

**iHeartMedia Inc**

**MODEL ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT**

**For Station**

**WBWL-FM**

**3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER, 2023**

**July 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023**

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# **Issues of Concern to Boston Addressed in Responsive Programming in the Third Quarter 2023**

1. FINANCES / ECONOMY / BUSINESS
2. HEALTH / MEDICINE / NUTRITION
3. CRIME / ABUSE / LAW
4. EDUCATION / PARENTING / FAMILY
5. CULTURE / RACE RELATIONS / GENDER
6. PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS
7. GOVERNMENT / FOREIGN AFFAIRS
8. CHARITY / FUNDRAISING
9. ENERGY / ENVIRONMENT

# **WBWL-FM 101.7 / 101.7 The Bull / “Boston's #1 for New Hit Country”**

## **Quarterly Issues / Program List**

Attached are listings of broadcasts or broadcast segments, which, in the station’s judgment, reflect the station’s most significant programming treatment of community issues during the preceding three-month period.

WBWL 101.7 FM broadcasts primarily country music, but also locally produced and network programming. Although we include only local programs herein, WBWL broadcasts include The Bobby Bones Show, Women of iHeartCountry, and Backyard Country which also serves community needs and interests.

## **Program Index**

**New England Weekend** – Host Nichole Davis covers an array of topics that affect and influence the local communities, from health issues to government, in this public affairs program.

**Air:** Sunday, 6AM **Duration:** 30 minutes

**Public Service Announcements** – Broadcast segments focusing on station community outreach projects, concerning issues related to adoption, mentoring, education, jobs, veteran’s issues, violence, disabilities, domestic violence, and children.

**Air:** Throughout the broadcast day **Duration:** 30 seconds

**Most Significant Issue-Responsive Programming**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2023**  
**(July 1 through September 30)**

**ISSUE: FINANCES / ECONOMY / BUSINESS**

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, July 9, 2023

6:15 AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Lyndia Downie, Executive Director of Pine Street Inn, about the Boston Planning and Development Agency's recent approval of a plan for the Comfort Inn on Morrissey Boulevard in Dorchester, MA, to be transformed into permanent supportive housing for seniors. The project got some blowback from neighborhood groups and lawmakers, but Pine Street Inn says it's a critical step to help unhoused seniors make their way off the streets and rebuild their lives. They discussed the project, the fight over the Long Island Bridge, and their upcoming workforce development graduation.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, August 13, 2023

6 AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with New Bedford City Councilor Ian Abreu about how he's introducing his grandfather's syrup recipes to a new generation and what's coming down the pipeline from Silmo. Long-time residents of the South Coast of Massachusetts, especially New Bedford, grew up with Silmo syrup in their milkshakes, frappes and other treats. Decades ago, the business closed down, but thanks to the City Councilor it's getting new life.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, August 20, 2023

6:10 AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Jess Ackerman, an Audit Readiness Leader at Deloitte, about what's missing from Massachusetts' business boardrooms. Women and BIPOC representation in business boardrooms is better than it's ever been, but there is still quite a lot of work to do. That's the story in a new report from Deloitte and the Alliance for Board Diversity called "Missing Pieces." It takes a closer look at diversity at Fortune 500 companies, specifically in their leadership, on both a state and national level. They discussed the survey and its findings.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, September 10, 2023

6:15 AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Kerry Kokkinogenis and Caroline Brocker from the Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts about how recent flooding has impacted crops this year and how they're helping to raise funds with their annual Boston Local Food Festival on the Rose Kennedy Greenway.

**Most Significant Issue-Responsive Programming**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2023**  
**(July 1 through September 30)**

**ISSUE: HEALTH / MEDICINE / NUTRITION**

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, July 23, 2023

6 AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Julie Burns, President and CEO of Rize Massachusetts, about how Xylazine test strips could change the opioid crisis. It started as something you could find behind the doors at the veterinarian's office: xylazine, a drug that's most frequently used to sedate animals so they can be treated. Now, it's found its way into the illicit drug market and combined with fentanyl and other opioids, it's proving to be especially deadly. Burns talked about their efforts to fund new research for test strips, another method of harm reduction that could potentially help to turn this crisis around.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, August 27, 2023

6 AM

20 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Dr. Shira Doron, Chief Infection Control Officer at Tufts Medical Center, about how COVID's back on the scene as more and more people are testing positive. There are so many questions out there about where we go from here with the virus: do we get a new booster or wait? Should we be masking? What's going on with long COVID? Dr. Doron answered those questions and offered insight on how best to protect ourselves.

