

WTOO Issues Programming

April 4, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

COVID and Mental Health in Schools

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features Rich Askey, President of the PSEA, and Dr. Julia Szarko, 2021 National School Psychologist of the Year, who discuss student mental health during the pandemic, what schools can do about it, and social and emotional learning. Then, Angela Liddle, President of the Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance, joins host Terry Madonna to discuss the release of child abuse numbers, the impact of COVID on child safety, and child abuse prevention.

WTOO Issues Programming

April 11, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

Upcoming Elections, and the Future of Energy Prices

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features journalists Angela Couloumbis of Spotlight PA, and Marc Levy of the Associated Press, who discuss the Lt. Governor's race, child sexual abuse lawsuits, and the Democratic Senate race. Then, Terry Fitzpatrick, President and CEO of the Energy Association of Pennsylvania, joins host Terry Madonna for a discussion of the RGGI energy issue, how the war in Ukraine has roiled energy markets, and heightened partisan differences over energy policy, as well as the future of energy prices.

WTOO Issues Programming

April 18, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

Primary Elections, and Gas Tax Holiday

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features journalists John Micek, Editor-in-Chief of the Pennsylvania Capital-Star, and Brad Bumsted, Bureau Chief of The Caucus, who provide an update on the Pennsylvania Senate and Governor's primary elections. Then, Bob Latham, Executive Vice President of Associated Pennsylvania Constructors, joins host Terry Madonna for a discussion of a gas tax holiday and the need for work zone awareness.

WTOO Issues Programming

April 25, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

Primary Elections, Inflation, and Financial Education

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features journalists Tom Lehman of WGALNews8 and Charlie Thompson of Harrisburg Patriot News/PennLive, who discuss the imminent Governor and Senate primary elections. Then, Patrick Conway, President and CEO of the CrossState Credit Union Association, and Pennsylvania Auditor General Tim DeFoor join host Terry Madonna to discuss the need for financial education, the impact of inflation, the Be Money Smart initiative, and how credit unions help consumers.

WTOO Issues Programming

May 2, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 9, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

Election Update, and Ukrainian Energy and Immigration

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features journalists Jan Murphy of PennLive/Patriot News, and Marc Levy of the Associated Press, who discuss the nationally watched and hugely important Pennsylvania Senate and Governor's primary elections. Then, Wilfred Muskens, International Business Advisor for the Marquis Group, joins host Terry Madonna for an analysis of Pennsylvania trade and energy given the war in Ukraine as well as immigration into the state.

WTOO Issues Programming

May 16, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 30, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

Final Primary Preview, and Nursing Home Crisis

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features journalists John Micek, Editor-in-Chief of the Pennsylvania Capital-Star, and Brad Bumsted, Bureau Chief of The Caucus, who discuss the fast-approaching May 17th primary, with updates on the Governor and Senate primary elections. Then, Zach Shamberg, President and CEO of the Pennsylvania Health Care Association, joins host Terry Madonna for an assessment of the state's nursing home crisis and solutions to it.

WTOO Issues Programming

May 23, 2022 at 8:30 PM

June 6, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

Deadlocked Senate Race, and Energy in PA

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features journalists Tom Lehman, Capitol Reporter for WGAL, and Stephen Caruso, Capitol Reporter for Spotlight PA, who provide an assessment of the controversies surrounding the Governor and Senate primaries, including the deadlocked Republican Senate race. Then, David Taylor, President and CEO of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association, and Gene Barr, President and CEO of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business & Industry, join host Terry Madonna for a discussion of U.S. energy assistance to European allies, and freeing up the state energy industry.

WTOO Issues Programming

June 13, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

Speaker Cutler, and Consumer Protection

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features special guest Bryan Cutler, Pennsylvania Speaker of the House, who discusses important issues before the legislature: abortion, guns, and the upcoming state budget debate. Then, Mike Wishnow, Senior Vice President of the CrossState Credit Union Association, and Beki Landon, Senior Vice President of Belco Community Credit Union, join host Terry Madonna for an update on the increasing use of debit and credit cards, interchange rates, and consumer protection.

