

Quarterly Issues & Programs Report

WMEZ (FM)
Pensacola, FL

For Quarter Beginning October 1, 2023

Attached are descriptions of issue-responsive programming broadcast by this station during the reporting period.

The listed programs aired on the station during the reporting period on the days and times indicated. Each program regularly provides information or addresses current local issues of concern to listeners in the area where the station is located.

LOCAL ISSUES ADDRESSED DURING THE QUARTER

The following are local issues of concern to the community. Programs that addressed these issues during this reporting period are listed on the following pages.

Local Issue/Concern	Brief description of local issue or concern
Social Issues	Public discourse, equality, and community action and activism, women's issues, environment, psychology
Health & Education	Public health concerns and educational information about physical health and mental health, technology
Crime & Safety	Crime, violence, police action, safety education, cyber
Military/Government Issues	Military, veterans, government affairs, history

PROGRAMS THAT ADDRESS LOCAL ISSUES

The following programs that aired during the relevant reporting period regularly address local issues and concerns in the station's city of license and within its service area. Specific episodes and segments of these programs and the issues they addressed are listed on the following pages.

Program Name	Schedule (Day/Time)	Brief Generic Description (Note whether local, syndicated or network)
Viewpoints	Sundays, 6am	30-minute syndicated program addressing multiple issues in our community and providing additional information and resources

ISSUE-RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMING

Local Issue: Social Issues

Program	Date	Time	Duration	Description
Viewpoints	10/1/23	6am	6:41	<p>Synopsis: Each year, we throw away the equivalent of 130 billion meals. This wasted food could feed hundreds of millions of people and negatively impacts the environment both from its production and then the methane it releases once in a landfill. We cover the ongoing food waste crisis in America and hear from one tech platform that's helping to connect hungry people to food that would otherwise be tossed into a trash bin.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Sarah Soteroff, North American spokesperson, Too Good to Go.</p>
Viewpoints	10/1/23	6am	1:59	<p>Synopsis: If we spend effort recycling items, it's logical to assume that most of these bottles, cartons and boxes will be recycled and reused. However, for plastic, this is rarely the case. We talk about the plastic crisis and why it's important to cut down on the plastic you use in your daily life.</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>
Viewpoints	10/15/23	6am	8:33	<p>Synopsis: Spiders and bats are some of the most common symbols of Halloween spookiness. We speak with two experts to get the truth behind these traditionally scary creatures and hear why neither of them are nearly as scary as we think.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guests: Nancy Troyano, entomologist, director of technical education & training, Rentokil North America; Merlin Tuttle, ecologist, wildlife photographer, conservationist, author of the book, <i>The Secret Lives of Bats: My Adventure with the World's Most Misunderstood Mammals</i>.</p>

Viewpoints	11/12/23	6am	8:42	<p>Synopsis: Almost 50,000 American employees - a third of the total workforce between GM, Ford and Stellantis - walked off the job and went on strike for six weeks earlier this fall. This coordinated effort marks the first time that employees walked out on all three companies at once. We discuss why this massive strike was a long-time coming and how this recent walk-off is a sign of an ever-growing labor activism movement in the U.S.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Grace Galante & Amirah Zaveri. Guests: Lane Windham, labor historian, Georgetown University; Kate Bronfenbrenner, senior lecturer, director, Labor Education Research, Cornell University.</p>
Viewpoints	11/26/23	6am	9:25	<p>Synopsis: Go back several decades and the items we eat today tasted a lot different. Viewpoints speaks with two food experts about the evolution of ingredients and how listeners cooking for the holidays can incorporate some of these older, more traditional recipes onto their tables.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Tabor Brewster. Guests: David Shields, food historian, professor, English Language and Literature, University of South Carolina; Adrian Miller, food writer, "Soul Food Scholar".</p>
Viewpoints	12/3/23	6am	7:41	<p>Synopsis: Last year, revenue in publishing exceeded 28 billion dollars. But - the reality is that just a handful of giant publishers hold much of the power in this sector. We cover how publishing has changed over the last 50 years and how this affects what books you see and read.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Dan Sinykin, assistant professor, English, Emory University, author, <i>Big Fiction: How Conglomeration Changed the Publishing Industry and American Literature</i>.</p>

