

**Quarterly Issues Programs List for Station WNJA FM
January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024.
Placed in the Public File April 4, 2024.
Section I. Issues.**

The station has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community in this quarter.

- A. Race Relations:** Issues relating to Race relations in the region.
- B. Education:** Issues relating to public school education in our community.
- C. Environment:** The impact of environmental issues on our state.
- D. Government & Politics:** Status of our elected politicians.
- E. Health:** Health issues that impact our listeners.

Section II. Responsive Programs

Following is list of some of the significant issues responded to by the station along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the quarter. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which issues appear does not reflect a priority or significance.

A. Race Relations/Social Issues:

What's Next: January 7, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Producers' Picks: On this week's Producer's Pick, we revisit two stand-out conversations from What's Next? First, Jay Moran speaks with Pastor George Nicholas, leading up to Igniting Hope 2023 last September; the two discuss health disparities in the African American community amongst women in Western New York and the importance of Igniting Hope. Then we hear from local artist and leather craftsman Dame Powell, who stopped by leading up to the FIG Fashion Show in late September 2023 to discuss his inspirations and how he discovered his passion.

What's Next: January 14, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service 2024

On today's special episode of What's Next?, Thomas O'Neil-White joins two community leaders ahead of Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service on January 15. Faustenina Morrow is the founder of Monarch of Infinite Possibilities LLC consulting firm, and Reverend Michael D. Bell is the pastor at Durham Memorial AME Zion Church. Both discuss their efforts advancing this year's day of service programs, where the goal is to have 500 volunteers at 25 sites cleaning, painting, gardening, and more. Plus, we feature audio from Dr. King's talk at Kleinhans Music Hall on November 9, 1967.

What's Next: January 21, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Producer's Pick: Housing and Education

Today's What's Next? Producer's Pick episode revisits two conversations from past episodes. First, Jay Moran is joined by the CEO of Better Living Interest LLC, Paul Perez, and the co-founder and local board president of the Erie Niagara Board of REALTIST, Andrew Scott, who is known within the Buffalo real estate world as the "House Plug." Then, Thomas O'Neil-White sits down with Wil Green, the director of outreach and community engagement at the University at Buffalo's Graduate School of Education.

What's Next: February 4, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Producer's Pick: Creativity and Cooperative Ownership

On today's Producer's Pick episode of What's Next?, we revisit two conversations from recent episodes. First, Thomas O'Neil-White sits down with Najja Bouldin, whose company Phoenix Innovation Group LLC, helps individuals and achieve their goals through performance coaching, speaking, consulting, and facilitating creativity. And we close with Jay Moran speaking with the director of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University at Buffalo, Dr. Henry Louis Taylor, Jr., about the latter's 2023 report titled, "How We Change the Black East Side," which acts as a neighborhood planning and development framework for Buffalo's East Side

What's Next: February 11, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Producer's Pick: Workforce History and Future

Today's Producer's Pick episode of What's Next? revisits standout conversations from recent episodes.

First, Thomas O'Neil-White speaks with Northland Workforce Training Center President and CEO Stephen Tucker about the center's recent development grants and new clean technology lab in addition to returning Buffalo to its place as a major manufacturing area. Then, Jay Moran sits down with Thomas Beauford Jr. and Darnell Haywood Jr. from the Buffalo Urban League to examine trends impacting people of color, including assaults on democracy, book-banning, the erosion of voting access, and suppressing history.

What's Next: February 18, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Producer's Picks Health Literacy and Tours

On this week's Producers' Picks, we revisit three stand-out conversations from the last few episodes of What's Next? First off, we hear from Executive Director at Literacy NY Tara Schafer and Interim Executive Director at Erie Niagara Area Health Education Center Brittany Tranello. Then we continue with a tour around Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve with Environmental Educator Marcus Rosten and another tour in the new Buffalo AKG Art Museum with the Director Janne Siren.

