

Issues Programs List

Quarterly Issues Programs List

WPDH, WPDA, WCZX, WEOK, WKXP, WZAD, WRRV, WRRB

July 1st, 2023 through September 30th, 2023

Section I. Issues

The stations have identified the following topics as significant issues facing our community in this quarter:

- **Community Awareness:** The Hudson Valley community is filled with individuals and organizations who set out to improve the quality of life of everyone each day. The problem is, not many people are aware they exist. This quarter we spoke with organizations that are available to the community to offer support in various fields. Different groups discussed their purpose in the community, their upcoming events, and how they strive to better the lives of the community around them through their events and missions.
- **Health Awareness:** September was Suicide Prevention Month. We focused on organizations that are working in the community to create awareness when it comes to health issues. Mental health was a major talking point with the organizations we spoke to this quarter. We covered a grand survey of mental health-related topics ranging from substance abuse, mental illness, burnout, and more. Besides mental health, we discuss physical impairments and the difficulties it can cause an individual and their loved ones. The organizations we spoke with dove into how they are spreading awareness, breaking down stigmas, and making conversations easier.
- **Local Economy:** This quarter, we spoke to small businesses who are using their platforms to educate their community through philanthropic deeds. We also focused on the importance of tourism in the area as the weather turns cool and crisp for the fall – the fall being the Hudson Valley’s prettiest and busiest season. We talked about programs that encouraged the public to get involved and become local leaders.
- **Arts & Education:** The Hudson Valley has a very strong cultural base that includes Arts and Entertainment. It factors into a lot of areas in the region, including economic and community wellness. While the writers and actors’ strikes are going on, we highlight the importance of arts and media in our community, and what the average Hudson Valley resident can do to support their beloved creators. Various groups are also using the arts to convey shared emotions within the community, along with educating and uniting people using storytelling and presentation.
- **Legislation:** This quarter, we look to the future. We speak with experts in their fields on how recent bills and legal cases will impact the lives of the Hudson Valley for years to come. Many things have been altered in a post-pandemic world, and we discuss the dark precedent that COVID has left on the fields of healthcare, insurance, law, nutrition, food service, and more.

Section II. Responsive Programs

“In Touch” is a locally produced public affairs program that runs on all eight Poughkeepsie stations.

The program airs every Sunday on WPDH, WPDA, WKXP and WEOK at 6am, WRRV and WRRB at 6:30am, and WCZX and WZAD at 11pm

Date(s) Aired	Description of Issue Discussed	Duration
7/2/2023	<p>Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Health Awareness, Mental Health, Community Resources: Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed the goal of Coordinated Behavioral Health Services, which is to work with counties throughout the Hudson Valley to address mental and behavioral health treatment. Senior Vice President of Rehabilitation Services with MHA of Westchester Ruthanne Becker breaks down many of those services, and how people all throughout the Hudson Valley can find these resources.</p> <p>Ruthanne Becker, CBHS</p>	28:04
7/9/2023	<p>Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Community Awareness, Youth Issues, Substance Abuse: Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed the role AWARENESS Inc has in the teen and young adult community. AWARENESS started as a Mentoring Program as a result of an underage drinking party. The program was started to change the culture of substance use for future generations. Conor speaks with several members of AWARENESS, from its founder Marie Shultis, to youth leaders and individuals who managed to work through their challenges with substance use.</p> <p>AWARENESS Inc</p>	29:23
7/16/2023	<p>Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Arts & Education, Mentoring, Community Resources: Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed what it means to be a role model. Chief Master Gerald Dunn talks about the leadership and character-building skills that martial arts offers its students, along with how Karate 4 Excellence can be a great outlet to strengthen the family dynamic.</p> <p>Chief Master Gerald Dunn, Karate 4 Excellence</p>	26:11
7/23/2023	<p>Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Arts & Education: Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed how the Hudson Valley is a focal point for the future of stage and film. Artistic Director of New York Stage and Film Liz Carlson talks about their 2023 Season, their latest partnership</p>	28:40