Viewpoints	12/10/23	6am	8:22	<p>Synopsis: Most Americans are well acquainted with the story of Amelia Earhart, but few have heard the story of Bessie Coleman - a courageous African American female pilot - who received her pilot's license two years before Earhart took to the skies. This week - we cover the story of Coleman and the many barriers she faced as an African American woman in the early 1900's determined to make a name for herself as a pioneer in performance stunt flying.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Tanya Hart, Flying Free Films, host & producer, Hollywood Live with Tanya Hart.</p>
Viewpoints	12/10/23	6am	8:55	<p>Synopsis: People will soon be celebrating the start of 2024, and many will be resolving to change something in their lives – the ubiquitous “New Year’s Resolution.” Maybe you’ve set a resolution to think more positively next year or gain a greater balance between work and life. We talk to a behavior specialist and coach about how bad habits are created and why. She also gives us some ways to help give those resolutions some staying power for the year ahead.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Pat Reuter. Guest: M.J. Ryan, expert, change & human fulfillment, author, <i>Habit Changers: 81 Game Changing Mantras to Mindfully Realize Your Goals</i>.</p>
Viewpoints	12/31/23	6am	8:15	<p>Synopsis: There’s something special about dinosaurs. These majestic creatures walked the Earth for more than 165 million years. Compare this to the span of humans who’ve only been around for five to seven million years so far. There’s no doubt that dinosaurs left their mark. Some scientists even wonder – would they still be around today if the asteroid never collided with Earth? We answer this question and more this week on Viewpoints.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Michael Benton, professor, vertebrate paleontology, University of Bristol – England.</p>

Local Issue: Health & Education

Program	Date	Time	Duration	Description
Viewpoints	10/1/23	6am	10:31	<p>Synopsis: Millions of kids are failing to meet reading comprehension standards. With so many young people falling through the cracks, we look at what's broken within the current curriculum and how new research on reading education can lead to some improvements. Education expert Natalie Wexler joins us to share important insights and what parents can also do at home to bolster these skills.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Natalie Wexler, education expert, author, <i>The Knowledge Gap: The Hidden Cause of America's Broken Education System - And How to Fix It</i>.</p>
Viewpoints	10/8/23	6am	7:00	<p>Synopsis: Deborah Kasdan's sister, Rachel, had a bright future ahead of her. She was a natural creative, a talented student and loved to travel and meet new people. However, this future dimmed when Rachel was diagnosed with schizophrenia during her mid-twenties. The diagnosis forever impacted both Rachel and the family. She sadly passed away at age 59, but Deborah Kasdan joins us this week to share her sister's story and the wide-ranging toll of mental illness.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Deborah Kasdan, writer, author, <i>Roll Back the World: A Sister's Memoir</i>.</p>

Viewpoints	10/23/23	6am	9:12	<p>Synopsis: Even before the pandemic hit, more than half of U.S. adults responded that they struggle with feelings of loneliness and isolation. Fast forward four years and this problem has only grown worse. Millions of children, teens and adults feel completely disconnected from their neighbors, towns, and local organizations. We talk about what's fueled this decline in recent decades and how listeners can take steps to start forming new connections where they live.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Seth D. Kaplan, lecturer, Johns Hopkins University, senior advisor, Institute for Integrated Transitions, author, <i>Fragile Neighborhoods: Repairing American Society, One Zip Code at a Time</i>.</p>
Viewpoints	10/23/23	6am	8:13	<p>Synopsis: Is there a right or wrong way to grieve the loss of someone you love? We speak with two adults who've dealt with the loss of a spouse to get a better sense of the grieving process and what people do & don't need to hear during this difficult time.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Grace Galante. Guests: Megan Devine, psychotherapist. Michael Korda, former editor-in-chief, Simon & Schuster, author, <i>Passing: A Memoir of Love and Death</i>.</p>
Viewpoints	10/23/23	6am	2:12	<p>Synopsis: The American Academy of Pediatrics has an updated set of guidelines urging pediatricians to take a more proactive and stringent approach on young patients struggling with obesity. We highlight some of these updated policies and the lasting effects of early childhood obesity.</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>