WTOO Issues Programming

June 20, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

Stage Budget, Guns, and Medical Liability Venue Shopping

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features journalists Marc Levy of the Associated Press, and Charlie Thompson of Harrisburg Patriot News/PennLive, who discuss the state budget, and a proposal that would permit school personnel to carry guns in schools. Then, Dr. F. Wilson Jackson, President-Elect of the Pennsylvania Medical Society, joins host Terry Madonna for an analysis of venue shopping and its impact on health care and patients.

WTOO Issues Programming

June 27, 2022 at 8:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Pennsylvania Newsmakers

Senator Casey on Gun Legislation, and Public University Funding

This week's Pennsylvania Newsmakers features U.S. Senator Bob Casey (D), who discusses the Senate's gun legislation, health care for veterans exposed to toxins, and the expansion of broadband to rural Pennsylvanians. Then, Dr. Ken Mash, President of the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties, joins host Terry Madonna to discuss his recent experiences in a college classroom, the need and prospects for a budget increase for public universities, and an overview of the State System of Higher Education.

WTOO Issues Programming

April 1, 2022 at 8:30 PM

April 2, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

Protecting Our Children

Gavin Holihan, Esq. a criminal defense attorney and former assistant district attorney for Lehigh County returns to Face the Issues to have a discussion with Sam Chen about child abuse and how to protect our children.

What constitutes “child abuse,” specifically, in the eyes of the law? The CDC talks about “Adverse Childhood Experiences.” Does this differ from “child abuse”? What role does child neglect play in the overall picture? Gavin and Sam talk about Child Protective Services and what that agency does. 6.6 million children are referred to child protective agencies annually and we lose an estimated 4-7 children a day to abuse and neglect. Where does the problem rest? Abuse has been trending upward, why is that? Some of the causes are discussed. The reporting of child abuse has decreased significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Almost certainly this is not because abuse has decreased, in fact the trend is opposite. So what constitutes this decrease in reporting?

Solutions are discussed for protecting our children. Gavin has gone to court for and against Child Protective Services in the past. He talks about why and what the circumstances were. How effective are our current efforts in curtailing child abuse? Mandated reporting is discussed along with what effect the pandemic lockdowns have had exacerbating the issue. What is the best way for us legally to aid these children? What needs to change within the system and what can the community and each of us do to help? Gavin offers his advice to children and families who see this program and need help.

WTOO Issues Programming

April 5, 2022 at 8:30 PM

April 8, 2022 at 8:30 PM

April 9, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

Mental Health - Real Life Impact

On this episode, Joe Watkins, President & CEO for Community Council Health Systems talks about the real life implications of mental health challenges that we face today.

Segment one is about the practical challenges of mental health. Joe tells us about the Community Council Health Systems and what they do. What is the definition of “mental health”? What are some of the pragmatic challenges of mental health, beyond depression and suicide awareness for example, the pressures the Olympic athletes recently talked about, the separation of families in our communities and substance abuse. We learn about the individuals and families that come to Community Council Health Systems for help and what kinds of challenges they have in their lives. How deep do these challenges run? How far to these implications reach?

Solutions are discussed in segment two. Joe explains how Community Council Health Systems approach these issues. Part of their work involves a “holistic approach” to mental health. Joe tells us what this means. He talks about where his organization fits in the grand puzzle of mental health services.

Finally we learn about the programs Community Council Health Systems offer for youth and adults including education and advice is given to those struggling today with these challenges.

WTOO Issues Programming

April 19, 2022 at 8:30 PM

April 22, 2022 at 8:30 PM

April 23, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

Seniors' Moment: The Future of Long-Term Care

Host Sam Chen welcomes Zachary Shamberg, President & CEO of Pennsylvania Health Care Association to talk about the future of long-term care.