What's Next: February 25, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Producer's Picks Health Literacy and Tours

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What's Next: March 3, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Producer's Pick: White Rage, History, and Education

We revisit a stand-out conversation with Stephanie Peete, Wil Green, and Rob Leteste, who all appeared on a recent panel themed around Carol Anderson's book *White Rage* presented by Say Yes Buffalo. The event was moderated by Green, the director of outreach and community engagement at the University at Buffalo's graduate school. Peete is Say Yes Buffalo's workforce development director, and Leteste is the business intelligence and workforce manager at Invest Buffalo Niagara. The latter appeared as panelists, along with professionals in law, mental health, and other fields. A portion of that panel discussion can be heard in the second half of the episode.

What's Next: March 10, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Producer's Pick: Black Nerds Unite

On this week's Producer's Picks, we revisit two stand-out conversations from previous episodes. We hear from LaGarrett King and Dawnavyn James with Thomas O'Neil White. We end the show with Jay Moran's conversation with Buffalo Black Achievers Honoree and Chief Operating Officer of the Buffalo Urban League Melissa Archer.

What's Next: March 17, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

The Legacy of Buffalo's First Black DJ

The Buffalo Courier-Express called him the "Jackie Robinson of Buffalo broadcasting," and throughout his career on the air locally, the city's first Black DJ Jimmy Lyons spoke with leading figures like Sammy Davis Jr. and Sam Cooke. What's Next? travels to the home where he raised his family on Northland Avenue to speak with Gail, his daughter. She shares stories about Jimmy's life, including his time as a performer, and makes a case for why Jimmy Lyons belongs in the Buffalo Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

What's Next: March 24, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Producer's Pick: Workforce History and Future

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What's Next: March 31, 2024. Duration: 58:00.

Reconnecting to Prevent Social Unrest

Seamus Gallivan's latest endeavor is Reconnector, a "social connection space" that aims to bring people together in person and online "by illuminating the ties that bind us." That means music showcases, variety shows, and media elements — all to help provide a need that he believes can help prevent social unrest. Gallivan sits down with Thomas O'Neil-White to speak about the power of reconnection and his plans for the new project.

B. Education:

Capitol Pressroom: January 14, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Education Trust-NY alarmed by state test results

Education Trust-New York interim Executive Director Jeff Smink shares his concerns about the long-awaited results from last year's state assessments for kids grade three through eight, including questions about the meaningfulness of new proficiency standards.

Capitol Pressroom: January 28, 2024. Runtime: 10:00.

New York recruiting volunteer campground ambassadors

The state wants you to be a volunteer campground ambassador this summer. We discuss the recruitment effort with Jessica McBride, campground program supervisor for the state Department of Environmental Conservation.

Capitol Pressroom: February 11, 2024. Runtime: 29:00.

SUNY chancellor discusses public higher education landscape

SUNY Chancellor John King discusses the financial shape of New York's public colleges and universities and outlines the steps needed to maintain a strong SUNY system. He also weighs in on the creation of Empire AI at the University at Buffalo and talked about the future plans for the University Hospital at SUNY Downstate.

Capitol Pressroom: March 31, 2024. Runtime: 16:00.

Religious schools want state to double security funding

Teach Coalition CEO Maury Litwack calls for the state to double its investment in security grants for private, religious schools around New York.

C. Environment:

Capitol Pressroom: January 7, 2024. Runtime: 14:00

Extreme weather events drive up insurance costs

Extreme weather events are impacting the cost of property and casualty insurance products in New York, according to Brad Lachut, director of government affairs for the Professional Insurance Agents of New York.

Capitol Pressroom: January 7, 2024. Runtime: 19:00

State deploys new weather risk communication facility

New York's Weather Risk Communication Center, located at the University at Albany, was officially launched in December to give state policymakers the best tools to combat extreme weather. We talked about this new initiative with Dr. Nick Bassill, the center's director.

Capitol Pressroom: January 28, 2024. Runtime: 19:00

NYPA requests info on realizing 'public renewables'

New York Power Authority acting President & CEO Justin Driscoll provides an update on the effort to build and operate new renewable energy and battery storage projects, including a request for information on partnerships with private developers.

Capitol Pressroom: January 28, 2024. Runtime: 14:00

State regulators embrace new wetland protections

Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter Conservation Director Roger Downs and Audubon New York Senior Policy Manager Erin McGrath explain New York's effort to dramatically expand the wetlands under state protection.

Capitol Pressroom: January 28, 2024. Runtime: 13:00

Compromise struck on future of controversial pesticide

Jim Davenport, a Hudson Valley dairy farmer, discusses a compromise deal on the future use of a controversial pesticide.