Viewpoints	11/5/23	6am	7:16	<p>Synopsis: The Cleveland Clinic estimates that about 1 in 3 Americans struggle with sleep. The problems are wide-ranging, including trouble falling or staying asleep or just not feeling rested each morning. We speak with sleep expert, Dr. Aric Prather about what the latest research shows us is the best way to improve sleep. In many cases, these recommendations are focused on setting good habits, retraining the brain, and checking off some items that can help aid slumber in the bedroom.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Dr. Aric Prather, psychologist, director, Behavioral Sleep Medicine Research Program, University of California, San Francisco.</p>
Viewpoints	11/12/23	6am	8:34	<p>Synopsis: Experts estimate that about 10 million Americans deal with seasonal affective disorder, or SAD, each year. Interestingly, women are four times more likely to be diagnosed than men. And this number is also thought to be higher than reported since many adults go undiagnosed. We cover just how much SAD (and lesser variations like the winter blues) can affect your life during the colder, gloomier winter months and how some easy lifestyle changes can help ease symptoms each year.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guests: Carrie Ditzel, clinical psychologist, Baker Street Behavioral Health.</p>
Viewpoints	11/19/23	6am	8:26	<p>Synopsis: Running clubs have exploded in recent years thanks to the pandemic. And there's a different running club for everyone. You don't have to be fast or extremely athletic to take part these days. We speak with two members of different running clubs about the benefits of being in this kind of group and how listeners can easily get involved.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Polly Hansen. Guests: Beth McHugh, runner, member, 261 New England Run Club; Billy Heatherly, runner, member, Fleet Feet Club, Asheville, North Carolina.</p>

Viewpoints	11/19/23	6am	8:55	<p>Synopsis: It's an intriguing slab of rock, but why was finding and decoding the Rosetta Stone so important to scholars? In short, it's the key to unlocking the unique Egyptian language of illustrated text referred to as hieroglyphs. We speak with Edward Dolnick, author of <i>The Writing of the Gods: The Race to Decode the Rosetta Stone</i>, about the monumental impact of this discovery.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Polly Hansen. Guest: Edward Dolnick, writer, author, <i>The Writing of the Gods: The Race to Decode the Rosetta Stone</i>.</p>
Viewpoints	11/26/23	6am	7:31	<p>Synopsis: As pet owners, many of us are guilty of sometimes treating our furry friends with too many treats - especially during the holidays. We speak with Dr. Carol Osborne, an integrative veterinarian, to get some insightful tips on what foods owners should avoid feeding their pets this holiday season and how you can maintain and best care for the health of your pet.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Dr. Carol Osborne, integrative veterinarian, owner, Chagrin Falls Veterinary Center & Pet Clinic.</p>
Viewpoints	12/3/23	6am	10:00	<p>Synopsis: Of the 24 million Americans with autoimmune diseases, about 80 percent are women. A 2020 paper in the American Journal of Nursing estimates that nearly 90 percent of women ages use contraception – which may worsen a preexisting disease. Our experts breakdown this research and why more research is needed in this case.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Reed Pence. Guests: Dr. Lisa Sammaritano, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College; Dr. Kristen Demoruelle, Rheumatologist, Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine; Kristy Griffin, patient</p>