	with Marist College, and the recent climate surrounding stage and film during the ongoing writers' strike. Liz Carlson, New York Stage and Film	
7/29/2023	Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Health Awareness, Hearing Impairment : Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed the difficulties of hearing loss for both an individual and for the family unit. Niki Halwani dives into her children's book "Peyton's Magical Hearing Aid." The book was inspired by Niki's daughter's experience in school, and we discuss how the book has not only changed their lives but the lives of other families who deal with hearing impairments. Niki Halwani, "Peyton's Magical Hearing Aid"	21:34
8/6/2023	Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Health Awareness, Mental Health, Suicide : Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed suicide prevention and mental illness. The mission of the James's Warriors not for profit organization is to provide a resource to those affected by suicide through public awareness and education. Donna Thomas, founder, goes into the loss of her son, and how her grief has turned into an outlet to save lives. Donna Thomas, James's Warriors	27:38
8/13/2023	Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Local Economy, Education, Financial Aid : Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed how the Stahl Family Scholarship Program is aimed to help schools and small businesses grow through the Dream Shop Scholarship. We also spoke with Nora Callahan from Pine Bush High School, and Anita Kiewra from Hudson River Housing Made, representatives of two Hudson Valley scholarship recipients. We learned how each organization is utilizing the new funds to drive business and promote workforce education in their communities. Stahl Family Scholarship	30:01
8/20/2023	Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Arts & Education, Agriculture, Community : Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed the Hudson Valley's musical history, and how it continues to inspire musicians to this day. Founder of Modrocker Productions, Daniel Leslie and folk singer/songwriter Chris Smither from the Meadowlark Music Festival talk about their roles in this year's festival, how the music impacts the community, and how the festival was to also benefit local farmers. Daniel Leslie & Chris Smither, Meadowlark Festival	26:10
8/27/2023	Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Local Economy, Tourism . Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed exceptional array events and commerce to take	27:07

	<p>part in this fall in Dutchess County. Melaine Rottkamp, President and CEO of Dutchess Tourism returned to In Touch to fill us in on all the great festivals and activities happening this fall in Dutchess County! Not just that, but we also discuss their upcoming 2023 Awards of Distinction, along with their latest award recognition for the 2023 Tourism Excellence Awards from New York State Tourism Industry Association.</p> <p>Melaine Rottkamp, Dutchess Tourism</p>	
9/3/2023	<p>Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Health Awareness, Mental Health, Suicide, Bullying: Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed anti-bullying and how people can become an upstander by looking out for those around them. Jennifer Young and Heather Pinnieri go into the importance of Suicide Prevention Month, and how they use arts and other peer programs to shine a light on mental health.</p> <p>Jennifer Young & Heather Pinnieri, Be a Friend Project</p>	27:49
9/10/2023	<p>Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Legislation, Healthcare System, First Responders: Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed the importance of our first responders in a post-pandemic world, and the dark precedent that COVID has left on the fields of healthcare, insurance, law, and more. Jeff Feldman highlights a 3-year-long worker's compensation case where his firm represented a family who lost their husband/father to COVID while he was an ambulance driver. We discuss the precedent that this case may set as similar cases arise stemming from the pandemic.</p> <p>Jeff Feldman, FKCS LLP</p>	28:21
9/17/2023	<p>Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Community Awareness, Health: Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed the importance of getting screened for Cancer. Kristi Greco discusses the significance of September and October in the ACS Calendar along with upcoming events/initiatives such as their Plane Pull, Men Wear Pink Program, and Making Strides at Woodbury Commons.</p> <p>Kristi Greco, American Cancer Society</p>	27:11
9/24/2023	<p>Our locally-produced public affairs program discussed Legislation, Hunger, Food Insecurity, Nutrition. Conor Walsh hosted the show which discussed the Farm Bill's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - formally known as food stamps. Together, we go into the stigma's around SNAP and crucial nutritional gaps that need attention in order to enhance the nutritional offerings for all Americans.</p> <p>Carolina Schneider, Farm Bill</p>	27:56

