the health hazards of cell towers, the purchase of a parcel of land for preservation in the western area of town, and concerns over homelessness in the city. WTBR aired several programs featuring local officials to discuss these issues.
- B. **STATE ELECTION 2022:** While the most consequential election this cycle was the state primary election in September, there was a race for state senator and several ballot questions that were to be decided in the November election and which engaged listeners during this quarter.
- C. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORTATION, AND PLANNING:** Issues surrounding availability and affordability of housing, the expansion of a local manufacturing business, planning and prevention of opioid abuse, road and bridge repair, and preparing for the upcoming snow season were all in the news and on the minds of listeners this quarter.
- D. **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION:** Our community, much like many around the state and nation, continues to grapple with historic patterns of discrimination. We attempt to shine a light on and discuss many of these issues in our programming.
- E. **ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:** The fall season in the Berkshires is an important time, economically and for the culture of the community. Many of our arts and cultural organizations are busy with events and offerings which are of interest to our listeners.
- F. **WORLD AFFAIRS:** The ongoing conflict in Ukraine is of interest to local listeners. We attempt to bring some context to the story with local experts.

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Section II. Responsive Programs

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

A. LOCAL NEWS & POLITICS:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—Broadcast each weekday morning at 7:30 AM; Duration 60 minutes. This is a daily current affairs program produced by Bill Sturgeon. This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- October 31- Peter Marchetti, City Council President
- November 2 - Patsy Harris, Register of Deeds
- November 14 - Paul Mark, State Senator Elect
- November 18 - Peter White, City Council Vice-President (L)
- December 5 - Earl Persip, City Councilor
- December 12 - Paul Mark, State Senator Elect
- December 14 - Dina Guiel Lampiasi, City Councilor
- December 19 - Peter Marchetti, City Council President
- December 20 - Smitty Pignatelli, State Rep.
- December 21 - Mayor Linda Tyer

B. STATE ELECTION 2022:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- October 5 - Paul Mark, State Senate Candidate
- October 10 - Brendan Phair, State Senate Candidate
- October 12 - Anthony Amora, State Auditor Candidate
- October 24 - Ballot Question Program #1
- October 25 - Ballot Question Program #2
- November 9 - Sheriff Elect Thomas Bowler

C. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORTATION, AND PLANNING:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- October 6 - Allen Harris, Berkshire Money Management (L)
- October 7 - Carolyn Valli - Habitat for Humanity (L)
- October 13 - Andy Ottoson, Berkshire Regional Planning (L)
- October 27 - Dennis Rebelo, BIC (L)
- November 4 - Peter Stasiowski, Interprint (L)
- December 15 - Ricardo Morales, City of Pittsfield (L)

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D. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- October 14 - Tony Jackson, West Side Legends (L)
- December 1 - Shirley Edgerton, ROPE & WOCGC (L)
- December 7 - Sal Garozzo, UCP

Backstory – Let’s Hear It!—Broadcast each Friday morning at 10:00 AM; Duration 60 minutes. Hosted by Roberta McCulloch-Dews, this program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- October 14 - Lucie Castaldo, Executive Director of Berkshire Arts Center
- October 28 - Vanessa Slaughter
- November 11 - Jo Gunn, Barrington Stage Company
- November 25 - Tonya Frazier, Lead Community Navigator at Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity
- December 9 - Darren Derby, Pittsfield Police Officer

Mundo Latino—Spanish and English-language music and talk program hosted by Martha and Deisy Escobar, aired weekly on Friday afternoons 4:00-6:00 PM. Duration 120 minutes. This program aired on the following dates:

- October 7, October 14, October 21, October 28,
- November 4, November 11,
- December 2, December 9, December 23

NOMADAS Radio—Spanish-language talk program which tackles issues important to the Latino community, hosted by America Lopez. Duration 60 minutes. Aired weekly on Monday afternoons 5:00-6:00 PM. This program aired on the following dates:

- October 3, October 10, October 17, October 31,
- November 7, November 14, November 21,
- December 5, December 12, December 19

E. ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- October 4 - Dean Martelli
- October 17 - Allyn Burrows, Shakespeare & Co.