Viewpoints	12/17/23	6am	7:51	<p>Synopsis: Shannon Miller holds many titles. Former Olympic gymnast. Seven-time Olympic medalist. Mother. Wife. But she also has another, unexpected title: ovarian cancer survivor. Miller joins Viewpoints this week to share her experience and perspective after she was diagnosed with cancer at just 33 years old. She hopes her story - and the challenges she went through - will help raise awareness around the importance of keeping up to date on medical checkups and screenings as you age.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Shannon Miller, former American gymnast, seven-time Olympic medalist, cancer advocate & ovarian cancer survivor.</p>
Viewpoints	12/24/23	6am	9:33	<p>Synopsis: More than 28 million people, ages 18 and older, reported an alcohol use disorder in 2022, according to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health – a large-scale report overseen by the National Institutes of Health. This equates to about 11 percent of the overall American population who have an impaired ability to stop or control their drinking despite its negative effects. Alcohol use disorder can range from a mild dependence to a severe addiction. For author Annie Grace, it took decades to find a way forward without drinking daily. This week - she opens about her past alcoholism and what finally helped her break the cycle.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Annie Grace, author, <i>This Naked Mind: Control Alcohol, Find Freedom, Discover Happiness, and Change Your Life</i>.</p>
Viewpoints	12/31/23	6am	9:04	<p>Synopsis: One in twelve children will lose a parent or sibling by the time they reach age 18. Experiencing grief of this kind is unbearable at any age, but in children it can present differently and may require more of a tailored approach. We speak with child therapist Natasha Daniels to get a better understanding of this emotion and how there can be different variations of grief depending on the severity of the life event.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guest: Natasha Daniels, child therapist, author, <i>The Grief Rock: A Book to Understand Grief and Love</i>.</p>

Local Issue: Crime and Safety

Program	Date	Time	Duration	Description
Viewpoints	11/5/23	6am	2:07	<p>Synopsis: Last year, Americans lost almost nine billion dollars to scams. This is a 30 percent increase from 2021. We discuss what's one of the fastest growing frauds out there and why thousands of people each day are getting tricked.</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>
Viewpoints	11/19/23	6am	1:30	<p>Synopsis: We cover the recent conviction of FTX founder & former CEO, Sam Bankman-Fried. Will people build up trust in cryptocurrency again?</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>
Viewpoints	11/26/23	6am	1:47	<p>Synopsis: Some of the biggest names in the literary world are now suing the creator of Chat GPT, Open AI. We cover the unfolding lawsuit, what the authors are demanding and what this means for artificial intelligence moving forward.</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>
Viewpoints	12/10/23	6am	1:39	<p>Synopsis: So much focus has been placed recently on the importance of rehabilitation while incarcerated. Yet, the meals served to inmates are often rotten, lacking in nutrients and not enough to sustain them throughout the day. Why aren't U.S. prison systems - which receive billions of dollars in public funding each year - doing better?</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>

Viewpoints	12/24/23	6am	2:00	<p>Synopsis: Last year, Alabama prison officials failed to execute Kenneth Eugene Smith via lethal injection. After more than four hours of prodding and poking him, they gave up on finding a viable vein. Smith has been on death row since 1990 and his next scheduled execution is late next month. But now, he's opting for a new method that's never been tested before in this setting.</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>
Viewpoints	12/24/23	6am	8:04	<p>Synopsis: It's been nearly three years since the attack on the U.S. Capitol. The January 6 insurrection marks the biggest assault on American democracy and the peaceful transfer of power since the Civil War. We speak with former Capitol Hill police sergeant Aquillino Gonell about the violence he witnessed that day and how this traumatic experience has shaped his life and perspective.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Polly Hansen. Guest: Aquillino Gonell, former police sergeant, Capitol Hill Police, former U.S. Army sergeant, author, <i>American Shield: The Immigrant Sergeant Who Defended Democracy</i>.</p>