**Most Significant Issue-Responsive Programming**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2023**  
**(July 1 through September 30)**

**ISSUE: CRIME / ABUSE / LAW**

**New England Weekend**  
Sunday, August 6, 2023  
6:15 AM  
15 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with John Petrozzelli, Director of the MassCyberCenter, about his work in the military, FBI, and the private sector, and current mission of helping direct policy and education efforts when it comes to cybersecurity here in Massachusetts. He discussed ideas, his background, and the Center's efforts to help protect people online.

**New England Weekend**  
Sunday, September 24, 2023  
6:20 AM  
10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Essex County Women in Transition program assistant superintendent Jennifer Murphy about their program, mission, and impact. Leaving the prison system, no matter how long one has been incarcerated, can be confusing, scary, and frustrating, with little support on the outside to help people re-integrate into society. The Women in Transition program is a minimum-security pre-release program, helping women recovering from addiction make their way out of incarceration and start a healthy life.

**Most Significant Issue-Responsive Programming**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2023**  
**(July 1 through September 30)**

**ISSUE: EDUCATION / PARENTING / FAMILY**

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, July 9, 2023

6 AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Andrew Harris, CEO and Founder of Guild Chronicles, a special roleplaying game and educational program to help autistic and neurodivergent kids learn social-emotional skills. They talked about the game and how Guild Chronicles works with schools and therapists to support young people and their development.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, August 6, 2023

6 AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with State Senator Paul Mark (D-Becket) about a plan to get rural towns connected. Dial-up internet access just doesn't cut it these days. We have so much to stream, send, and create! Reliable high-speed internet is a critical tool not just for socializing, but also for work and health care access, among many other areas. Rural areas have struggled to keep pace with the infrastructure, but that's changing in western Massachusetts.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, August 20, 2023

6 AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) about the child care crisis. Working families around New England and the country are struggling to find balance when it comes to child care. Not only is it more expensive than ever, but it's becoming more and more difficult to find a space for children in programs. Centers closing during the height of the pandemic made the problem that much worse, forcing parents out of the workforce. Politicians on both sides of the aisle say it's time to find a solution to this growing crisis. Warren shared her thoughts on the situation.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, August 20, 2023

6:20 AM

5 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Laurie Kirby spoke with Ray DePasquale, President of Massasoit Community College in Brockton, about how Massachusetts community colleges want adults to come back to class. In the new state budget Governor Maura Healey recently signed into law, there is a new program offering up some hope for adults here in Massachusetts who either want to go to college for the first time or finish a degree they may have had to leave behind. DePasquale talked about the new program and the benefits of returning to get a degree, no matter your age.

**New England Weekend**  
Sunday, September 3, 2023  
6 AM  
20 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Dr. Sarah Kyriazis, Principal of the Wawecus Road School in Worcester, MA, about their new "Spark Academy" program, which hopes to create a future-ready hub of innovation at the school. Classrooms these days look far different than they did even just 10 years ago. Instead of pencils, overhead projectors, and chalkboards, you'll find tablets, interactive whiteboards, and laptops. Tech experts say innovative technologies in the classroom are here to stay, including artificial intelligence. They discussed the new "Spark Academy."

**New England Weekend**  
Sunday, September 3, 2023  
6:20 AM  
10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with State Senator Jo Comerford (D-Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester) about funding for rural Massachusetts schools. School districts around the Commonwealth, especially in rural areas, are struggling with budget cuts, classrooms that aren't fully stocked, and teachers reaching into their own pockets to pay for much-needed supplies. Many rural schools are facing some big-time problems, and while there's some help from Beacon Hill, it's still not enough. Comerford talked about her efforts to convince her fellow lawmakers to increase state funding and support for those communities.

**Most Significant Issue-Responsive Programming**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2023**  
**(July 1 through September 30)**

**ISSUE: CULTURE / RACE RELATIONS / GENDER**

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, July 16, 2023

6 AM

20 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Zoe Bradford, a playwright and co-founder of the Company Theatre in Norwell, MA. They talked about the world premiere of a rock opera that tells the story of a strong young woman you may have learned about in your history books: Joan of Arc. "Born To Do This" is the brainchild of Bradford and she talked about the show and her creative process.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, July 23, 2023

6:15 AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with John Santos, General Manager and CEO of the Dorchester Food Co-Op, about their new store opening in Dorchester's Bowdoin/Geneva neighborhood and how it's not your typical grocery store. It's a food co-op, owned collectively by the members of the surrounding community and the store's employees. Santos outlined the benefits of cooperatives in neighborhoods, the buildout, their mission, and what they have to offer.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, August 20, 2023

