

Public Affairs Program CONTACT

The program airs Sundays on the following stations:

7:30 A.M. WRQN
7:00 A.M. WWWM
6:30 A.M. WXKR,
6:15 A.M. WLQR,
6 A.M. WRWK, WKKO

January 3, 2016

Guest: Various sources
Topic: The Year in Review.
Discussion: Top news stories from 2015 are reviewed for their impact on society.

January 10, 2016

Guest: Robin Erb and Douglas Siebenaler from Sunshine Communities
Topic: Human Services
Discussion: We discuss services for individuals with developmental disabilities and how they have changed in recent years. More and more, the emphasis is being placed on less segregated life.

January 17, 2016

Guest: Steve Madewell, Executive Director, Toledo Metroparks
Topic: Community Resources
Discussion: There is a major controversy over culling the growing deer herd in the Metroparks. The park district has hired sharpshooters. Is this safe?

January 24, 2016

Guest: Ronnie Bachman, author
Topic: Children & Bullying

Discussion: Bachman, a double amputee, who was bullied as a child, offers suggestions to children on how to cope with bullying. His concern is that often children who are bullied become suicidal.

February 7, 2016

Guest: Jeanne Schoen, founder of Cancer Connection of Northwest Ohio

Topic: Children

Discussion: Ms. Schoen has recently written three books aimed at helping children cope when cancer invades their families. Each book is directed at a certain age level.

February 14, 2016

Guest: Craig Gabors, Ohio Means Jobs

Topic: Employment opportunities

Discussion: Gabors is with the state agency helping match those who are unemployed or underemployed to find jobs. In the Toledo area it has become necessary to import workers in the building trades.

February 21, 2016

Guest: Lisa Comes, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: The CommUNITY Film Festival is an opportunity for persons with disabilities are sharing their lives in amateur videos. The goal is to show that people with disabilities can become successful in community-based settings when they are fully included.

February 28, 2016

Guest: Nichole Khoury, founder of Project iAm

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: Acoustics for Autism is a community-wide effort in which local bands engage in a day-long concert to raise awareness and funds for local agencies that are providing services for individuals who have autism. This is a strictly grassroots volunteer effort that is now in its seventh year.

March 6, 2016

Guest: Ryan Reed, Engineering Instructor at Sylvania Southview

Topic: Education

Discussion: Students are studying rocketry under a special arrangement with NASA. These students hope to launch a payload into space as part of a series of tests associated with plans to send humans to Mars.

March 13, 2016

Guest: Douglas Jambard-Sweet

Topic: Politics

Discussion: Issue One on the Toledo ballot would commit the city of Toledo to support a Constitutional amendment addressing political campaign financing. This is part of the national grassroots Move to Amend activities.

March 20, 2016

Guest: Brad Gilbert, Director, Wood County Emergency Management

Topic: Safety

Discussion: This is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Ohio. We discuss how families should prepare in case there is severe weather or other emergencies.

March 27, 2016

Guest: Mike Ferner, Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie
Pam Taylor, Environmentally Concerned Citizens of Southeast Michigan

Topic: Environment

Discussion: Giant factory farms dump 700,000,000 gallons of untreated animal waste on fields above Lake Erie every year. It's believed this is a major contributor to the toxic algae blooms every year on the lake.

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April 3, 2016

Guests: Robin Reese, Executive Director of Lucas County Children Services

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: There is a growing need for foster parents in Lucas County. We discuss the need, who is eligible, and training that is offered.

April 10, 2016

Guest: Erin Thompson, Social Security Administration

Topic: Preparing for retirement

Discussion: We discuss various aspects of Social Security, such as the best time to apply, how to maximize your benefits, and other administrative issues relevant to applying for Social Security benefits.

April 17, 2016

Guest: Stacy Butts and Tim Tegge, Sight Center

Topic: Disabilities issues

Discussion: We learn about the programs being offered by the Sight Center of Northwest Ohio, support groups, and common etiquette when around people with vision impairments.

April 24, 2016

Guest: Kara Steele, Life Connections of Ohio

Topic: Medical issues, organ donations

Discussion: We discuss the importance of being an organ donor, how to have the organ donation discussion with your family, and myths surrounding organ donations.

May 1, 2016

Guest: Barbara Floyd, author

Topic: History of the Toledo area

Discussion: Barbara has authored a new book, *Legendary Locals of Toledo*, in which she talks about the lives of famous Toledoans and why their contributions were so important.

May 8, 2016

Guest: Douglas Siebenaler, Sunshine Communities

Topic: Disabilities Issues

Discussion: Sunshine has entered into a partnership with a local Catholic parish to develop housing for persons with disabilities.

May 15, 2016

Guest: John Martin, Director, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

Topic: Human Services, Disabilities Issues

Discussion: We review the issues facing senior citizens with disabilities, such as residential services, dementia, and the long wait for Medicaid waiver services.