In segment one, we learn about the challenges facing long-term care facilities. Zach explains what a long-term care facility provides and what classifies a facility as “long-term care”. We learn about the individuals who are in LTC facilities.

In the pre-pandemic era, LTC facilities were already struggling financially. Zach paints a picture of why and what causes the problem. Next he discusses how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted long-term care, including patients, providers, and the facilities themselves. Zach and Sam talk about the challenges, fears and how politicized this issue has become. The current situation for LTC facilities is explained and what the outlook is from where we stand now.

Segment two is a discussion about proposed solutions. What solutions can be accomplished legislatively, institutionally and be provided for individuals and families? Zach discusses solutions the PA Health Care Association is pursuing, be it nationally or in the state legislature.

How do we solve the financial challenges both involving Medicaid funding and the new challenges with COVID-19? We get a breakdown of the state funding vs. stimulus dollars situation. What role can our community play, if any, and do businesses play a part in the future of LTC facilities?

Finally we learn about what long-term care insurance is and why is it important to those in our communities.

WTOO Issues Programming

April 19, 2022 at 8:30 PM

April 22, 2022 at 8:30 PM

April 23, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

Gift of Life Donor Program

This week Sam Chen interviews Dwendy Johnson, Community Relations Supervisor - Gift of Life Donor Program & Frank Garger, Organ Donation Recipient and Ambassador, Gift of Life Donor Program. They talk about the importance of organ donation, dispel misconceptions around it, and talk about the experience Frank had as a recipient.

Gift of Life Organ Donation Program is our region's organ procurement agency, which collaborates with hospitals and works with families who's loved one had yes to organ donation can give that gift of life through organ and tissue donation. They work with donations for eight solid organ donations, and tissue donations like skin, bone and corneas, making it possible for one donor to save or enhance the lives of seventy five to one hundred people.

WTOO Issues Programming

April 26, 2022 at 8:30 PM

April 29, 2022 at 8:30 PM

April 30, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

This week Sam Chen interviews Valerie Case, Tim Burke, and Angelo Fattore and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society -Lehigh Valley. Valerie is the Campaign Development Manager, Tim is Co-Chair of the Executive Committee & Angelo is running for LLS Man of the Year 2022. They discuss what LLS does to support patients, personal stories, as well as the current LLS Man & Woman of the Year Campaign.

Every three minutes someone is diagnosed with a blood cancer and every nine minutes someone loses their battle with that cancer. Leukemia and Lymphoma are largely blood based cancers, and can often be much more pervasive than tumor based cancers, which was once thought as a death sentence. Fortunately organizations like LLS has helped create a lot of progress and advancement in treatment of these types of cancers.

WTOO Issues Programming

May 3, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 6, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 4, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

Community Bike Works

James Williams the Easton Program Manager at Community Bike Works and Community Bike Works Students, Kayson Barlow & Savanna Henry join this episode of Face the Issues to discuss their program.

Community Bike Works (CBW) offers high-quality mentoring programs that use bicycles and books to connect youth with adult and peer mentors who can teach them skills that help them succeed. CBW offers additional resources and partners with organizations to help strengthen students' families and the community. They seek to give students and families a meaningful voice in their work and strive to be an organization of racial and economic justice and equality, not charity.

CBW strives to increase the number of students served, while seeking to serve those who could benefit most. They increase their engagement with participating youth and families, in order to provide them with opportunities for deeper connections to mentors and more avenues to success. CBW develops and maintains effective partnerships that allow them to serve our students and strengthen the community. They ensure that dedicated and capable staff, board and volunteers are in place while strengthening and diversifying their funding base. Implementing administrative and facility improvements that increase Bike Works' effectiveness and ability to serve as a safe place for students is of vital importance.