6:25 AM

5 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with North Shore Music Theatre owner Bill Hanney how the movie Jaws was not easy to create. Jaws has become a classic New England-centric movie over the years, but it turns out, behind the scenes, it was anything but easy to put together. In fact, it was so chaotic that a new comedy on the stage highlights all the production maladies. It's called The Shark is Broken, and Hanney is lending his talents to the show to make sure it's a resounding success. They talked about the show's journey to Broadway, along with what's happening these days at the North Shore Music Theatre.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, September 24, 2023

6:10 AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Katie Greene, Vice President of Marketing and Events at One SouthCoast, about a chowder lover event in New Bedford, MA. For years, residents of the New Bedford area have made their way to the coast for the Chowderfest, a tasty event that helps people sample all the savory soups the South Coast has to offer. This year was no different, with the One SouthCoast Chamber hosting their 18th Annual Blount Fine Foods New Bedford Seaport Chowderfest. Greene detailed the event.

**Most Significant Issue-Responsive Programming**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2023**  
**(July 1 through September 30)**

**ISSUE: PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS**

**Public Service Announcement – HOME BASE / RUN TO HOME BASE**

Monday, July 3, 2023 – Friday, July 21, 2023

Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)

Aired during 6-hour programs, 5-hour programs, and 4-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-one, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Monday (7/3) through Friday (7/21). As a National Center of Excellence, Home Base operates the first and largest private-sector clinic in America, and the only private-sector clinic in New England, devoted to providing lifesaving clinical care and support for the treatment of invisible wounds. Since their founding in 2009, Home Base has been breaking new ground, leading regional and national efforts with a multidisciplinary team of experts working together to help Veterans, Service Members and their Families heal from invisible wounds. By caring for Veterans, Service Members and their Families in a family-based clinic, and working in cooperation with the US Departments of Defense (DoD) and Veterans Affairs (VA), Home Base serves as a replicable model to promote the health and wellbeing of Veterans, Service Members and their Families nationwide. Home Base is a nonprofit organization that operates predominantly on the philanthropic generosity of the Red Sox Foundation (RSF), Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and a grateful nation, including federal, state and local funding; foundation grants; and donations from individuals and corporations. Home Base is supported in part by the Wounded Warrior Project and Welcome Back Veterans, an initiative of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation and Major League Baseball.

**Public Service Announcement – CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

Monday, July 3, 2023 – Thursday, September 28, 2023

Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)

Aired during 6-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-two, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Monday (7/3) through Thursday (9/28). CDC is the nation's leading science-based, data-driven, service organization that protects the public's health. For more than 70 years, they've put science into action to help children stay healthy so they can grow and learn; to help families, businesses, and communities fight disease and stay strong; and to protect the public's health. CDC works 24/7 to protect America from health, safety and security threats, both foreign and in the U.S. Whether diseases start at home or abroad, are chronic or acute, curable or preventable, human error or deliberate attack, CDC fights disease and supports communities and citizens to do the same. CDC increases the health security of our nation. As the nation's health protection agency, CDC saves lives and protects people from health threats. To accomplish our mission, CDC conducts critical science and provides health information that protects our nation against expensive and dangerous health threats, and responds when these arise.

**Public Service Announcement – U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Monday, July 3, 2023 – Thursday, September 28, 2023

Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)

Aired during 6-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-two, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Monday (7/3) through Thursday (9/28). The Department of Veterans Affairs runs programs benefiting veterans and members of their families. It offers education opportunities and rehabilitation services and provides compensation payments for disabilities or death related to military service, home loan guaranties, pensions, burials, and health care that includes the services of nursing homes, clinics, and medical centers.

**Public Service Announcement – AUTISM SPEAKS**

Monday, July 3, 2023 – Thursday, September 28, 2023

Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)

Aired during 6-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-two, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Monday (7/3) through Thursday (9/28). Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the life span, for the needs of individuals with autism and their families through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism spectrum disorder; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions. Autism Speaks enhances lives today and is accelerating a spectrum of solutions for tomorrow.

**Public Service Announcement – SMILE TRAIN**

Monday, July 3, 2023 – Friday, September 29, 2023

Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)

Aired during 6-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-two, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Monday (7/3) through Friday (9/29). Smile Train is the largest cleft-focused organization with a model of true sustainability — providing training, funding, and resources to empower local medical professionals in 70+ countries to provide 100%-free cleft surgery and other forms of essential cleft care in their own communities.

**Public Service Announcement – OIB-TAC**

Wednesday, July 5, 2023 – Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)

Aired during 6-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-one, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Wednesday (7/5) through Wednesday (9/27). The mission of the Older Individuals who are Blind Technical Assistance Center, OIB-TAC, is to provide information and resources that guide programs toward best practices in promoting independence, community involvement, and well-being for older individuals who are blind or have low vision.