May 29, 2016

Guest: Dick Eppstein, President, Better Business Bureau

Topic: Crime

Discussion: There are several new scams going around. We discuss them and how consumers can protect themselves from the unscrupulous, both in their neighborhoods and online.

June 5, 2016

Guest: Mike Ferner, Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie

Topic: Environment

Discussion: Mr. Ferner updates us on the effort to have the western Lake Erie basin put on a watch list by the federal EPA to begin the process of preventing further alga blooms, such as the one two years ago that made the Toledo water supply unsafe to drink.

June 12, 2016

Guest: Patti Powers, Easter Seals

Topic: Charity & Health

Discussion: We discuss the programs provided by Easter Seals, support groups, and new fundraising efforts.

Guest: Heather Kudzia, director of Carly Cares

Topic: Charity & Health

Discussion: Heather is the mother of a daughter with progeria. Her not-for-profit, Carly Cares, raises funds to help learn how prevent this very rare disease.

June 19, 2016

Guest: Sandy Spang, member of Toledo City Council

Topic: Local politics

Discussion: We discuss a variety of issues facing the city council, such as the impending budget. Councilwoman Spang has led the effort to update the manner in which the municipal budget is developed. We also discuss how entrepreneurs can find planning and financial assistance.

June 26, 2016

Guest: Jill Borkowski, Putts Fur Mutts

Topic: Charity and Support for Veterans

Discussion: The annual Putts Fur Mutts golf outing this year will be raising funds for a program that helps veterans bring home the pets they have adopted while stationed overseas.

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July 3, 2016

Guest: Keith Walker, Help with Heroin

Topic: Health and Safety

Discussion: The growing heroin epidemic is considered a major factor in the rising rate of suicide. Walker's community effort works to create awareness of the signs that could indicate someone is contemplating suicide.

Guest: Susan Matz, Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie

Topic: Environmental Concerns

Discussion: The problem with algae blooms on Lake Erie is directly related to fertilizer runoff from big farms. This grassroots group wants the city of Toledo to ask the EPA to take action in the western Lake Erie basin.

July 10, 2016

Guest: Deidra Lashley, Executive Director, Bethany House

Topic: Human Services/Charity Events

Discussion: Bethany House provides short and long term care for battered women and their children.

Guest: Laura Simmons, Lucas County Care and Control

Topic: Government

Discussion: Lucas County Canine Care and Control is the new name for the Dog Warden. We discuss the duties of this branch of county government.

July 17, 2016

Guest: Barbara Floyd, local author

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: Ms. Floyd has written about influential Toledoans and their contributions to the development of community services and the building of the city.

Guest: Theresa Pollick, Ohio Dept. of Transportation

Topic: Government

Discussion: Theresa runs down the list of highway repairs that will be underway through the summer and the benefits.

July 24, 2016

Guest: Jeff Alt, local author

Topic: Human Services/Charity Events

Discussion: Jeff has written a series of books for young readers that help them explore history.

July 31, 2016

Guest: Geoff Allan, Heroin and Opiate Initiate

Topic: Health and Safety

Discussion: This initiate is funded by a grant funded by the Lucas County Mental Health Board is an education project. Much of the effort is to fight the stigma associated with drug abuse that prevents someone from seeking help.

Guest: Pete Gerken, Lucas County Commissioner

Topic: Government

Discussion: The State of Ohio has given Lucas County a grant to create a program to recruit direct care workers for individuals with developmental disabilities.

August 7, 2016

Guest: Steve Madewell, Executive Director, Toledo Metroparks
Topic: Government
Discussion: We discuss the newest initiatives for the park system and how the system works to preserve wildlife in the area.

August 17, 2016

Guest: Dr. Sam Khouri, Mundt Foundation
Topic: Health and Safety/Charity Events
Discussion: Dr. Mundt is a heart transplant specialist. The Mundt Foundation supports the transplant program at the University of Toledo Medical Center.
Guest: Debi Ference, local author
Topic: Health and Safety
Discussion: Known as “Amazing Debi,” her book talks about growing up with a developmental disability and how she overcame being bullied. She offers suggestions to young people on how to manage bullies.

August 21, 2016

Guest: Jim Gee, General Manager, Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority
Topic: Government
Discussion: The Transit Authority will have a levy on the November ballot. We discuss the importance of the levy and the services now being provided by TARTA.
Guest: Ruth Moeller, Walk to Defeat ALS
Topic: Health and Safety/Charity Events
Discussion: Annually, there is a fundraising effort in the community to raise money to fight Lou Gehrig’s Disease.

August 28, 2016

Guest: Mary Westphal, Komen Race for the Cure

Topic: Health and Safety/Charity Events

Discussion: The upcoming Komen Race for the Cure has become a bigger and bigger event each year for persons willing for raise awareness of breast cancer and raise money for research.

Guest: Chris Kozak, Columbia Gas

Topic: Public Utilities

Discussion: Columbia Gas is offering an energy audit.

