

The following is a summary of Issues/Programs as presented on WBYA, Islesboro, ME

From May 8-May 26th, this station embarked on the Operation Help Our Heroes campaign to raise awareness for and benefit House in the Woods, a non-profit organization based in Maine that offers rest, respite and outdoor opportunities such as hunting, fishing, canoeing and hiking. The mental health of those that served, often in combat roles, is a serious issue, with the oft-cited statistic that 22 veterans commit suicide every day in the United States. House in the Woods gives veterans, active duty military and Gold Star families an opportunity to connect and be in nature, converse, and heal. Feedback from some participants say it was life-affirming and sometimes, life-saving. Every weekday morning featured a testimonial story from a veteran or House in the Woods participant on the impact the experience had for them.

The following topics/issues were addressed via the weekly “Community Connections” program in the second quarter of 2023.

“Community Connections” is a weekly, 30 minute community affairs program spotlighting organizations and individuals in Maine who address issues affecting citizens, work to improve the quality of life in Maine, and deal with human interest topics across many disciplines. Here is a rundown of the program contents for Q2:

Show: Community Connections Airdate 4/2/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Tom Judge, Executive Director, Life Flight of Maine

Topic: We get to know the inner workings of Maine’s medical flight organization, Life Flight of Maine. We discuss basic operations, how operations are funded, how Life Flight has adapted in the COVID years, and how landowners play a key role in Life Flight response ability in some of Maine’s most rural sections.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 4/9/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Ashley Barker, Executive Director, The Progress Center

Topic: The Progress Center has been serving members of the community with intellectual and emotional disabilities in the greater Oxford County area and beyond since 1980. We discuss some of the programs the center offers, some of the challenges of staffing and

finding volunteers for certain programs, and a number of residential options for citizens who qualify.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 4/16/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jean Sideris, Executive Director, Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Topic: We discuss the work of Bicycle Coalition of Maine, an organization that promotes bicycling via educational programs, advocacy and through special community events. We discuss how the organization brings community members together to advocate for safer bicycle infrastructure, and how infrastructure has improved in recent years. We also discuss programs that help people of all ages learn to ride bicycles, especially in an urban commuting setting, and resources for acquiring equipment at low cost.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 4/23/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jenn McAdoo, Executive Director, Furniture Friends

Topic: We discuss the work of Furniture Friends, who helps financially disadvantaged people furnish their living spaces with furniture. Many of the organization's beneficiaries are folks with intellectual disabilities, people escaping domestic violence situations, people coming out of homelessness, and persons seeking asylum in the United States. We discuss how to look for help, and the strong need for volunteers to continue the mission. We also discuss how individuals, businesses and institutions can donate furniture.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 5/7/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Tom Judge, Executive Director, Life Flight of Maine

Topic: We get to know the inner workings of Maine's medical flight organization, Life Flight of Maine. We discuss basic operations, how operations are funded, how Life Flight has adapted in the COVID years, and how landowners play a key role in Life Flight response ability in some of Maine's most rural sections.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 5/14/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Ashley Barker, Executive Director, The Progress Center

Topic: The Progress Center has been serving members of the community with

intellectual and emotional disabilities in the greater Oxford County area and beyond since 1980. We discuss some of the programs the center offers, some of the challenges of staffing and finding volunteers for certain programs, and a number of residential options for citizens who qualify.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 5/21/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jean Sideris, Executive Director, Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Topic: We discuss the work of Bicycle Coalition of Maine, an organization that promotes bicycling via educational programs, advocacy and through special community events. We discuss how the organization brings community members together to advocate for safer bicycle infrastructure, and how infrastructure has improved in recent years. We also discuss programs that help people of all ages learn to ride bicycles, especially in an urban commuting setting, and resources for acquiring equipment at low cost.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 5/28/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jenn McAdoo, Executive Director, Furniture Friends

Topic: We discuss the work of Furniture Friends, who helps financially disadvantaged people furnish their living spaces with furniture. Many of the organization's beneficiaries are folks with intellectual disabilities, people escaping domestic violence situations, people coming out of homelessness, and persons seeking asylum in the United States. We discuss how to look for help, and the strong need for volunteers to continue the mission. We also discuss how individuals, businesses and institutions can donate furniture.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 6/4/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Ashley Barker, Executive Director, The Progress Center

Topic: The Progress Center has been serving members of the community with intellectual and emotional disabilities in the greater Oxford County area and beyond since 1980. We discuss some of the programs the center offers, some of the challenges of staffing and finding volunteers for certain programs, and a number of residential options for citizens who qualify.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 6/11/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jean Sideris, Executive Director, Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Topic: We discuss the work of Bicycle Coalition of Maine, an organization that promotes bicycling via educational programs, advocacy and through special community events. We discuss how the organization brings community members together to advocate for safer bicycle infrastructure, and how infrastructure has improved in recent years. We also discuss programs that help people of all ages learn to ride bicycles, especially in an urban commuting setting, and resources for acquiring equipment at low cost.

Show: Community Connections

Airdate 6/18/23

Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Tom Judge, Executive Director, Life Flight of Maine

Topic: We get to know the inner workings of Maine's medical flight organization, Life Flight of Maine. We discuss basic operations, how operations are funded, how Life Flight has adapted in the COVID years, and how landowners play a key role in Life Flight response ability in some of Maine's most rural sections.

Show: Community Connections

Airdate 6/25/23

Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jenn McAdoo, Executive Director, Furniture Friends

Topic: We discuss the work of Furniture Friends, who helps financially disadvantaged people furnish their living spaces with furniture. Many of the organization's beneficiaries are folks with intellectual disabilities, people escaping domestic violence situations, people coming out of homelessness, and persons seeking asylum in the United States. We discuss how to look for help, and the strong need for volunteers to continue the mission. We also discuss how individuals, businesses and institutions can donate furniture.

Respectfully submitted,

Leif Erickson
Chief Operator