**Public Service Announcement – BELONGING BEGINS WITH US**

Wednesday, July 5, 2023 – Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)

Aired during 6-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-one, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Wednesday (7/5) through Wednesday (9/27). Belonging Begins with Us is a partnership between the Ad Council and a coalition of partner organizations from across the country. Together, their mission is to create a more welcoming nation where everyone can belong. More than ever, finding points of connection and shared experiences is key to creating strong, supportive communities. We can all play a part in making sure everyone feels like they belong.

**Public Service Announcement – ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION**

Wednesday, July 5, 2023 – Friday, September 29, 2023

Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)

Aired during 6-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-two, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Wednesday (7/5) through Friday (9/29). The Alzheimer's Association leads the way to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support. Through their many initiatives and worldwide reach, the Alzheimer's Association leads the charge in Alzheimer's care, support, research and advocacy.

**Public Service Announcement – AMERICORPS**  
Wednesday, July 5, 2023 – Friday, September 29, 2023  
Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)  
Aired during 6-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-two, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Wednesday (7/5) through Friday (9/29). AmeriCorps is the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. AmeriCorps provides opportunities for Americans of all backgrounds to serve their country, address the nation's most pressing challenges, and improve lives and communities. Their mission is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. AmeriCorps offers individuals and organizations flexible ways to make an impact while focusing on six key areas.

**Public Service Announcement – EARTHJUSTICE**  
Thursday, July 6, 2023 – Wednesday, September 27, 2023  
Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)  
Aired during 6-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of twenty-one, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Thursday (7/6) through Wednesday (9/27). Earthjustice is the premier nonprofit public-interest environmental law organization. They wield the power of law and the strength of partnership to protect people's health, preserve magnificent places and wildlife, advance clean energy, and combat climate change. They are here because the earth needs a good lawyer.

**Public Service Announcement – CASSIDY MURRAY FOUNDATION**  
Friday, July 7, 2023 – Wednesday, July 12, 2023  
Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)  
Aired during 6-hour programs, 5-hour programs, and 4-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of nineteen, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Friday (7/7) through Wednesday (7/12). The Cassidy Murray Foundation aims to help families who are plunged into grief following a tragic loss. Specifically, the foundation hopes to increase access to mental health resources including trauma and grief therapy. It will also work to expand educational opportunities for young people. Cassidy Murray was a bright-eyed teenager with a beautiful spirit, genuinely kind heart, bright mind, and a joyful zest for life. Cassidy was lost in March of 2022 when she was just 13. She died tragically in a water-tubing accident on a family vacation in Aruba. Cassidy was a precious soul whose endearing personality, infectious smile, and genuine warmth made her a friend to all. She was the embodiment of the quote written on her wall: "Let your smile change the world but don't let the world change your smile!"

**New England Weekend**  
Sunday, July 30, 2023  
6 AM  
30 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Toy Burton, a longtime Roxbury resident with deep ties to the neighborhood, who realized her community was missing something: resources to help them open up and be vulnerable about mental health problems and thoughts of suicide. Enter "DeeDee's Cry," a nonprofit she founded in 2017 to connect BIPOC residents of Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan and beyond to mental health and counseling resources that haven't always been accessible. Toy is also the woman behind the Roxbury Unity Parade, which celebrates and unifies the neighborhood each and every year. She talked about her mental health journey and her efforts to help those in need through her organizations.

**New England Weekend**  
Sunday, August 13, 2023  
6:10 AM  
20 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with the Executive Director of Mass NOW Sasha Goodfriend about efforts to end period poverty in Massachusetts. A coalition of businesses, activist groups, lawmakers and others around Massachusetts are teaming up to support a bill on Beacon Hill called "I AM," which hopes to expand free access to menstrual products in public places around the Commonwealth, including schools and prisons. Mass NOW is one of the advocacy groups that's part of the Massachusetts Menstrual Equity Coalition and Goodfriend talked about what the bill entails, the prevalence of period poverty in Massachusetts, and the impact it can have on someone's life.