Local Issue: Military, Economy/Financial and Government Issues

Program	Date	Time	Duration	Description
Viewpoints	10/8/23	6am	10:08	<p>Synopsis: In 2006, Filipino immigrant Elizabeth Keathley mistakenly registered to vote while at the Illinois Department of Motor Vehicles. Keathley and her former lawyer, Richard Hanus, join us this week to share the stressful, years-long legal battle that almost led to her being deported back to the Philippines.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guests: Richard Hanus, immigration attorney, The Law Offices of Richard Hanus; Elizabeth Keathley, immigrant.</p>

Viewpoints	10/15/23	6am	8:48	<p>Synopsis: Have you seen an advertisement or commercial for the group, FIRE? The acronym stands for the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression, but even after watching an ad, it can still be confusing to grasp what exactly this organization truly stands for. As the presidential cycle heats up, this kind of messaging is only going to grow more common over the next year, so we wanted to uncover what exactly FIRE stands for and why some people have mixed feelings on the nonpartisan nonprofit.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Grace Galante. Guests: Nico Perrino, executive vice president, FIRE; Steve Macek, professor, communication & media studies, North Central College.</p>
Viewpoints	10/15/23	6am	1:45	<p>Synopsis: Over the last year, hundreds of thousands of migrants seeking asylum have made their way into the U.S. and have been bussed to sanctuary cities across the country. We cover how this large influx is leading to chaos and mass frustration among residents and leaders.</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>
Viewpoints	10/29/23	6am	9:24	<p>Synopsis: Americans are struggling to bear the extremely large price tag of early childhood care. In some big cities, parents are paying upwards of \$30,000 per year, per child, for this service. We speak with mother, Christina Kuhn, who lives in Michigan about how high childcare costs are impacting her day-to-day and talk to childcare policy expert, Patricia Cole, about what needs to change to better support families and create an environment that encourages raising healthy children.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Producer: Amirah Zaveri. Guests: Patricia Cole, Senior Director of Federal Policy, Zero to Three; Christina Kuhn, mother.</p>
Viewpoints	10/29/23	6am	1:59	<p>Synopsis: The Amazon rainforest is in peril. After several decades of deforestation, the massive forest - home to millions of animal and insect species, trees and people - is now facing another critical challenge.</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>

Viewpoints	11/5/23	6am	10:30	<p>Synopsis: There seems to be a lot of narratives, conspiracy theories and research funneling into if aliens really do exist. We speak with two experts about how the scientific community approaches this field of study and some of the challenges that come with working within this space.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Tabor Brewster. Guests: Paula Bontempi, dean, Graduate School, Oceanography, University of Rhode Island; Nathalie Cabrol, chief scientist, Carl Sagan Center for Research at the SETI Institute.</p>
Viewpoints	11/12/23	6am	1:59	<p>Synopsis: Chicago has received more than 20,000 migrants over the last 14 months. And it's not alone. New York City, Washington D.C, Los Angeles and other areas are all dealing with an influx of several thousands of migrants from Central America. As temperatures drop and winter sets in, tensions are beginning to boil over as this crisis reaches new heights.</p> <p>Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri</p>
Viewpoints	12/17/23	6am	9:58	<p>Synopsis: With the 2024 presidential election right around the corner, it's a good time to discuss a growing and debated trend in America: increasingly older politicians. Two former opponents - President Joe Biden, age 81, and Former President Trump, age 77 - are again throwing their hat into the 2024 race, but many Americans have concerns about the competency of these older candidates and other members of the Senate and Congress. We speak with two experts about both sides of the argument and how the political landscape would change if stricter term limits were put in place.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Producer: Grace Galante Guests: Nick Tomboulides, executive director, nonprofit, U.S. Term Limits; Casey Burgat, Legislative Affairs Program Director, George Washington University.</p>

Viewpoints	12/17/23	6am	1:43	Synopsis: We cover what's driving the U.S. housing market to experience a dip and why some markets are faring worse than others. Host: Ebony McMorris. Producer: Amirah Zaveri
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