Capitol Pressroom: February 4, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

New York biz important link in green energy supply chain

We learn about LJUNGSTRÖM, a western New York manufacturer that has begun producing steel components for offshore wind projects. We talk with the company's business development manager, Jude Auman, who explains their transition away from serving the fossil fuel industry.

Capitol Pressroom: March 17, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Senator Harckham talks budget and packaging waste reduction

Senate Environmental Conservation Committee Chair Pete Harckham, a Westchester County Democrat, talks about environmental funding in the state budget and the effort to reduce packaging waste.

Capitol Pressroom: March 17, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

New York Farm Bureau outlines 2024 agenda

We consider the 2024 priorities of the New York Farm Bureau, with the group's president, David Fisher, and director of policy, Jeff Williams. We talk about efforts to reduce packaging waste, build new housing for farmworkers, and the impact of a lower overtime threshold.

D. Government & Politics:

Capitol Pressroom: January 7, 2024. Runtime: 23:00.

State prepares for winter road conditions

We talked with the state Department of Transportation's Rob Fitch and Pat Barnes about keeping roads safe for drivers in the winter, while also trying to utilize environmentally friendly measures.

Capitol Pressroom: January 14, 2024. Runtime: 10:00.

Special Olympics NY turns to state to avoid cuts

Special Olympics New York President & CEO Stacey Hengsterman is looking for an additional \$1.5 million from the state to ensure their premier events are as accessible to as many New Yorkers as possible.

Capitol Pressroom: January 14, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Reining in the governor's emergency powers

Reinvent Albany Senior Policy Advisor Rachael Fauss explains how a state of emergency in New York isn't always an emergency and makes the case for broader oversight and controls on the powers utilized by governors following an emergency declaration.

Capitol Pressroom: January 21, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

LLCs face new disclosures from legislative compromise

Assemblymember Emily Gallagher, a Brooklyn Democrat, discusses a new law ensuring state and local government officials gain information about LLC owners, but stops short of ensuring a public database of information.

Capitol Pressroom: January 21, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Child Victims Act cases face unanticipated legal burden

Ari Taub, a partner at Phillips & Paolicelli, explains how a quirk in state law is undermining lawsuits brought against state government entities filed under the Child Victims Act.

Capitol Pressroom: January 21, 2024. Runtime: 13:00.

NYC Mayor has trust in governor and her agenda

There was very little distance between the leaders of New York City and New York following the delivery of Governor Kathy Hochul's third State of the State address on Tuesday.

Capitol Pressroom: February 4, 2024. Runtime: 23:00.

LG Antonio Delgado talks civic engagement

Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado discusses a proposed state Office of Service and Civic Engagement, reflects on Republicans serving in purple congressional districts, and provides an update on New York's Hate and Bias Prevention Unit.

Capitol Pressroom: February 11, 2024. Runtime: 23:00.

The godfather of criminal justice reform to depart Assembly

Assemblymember Jeff Aubry, a Queens Democrat, is not running for office after more than three decades in the chamber. He reflects on his career at the Capitol, including running the dais and leading on criminal justice issues.

Capitol Pressroom: February 18, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

OGS Commissioner discusses work on the Capitol

New York State Office of General Services Commissioner Jeanette Moy talks about work at the Capitol, including a renovated central courtyard and long overdue safety improvements to the building's majestic Eastern Approach.

Capitol Pressroom: February 18, 2024. Runtime: 13:00.

Hochul advances consumer protection measures

Consumer Reports Programs Director Chuck Bell explains two consumer protection initiatives being advanced by Gov. Kathy Hochul, including new regulations for "buy now, pay later" offerings and unfair business practices.

Capitol Pressroom: February 25, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Legislative candidates sign up for public campaign financing

New York State Board of Elections spokesperson Kathleen McGrath explains the state's public campaign finance program and provides an update on the implementation of the nascent program.

Capitol Pressroom: February 25, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Upstate transit systems look for big boost from state

New York Public Transit Association President James Morrell explains why upstate transit systems need a 15 percent increase in annual state funding and a boost to their capital budgets in order to meet the needs of their riders.