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- October 21 - Howard Herman, Berkshire Eagle Sports (L)
- November 30 - Sally Rice and other artists discuss upcoming art show
- December 2 - Mary Verdi, Xmas music & upcoming concert
- December 9 - Josh Cutler & Diane Chicoine, Eagles Band (L)
- December 23 - Andy Kelly & Santa singing xmas tunes
- December 26 - Kate Maguie & Kathie Jo Grover, Berkshire Theatre Group
- December 27 - Rev Tor, Local Musician

Cultural Pittsfield Radio Show—Broadcast each Friday morning at 8:30 AM; Duration 30 minutes. This is a weekly hosted by City of Pittsfield Cultural Development Director Jennifer Glockner and features a wide range of guests discussing the impact of culture and arts on the city. This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- October 14 - Comedian Tom Lewis, upcoming comedy shows
- October 21 - Rebecca Brien & Kimberly Gritman of Downtown Pittsfield Inc.
- October 28 - Andy Wrba talks music scene in Pittsfield
- November 11 - Jen talks about cultural events in November
- December 2 - Joanie and Shany from Clocktower Artists Group

COMMUNITY & NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- October 11 - Bryan House & Other, 18 Degrees
- October 20 - Chris MacBeth, Brien Center 100th Birthday (L)
- October 26 - Josh Cutler, Eagles Band
- November 1 - Brenda Petell & Other, United Way
- November 3 - Jane Winn, BEAT (L)
- November 10 - Thanksgiving Angels (L)
- November 16 - Mollie Hartford, It Takes A Village
- November 21 - Jenny Herzog & Patrie Saldo, Suicide Prevention

F. WORLD AFFAIRS:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- December 8 - Jim Brooke & John Dickson, Ukraine Conflict (L)

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Section III. Additional Programs Aired This Quarter

This station airs additional programming which doesn't always deal with issues of urgency, but may still be viewed as being in service to the community. This section also includes ongoing and regular efforts to address issues in the community. Here is a summary of those programs aired:

G. LAW ENFORCEMENT & PUBLIC SAFETY:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people:

- October 3 - Andrea Harrington, Berkshire County District Attorney
- December 13 - Brian Andrews & Dr. Chris Barsonti, ER Medicine
- December 16 - Chief Michael Wynn, announcement of his retirement

On Patrol with the PPD – WTBR-FM features a regular weekly program on Fridays from 9-10 AM, produced by the Pittsfield Police Department, entitled “On Patrol with the PPD.” Duration 60 minutes. The program discusses incidents and police response in the community. Programs aired this period include:

- October 21 - Recent PPD Developments
- October 28 - Meet the MSPCA Law Enforcement Officer
- November 18 - Chief Derksen of Lanesboro
- November 25 - Jiu-Jitsu Instructors and training police officers
- December 2 - Meeting Chief O'Brien of Lenox
- December 9 - Newest officer Caleb Cimini

H. EDUCATION:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people

- November 15 - Cara Maiorano-Culver, Principal St. Mary's School
- December 6 - Matt Bishop & Tammy Gage, Taconic becoming Voc/Tech
- December 22 - Taconic Chorus (L)

I. FAITH, SPIRITUALITY & RELIGION:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people

- November 23 - Bishop Byrne

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J. VETERANS' ISSUES:

Morning Drive with Bill Sturgeon—This program featured interviews on this topic with the following people

- October 18 - Curtis Jane, Former Marine
- October 28 - Wayne Soares, Vietnam Veterans Issues
- November 11 - Jim Clark, Pittsfield Veterans Agent & Veterans Day

K. ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Berkshire Jazz—An educational two-hour program hosted by Phil Tierney from the Berkshires Jazz organization, featuring the original American musical genre. Aired weekly on Saturday evenings, 7:00-9:00 PM:

- October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
- November 5, 12, 19, 26
- December 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

The program descriptions listed above represent a portion of the informational programming provided during the quarter. In addition, the station produces and broadcasts local and national Public Service Announcements free of charge throughout the broadcast day.

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