September 4, 2016

Guest: Lora Ripke, Sunshine Communities

Topic: Human Services/Charity Events

Discussion: The annual Walk for Sunshine raises money for the care of persons with developmental disabilities. We also discuss efforts underway in the community to more fully integrate individuals with developmental disabilities.

Guest: Stacy Butts, Executive Director, Sight Center of Greater Toledo

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: We discuss the services offered by the Sight Center and also explore the potential for people with sight impairments in the workplace.

September 11, 2016

Guest: Sister Mary Sartor, Double ARC

Topic: Health and Safety

Discussion: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder can be completely prevented if pregnant women did not drink alcoholic beverages. Double ARC runs a clinic to diagnose FASD and suggest appropriate services.

Guest: Dr. Tanvir Singh, University of Toledo

Topic: Health and Safety

Discussion: Mental Health professionals must take more time in identifying the signs that someone may be planning to take his own life. Dr. Tanvir also suggests how we might recognize when someone is depressed and contemplating suicide.

September 18, 2016

Guest: Dr. Cecelia Williamson, University of Toledo

Topic: Health and Safety

Discussion: Toledo is a key location for human trafficking. Dr. Williamson is a recognized expert on the topic. We discuss how traffickers entice their victims and the new penalties that are in place.

September 25, 2016

Guest: Erin Thompson, Social Security

Topic: Government

Discussion: We discuss when to apply for Social Security, how to maximize your benefits, and new rules and regulations.

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October 2, 2016

Guest: Scott Carpenter, Toledo Area Metroparks

Topic: Recreation, Community Development

Discussion: We discuss expansion of the Metropark system into the downtown Toledo area. This is the Middlegrounds area. Another Metropark is proposed for the east side of the river in the newly developed Marina District.

October 9, 2016

Guest: Robin Reese, Executive Director, Lucas County Children Services

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: Child abuse is a reality in the community. What can citizens do if they suspect child abuse. What is the role of the county agency?

October 16, 2016

Guest: Jeff Sailer, Executive Director of the Toledo Zoo

Topic: Human Services, Development, Recreation, Election

Discussion: The Zoo has a very important levy on the November ballot. We discuss the impact of the levy, how the monies will be spent, and the ramifications if the levy does not pass.

October 23, 2016

Guest: Craig Magrum, Box Out Hunger

Topic: Human Services/Charity Events

Discussion: A community wide effort is underway to feed the less fortunate a complete Thanksgiving menu.

Guest: Zach Vasser, President of the Toledo Symphony

Topic: Recreation, Community Assets, Arts

Discussion: New programs are planned for the Symphony as it makes a greater outreach to the community.

October 30, 2016

Guest: Paula Hicks-Hudson, Mayor of Toledo

Topic: Local Government, Election

Discussion: The City of Toledo has on the November ballot the renewal of $\frac{3}{4}$ percent payroll tax. The mayor explains how the loss of the revenue, should the levy not pass, would force the city to layoff hundreds of police officers and fire-fighters.

November 6, 2016

Guest: Lori Hauser, Executive Director, Imagination Station

Topic: Government, Election, Community Assets

Discussion: The Imagination Station levy renewal is on the November ballot. We discuss the implications should the levy not pass.

Guest: Jason Kusma, Assistant Director, Toledo-Lucas County Public Library

Topic: Government, Election, Community Assets

Discussion: Also on the November ballot, is a levy renewal for the Library. The discussion focuses on the ramifications should the levy not pass.

November 13, 2016

Guest: John Martin, Director, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

Topic: Health and Safety, Drug Abuse

Discussion: The discussion centers on the Governor's *Start Talking* campaign to fight drug abuse, especially the growing opioid issue.

November 20, 2016

Guest: Dick Eppstein, President, Better Business Bureau

Topic: Economy, Safety, Consumer Issues

Discussion: The discussion revolves around tips for being a safe shopper during the holiday season, especially if you shop online. We also talked about current scams and how to recognize them.

November 27, 2016

Guest: Joe Habib, St. Paul's Community Center

Topic: Health and Safety, Charity Events, Human Services

Discussion: We discuss steps the community to not only feed and shelter the homeless, but also how to help them get back on their feet.

December 4, 2016

Guest: Stacey Butts, Executive Director, Sight Center

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: Outlined were the programs and services available for persons with vision impairments. Also, we review some of the attitudinal barriers that prevent people with disabilities from gaining full access in the community to housing, employment and social opportunities.

December 11, 2016

Guest: Tarak Kauf, Veterans for Peace

Topic: Safety, Activism

Discussion: Tarak had recently returned from the demonstrations at the Sioux reservation to argue against an oil pipeline. He explains why he became involved and what his organization sees as its purpose.

December 18, 2016

Discussion: The Year in Review, part 1, recapping the major events of 2016 and their impact.

December 25, 2016

Discussion: The Year in Review, part 2, recapping the major events of 2016 and their impact.