Their goals are to offer engaging bike mentoring programs that are effective in providing students with important life skills and to increase their engagement with participating youth in order to provide opportunities for deeper connections and more meaningful learning experiences. CBW serves 500 or more students each year in their Earn a Bike and Junior Earn a Bike programs which are explained. Many Earn a Bike students participate in supplemental programming, including Drop-in, Earn a Book, cycling programs, and Youth Leadership which are discussed. CBW strives to have 100% of their Youth Leaders graduate from high school with a plan for post-secondary education and community engagement.

WTOO Issues Programming

May 10, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 13, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 14, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

Meals On Wheels and Food Insecurity

Face the Issues welcomes Vicki Coyle, the CEO of Meals On Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley to discuss what services are provided within the community.

The challenge of food insecurity is an issue everywhere including in our own communities. Vicki explains what demographic Meals On Wheels typically serves. Who is facing food insecurity and what does food insecurity mean? Are they those who are unable to leave the home? Are they mostly senior citizens? The fact of the matter is that there are many different circumstances contributing to this plight and it affects many different types of people. Host Sam Chen and Vicki talk about the numbers of individuals facing food insecurity. According to the United Way there are 69,000 or 1 in 10 people in our local area facing this issue. What are the challenges facing clients of Meals On Wheels? Factors include people who have health issues and those with a lack of active income.

Vicki explains how the COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted needs by affecting the organization's ability to work at 100%. She discusses the current situation facing Meals On Wheels clients and what the outlook is for the future.

Segment two is a discussion about what Meals On Wheels does and what it's mission is. Vicki tells the viewer how Meals On Wheels operates, including giving an explanation about volunteers and staff. How does the organization fit in with the larger mission of ending food insecurity? Who qualifies for Meals on Wheels and how would someone in need reach the organization? How can someone volunteer for Meals On Wheels? These important questions are answered closing out this episode.

WTOO Issues Programming

May 17, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 20, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 21, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

The Road to Addiction Recovery & Back

In part one of this episode, Sam Chen interviews Jason Beckwith, Founder & President: JSB Works LLC & Action in Recovery. They talk about Jason's personal story through recovery and going back to help others along their recovery journey. Discussions include how addiction affects people and those around them, sober living homes, and hearing from people currently being helped by Jason.

Jason explains that if more was invested in aftercare to help bolster successful recoveries following in-patient treatment, it would save tax payer's money, increase likelihood of success, and decrease crime in communities.

WTOO Issues Programming

May 24, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 27, 2022 at 8:30 PM

May 28, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

The Road to Addiction Recovery & Back

In part two of this episode, Sam Chen interviews Jason Beckwith, Founder & President: JSB Works LLC & Action in Recovery. They talk about Jason's personal story through recovery and going back to help others along their recovery journey. Discussions include how addiction affects people and those around them, sober living homes, and hearing from people currently being helped by Jason.

Jason explains that if more was invested in aftercare to help bolster successful recoveries following in-patient treatment, it would save tax payer's money, increase likelihood of success, and decrease crime in communities.

WTOO Issues Programming

May 31, 2022 at 8:30 PM

June 3, 2022 at 8:30 PM

June 4, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

Big Tech & Small Business

This week Sam Chen speaks with Rob Retzlaff the Executive Director of Connected Commerce Council. Discussion includes anti-trust legislation, privacy laws and regulations and small businesses becoming “digitally empowered”. Legislation that appears to be for big tech alone often affects small businesses, so making sure a business owner knows how to navigate and adopt online technologies can become very important for greater success.

WTOO Issues Programming

June 7, 2022 at 8:30 PM

June 10, 2022 at 8:30 PM

June 11, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

Citizen Soldiers: Life and Family in the National Guard

This week on Face the Issues, Sam Chen talks with Kevin Dellicker, formerly of the Army National Guard & Susan Dellicker, Teacher and Fullbright Scholar. Together the guests wrote a book called “Twenty Percent Soldiers: Our Secret Life in the National Guard” and they discuss what led them to write about their experiences as well as many aspects about the National Guard.