**Public Service Announcement –THE DAVE MCGILLIVRAY FINISH STRONG FOUNDATION**

Monday, August 14, 2023 – Thursday, September 21, 2023

Various Dayparts (all 30 seconds in length)

Aired during 6-hour programs, 5-hour programs, and 4-hour programs

WBWL ran a total of one hundred and forty-four, 30-second PSAs during various dayparts, Monday (8/14) through Thursday (9/21). The Dave McGillivray Finish Strong Foundation empowers youth across New England and beyond to increase physical activity; expand literacy; and build community and self-esteem through running, reading, and performing acts of kindness. The foundation inspires kids to dream big and to set goals, not limits. Their goal with the Run Medford event is to create a community-based and involved mass-participatory event that will have a significant and positive impact on the City of Medford, its businesses, churches, residents, non-profits, student-athletes, and people in need. The mission of the Center for Citizenship and Social Responsibility is to develop responsible global leaders/citizens who will be positive contributors to society and will work to combat important social issues such as global warming, addiction, prejudice, racism, pollution, gender bias, poverty, public education, healthcare, etc.

**Most Significant Issue-Responsive Programming**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2023**  
**(July 1 through September 30)**

**ISSUE: GOVERNMENT / FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**New England Weekend**  
Sunday, July 2, 2023  
6 AM  
20 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with MassDOT Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver who shared a behind-the-scenes rundown of what's getting done inside the Sumner Tunnel during its summer closing and alternative travel methods for commuters.

**Most Significant Issue-Responsive Programming**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2023**  
**(July 1 through September 30)**

**ISSUE: CHARITY / FUNDRAISING**

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, August 27, 2023

6:20 AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Robert Mills, CEO of the Bristol Lodge Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry in Waltham, MA that received an eviction notice, forcing them to leave their long-time quarters very quickly. Trouble is, they don't have anywhere else to go, and the Middlesex Human Service Agency needs your help to find a space for them to set up shop so they can keep serving people in need all over the Boston area. They talked about the eviction, the services they provide, and how you can help the soup kitchen and food pantry find a new home.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, September 17, 2023

6 AM

20 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Sarah Mott and David Laferrier with Empty Bowls Attleboro about how they're fighting hunger in Attleboro, MA. Artisans in and around Attleboro teamed up for a great cause: to fight food insecurity in their neighborhood. They did it using clay, glaze, a kiln, and a really good bowl of soup. Members of Empty Bowls Attleboro worked throughout the year to create unique, stunning soup bowls to help generate income for local non-profits helping to feed those who are hungry. Mott and Laferrier talked about their mission and the event.

**Most Significant Issue-Responsive Programming**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2023**  
**(July 1 through September 30)**

**ISSUE: ENERGY / ENVIRONMENT**

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, July 2, 2023

6:20 AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Dr. Anja Brandon, Associate Director of U.S. Plastics Policy at Ocean Conservancy, about the true cost of single-use plastics. Summertime is the perfect time for hikes, picnics, BBQ's, days at the beach - all sorts of outdoor excursions. We often bring a lot of single-use plastics like water bottles, food wrappers, and utensils with us, and a good amount of that plastic doesn't end up in the trash bin. It ends up in the ocean. They discussed a new report detailing just how much plastic pollution is out there and why recycling efforts aren't working the way we had hoped.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, July 16, 2023

6:20 AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with David Bonanno, longtime actor at the Weston Theatre Company in Weston, Vermont, about the state's recent flooding. The heavy rains have been seemingly non-stop this season throughout much of western New England, especially in Vermont, a state which has made national headlines for the devastation suffered through the recent floods. Bonanno talked about the impact of the floods and the resilience of small-town communities coming together to clean up.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, September 10, 2023

6 AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Chief Apiary Instructor Dr. Kim Skyrn about how honeybees play a vital role in keeping our plants and crops healthy, but experts say they're facing an increasing number of threats, both human and environmental. The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources has its very own program to help residents and professional beekeepers alike boost honeybee health. Skyrn shared her knowledge about bees and shared tips on how you can protect them.

**New England Weekend**

Sunday, September 17, 2023

6:20 AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Frank Lowenstein from Climate Culture Boston, a spinoff of Rare, about how Climate Culture Boston helps underserved communities. The city of Boston has lofty goals when it comes to climate, including a push to become a completely carbon-neutral city by the year 2050. There are several initiatives underway to work toward that goal, including a brand-new program by Climate Culture Boston called "SHINE": Solar Helping Ignite Neighborhood Economies. Lowenstein talked about this new push to bring green jobs and renewable home energy to marginalized neighborhoods with the help of established community organizations.

**New England Weekend**  
Sunday, September 24, 2023  
6 AM  
10 minutes of a 30-minute program

WBZ's Nichole Davis spoke with Plymouth State University Meteorology Professor Eric Hoffman about the rainy summer and what's been causing all the rain in New England. Autumn has arrived and yet the rain continues. Most of the summer has been wet, to the point where some cities are seeing close to record rain totals for the year. Hoffman broke down the weather patterns and offered insight into what to expect in New England for the fall and winter months.