Capitol Pressroom: March 3, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

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Capitol Pressroom: March 10, 2024. Runtime: 22:00.

State commissioner talks anti-poverty, shelter funding and migrant crisis

We discuss what the governor's budget proposal means for the state's effort to combat poverty, with Barbara Guinn, acting commissioner for the state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. We talk about targeted anti-poverty initiatives, the outdated shelter allowance formula, direct cash transfers, and caring for asylum seekers.

Capitol Pressroom: March 10, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Police interrogation procedures eyed for reform

Interrogations by police can be critical to a criminal defendant's fate in court, so transparency advocates and criminal defense attorneys are pushing legislation to make sure these interviews are always recorded and limit law enforcement's ability to use deceptive practices. We discuss these criminal justice reforms with Kevin Stadelmaier, chair of the legislative committee for the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Capitol Pressroom: March 17, 2024. Runtime: 30:00.

New state police superintendent shares leadership vision

State Police acting Superintendent Steven James explains why he came out of retirement earlier this year to run the state police. We talk about the use of police-worn body cameras, the disclosure of personnel records, and recruiting a diverse roster of troopers.

Capitol Pressroom: March 24, 2024. Runtime: 22:00.

Assemblymember Thiele discusses three decades in Albany

After three decades at the Capitol, Assemblymember Fred Thiele, a Long Island Democrat, has decided to retire. For our exit interview, we talk about his proudest accomplishments, the evolution of his party identification, and what he would change in the Assembly.

Capitol Pressroom: March 24, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Working Families Party gears up for summer primaries

New York Working Families Party co-Director Jasmine Gripper discusses the June Democratic primaries for the state legislature, including where the third party is playing offense and why these races are significant for their Albany agenda.

Capitol Pressroom: March 24, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Senator Gonzalez's eyes state's use of automated decision-making

Senate Internet & Technology Committee Chair Kristen Gonzalez, a Queens Democrat, talks about her effort to regulate automated decision-making in state government, including disclosing when it's utilized.

Capitol Pressroom: March 31, 2024. Runtime: 23:00.

Senate leader Stewart-Cousins discusses budget

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins discusses the budget process, including her chamber's emphasis on increasing taxes on wealthy New Yorkers and settling housing negotiations outside the budget.

Capitol Pressroom: March 31, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

Assembly GOP pursue fiscal discipline in budget

Assemblyman Ed Ra, a Long Island Republican, discusses the budget priorities being championed by the Assembly Minority Conference and explains why fiscal discipline should be valued.

E. Health:

Capitol Pressroom: January 14, 2024. Runtime: 15:00.

Family suffering spurs conversion on 'Medical Aid in Dying Act'

Assemblymember Al Taylor, a Manhattan Democrat and local church leader, explains his conversion on the Medical Aid in Dying Act, which would allow terminally ill New Yorkers to end their lives with the help of a medical professional.

Capitol Pressroom: January 21, 2024. Runtime: 10:00.

Physician assistants could gain more autonomy

Assembly Health Committee Chair Amy Paulin, a Westchester County Democrat, makes the case for codifying the broader authority given to physician assistants during the pandemic.

Capitol Pressroom: February 18, 2024. Runtime: 10:00.

Funding needed for centers serving abused kids

Child advocacy centers, which serve kids who are victims of abuse and neglect, have seen relatively flat funding for years, despite increased demand for services. Michael Polenberg, vice president of government affairs for Safe Horizon, explains what could be accomplished by doubling the governor's proposed investment.

Capitol Pressroom: February 18, 2024. Runtime: 14:00.

New York's lagging investment in tobacco control

The American Cancer Society-Cancer Action Network's Michael Davoli talks about increasing state funding for anti-smoking initiatives and cancer screenings for low-income New Yorkers.

Capitol Pressroom: February 25, 2024. Runtime: 22:00.

New York deploys mobile medication units

New York State Office of Addiction Services & Supports Commissioner Chinazo Cunningham provides an update on the deployment of mobile medication units around New York and explains why they're critical to accessing drug treatment.

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Excise tax faulted for hindering medical marijuana program

State Senate Cannabis Subcommittee Chair Jeremy Cooney, a Rochester Democrat, wants to repeal an excise tax on medical marijuana to boost participation in the program.