They discuss the benefits and challenges of being in the National Guard as well as being the family left behind, and the need to be in a strong community for support, and how to bolster some of the insufficiencies in what is available from the National Guard in that regard. The main issues in their opinion in the family support infrastructure is the limitation of resources, the structure not allowing resources of one branch to aid someone in another department locally, and flexibility for local aid resources to help the specific needs of those in their area. Though they discuss the challenges, they also talk about how many people may be better suited or more interested in joining the National Guard than they may first think.

WTOO Issues Programming

June 14, 2022 at 8:30 PM

June 17, 2022 at 8:30 PM

June 18, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face the Issues

The SCOTUS Leak

Sam Chen & Dr. Adam Carrington of Hillsdale College talk about the implications of the recent leak at the United States Supreme Court regarding Roe vs Wade. They discuss why the leak is so important, its implications and how it happened. They describe how the supreme court operates, what a draft opinion is, and what kinds of questions justices may ask in determining a case like this instead of a member of the press, or legislators.

WTOO Issues Programming

June 21, 2022 at 8:30 PM

June 24, 2022 at 8:30 PM

June 25, 2022 at 4:30 PM

30 min.

Program: Face The Issues

Scams: How To Protect Yourself

Face The Issues welcomes back Gavin Holihan, Esq., Criminal Defense Attorney. We've all been exposed to scams. What are they? Who are they targeting? How do you protect yourself? Gavin & host Sam Chen discuss these issues on this program.

Scams are a constant threat in today's society. We receive them in our inboxes, as text messages, as voice messages & through the mail. Scams are nothing new. But with the modern technology & it's easy use to send these scams out, they've become more prevalent. They are targeted at the unsuspecting public who aren't used to dealing with them. Seniors seem to be more susceptible to them. Gavin gives some examples of the different types of scams. The ones that work are those designed to create fear in the victim. They are threatened with something bad that will happen to them if they don't comply. The scammer pretends to be someone with a level of authority. They pose as the police or the IRS for example. The ease of sending out mass emails casts a very wide net towards potential victims. The scams aren't typically targeting specific demographics of people but instead they target everyone while hoping to get somebody to take the bait. It costs the scammer nothing to send a scam out over the internet, so even if only 1 out of 1000 people fall for it, it's worthwhile for them. Also, the likelihood of the scammer getting caught & convicted is relatively small so there is little risk to them.

The second half of the show focuses on what the viewers can do to protect themselves from scams. Scammers have evolved over the years & have become more creative although most scams are not very sophisticated. Things to watch for are...email addresses from the sender that are from somewhere other than where they are pretending to be from, fake government emails that do not end with .gov or emails that demand immediate action. Gavin tells the potential victims of scams to take a moment, don't panic & rationally look at the situation carefully to spot warning signs. Some of the email's facts about you may not match up, so you'd know it's a scam. Any type of unorthodox payment the scammer asks for could also be a tip off. Asking for non traceable funds or gift cards is a clear indicator of a scam. When in doubt, call the police as they are familiar with almost all the scams out there. Some scams are intentionally "dumb" in order to weed out the smarter people & target those who are already gullible & easier to fool. If you get scammed & lost money, report it to the local police, contact your credit card company or bank, and don't be embarrassed into not talking about. Get the word out to help other potential victims.

WTOO Issues Programming

Weekdays 11am to 12pm

Repeated 9pm to 10pm

60 Minutes

1 hour live call in

Program: Your Health with Richard and Cindy Becker

Live call in program regarding all things Health related. Viewers are encouraged to call to ask questions.

Richard L. Becker, D.O. is a physician and he and his wife, Cindy, host the daily television talk show, Your Health with Dr. Richard and Cindy Becker. The Becker's bring a practical approach to health education through timely topics, interesting and renowned guests, and live viewer calls. Cindy demonstrates healthy cooking with easy to make economical dishes for a healthy lifestyle.