

## **WWKX-FM/HOT 106 Public Service Report**

**Fourth Quarter 2023 (October 1 to December 31)**

**Prepared by: Mary Ellen Kachinske**

**Here are the surveys of community leaders on the issues most important to RI:**

Mental Illness, expanding programs for the mentally ill, prescription drug prices, construction headaches in the area, the condition of the roads, cost of living, life threatening illnesses and the mental toll on families, access for needy to programs to help pay bills, holiday giving, volunteering, energy prices, affordable housing for economically challenged, opium and fentanyl abuse growth in youth, after-school programs for youth to avoid drugs, elderly housing and raises that do not cover cost of living increase.

### **CUMULUS COMMUNITY: ALL shows Air Sunday Mornings, 6:00am**

- Oct 1<sup>ST</sup>** Amy Pontes, Host. Beth Lamarre, Executive Director for NAMI RI. The role Nami plays in our community, the NAMI Walk for mental illness and creating awareness for mental issues.
- Oct 8<sup>TH</sup>** Bekah Berger, Host. Linda Dziobek of Partnership to Reduce Cancer in Rhode Island. Big upcoming event at the Crowne Plaza called a cancer summit, what that entails, who is involved and how to attend or offer services.
- Oct 15<sup>th</sup>** Jess Schiano, Host. Carla Mulhern, Executive Director of The Izzy Foundation. Focusing on the Izzy's which is an Izzy Izspirers event on Dec 3 (emceed by Jess of WPRO-FM) and all of the fundraising efforts.
- Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>** Repeat of Oct 15 show
- Oct 29<sup>th</sup>** Nick Guiliano, Host. Mary-Kate O'Leary of A Wish Come True. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Polar Plunge helping children with life threatening illness, effects on family and raising funds to help families.
- Nov 5<sup>th</sup>** Mike DeSilva, Host. Ryan Loiselle from Friend's Way who talked about serving local children 3 to 18 years who have suffered a significant loss of a loved one. They help the entire family with bereavement services through counselling, art therapy, group functions and more with behavioral therapy with authorized clinicians.
- Nov 12<sup>th</sup>** Repeat of November 5 show
- Nov 19<sup>th</sup>** Amy Pontes, Host. Rhode Island Community Food Bank. Their holiday needs as well as how to volunteer to help feed the needy on Thanksgiving. Other fundraising events.

- Nov 26<sup>th</sup>** Bekah Berger, Host. Pam Verklan of Children's Friend. Wish list for families in need for the holidays, annual Toy Drive event with Cumulus Media and volunteering.
- Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>** Repeat of Nov 26 show
- Dec 10<sup>th</sup>** Nick Guiliano, Host. Mary-Kate O'Leary of A Wish Come True. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Polar Plunge helping children with life threatening illness, effects on family and raising funds to help families.
- Dec 17<sup>th</sup>** Vic Edwards, Host. Nike Kirkwood, Chairman of RI Good Neighborhood Energy Fund. Providing assistance to pay heating bills, what energy companies offer this service and who in RI is eligible plus hot to request assistance.
- Dec 24<sup>th</sup>** Updated content on Polar Plunge and 2024 programs. Nick Guiliano, Host. Mary-Kate O'Leary of A Wish Come True. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Polar Plunge helping children with life threatening illness, effects on family and raising funds to help families.
- Dec 31<sup>st</sup>** Update on 2024 programs to help keep needy warm plus warming center information.
- Vic Edwards, Host. Nike Kirkwood, Chairman of RI Good Neighborhood Energy Fund. Providing assistance to pay heating bills, what energy companies offer this service and who in RI is eligible plus hot to request assistance

## **Rhode Island's AMAZING WOMEN OCTOBER 2023**

**Host & Creator: Deb Ruggiero Produced by Karen K/Cumulus**

***Airs every Sunday mornings on WPRO-FM at 6:30am***

**[www.amazingwomenri.com](http://www.amazingwomenri.com)**

- Oct 1<sup>st</sup>** **JENNIFER HAWKINS** is the CEO of One Neighborhood Builders, a nonprofit community. development leader. We discuss where affordable housing is being built in Rhode Island, mixed income social housing, and how short-term rentals have impacted the housing stock for year-round renters.
- Oct 8<sup>th</sup>** **HELENA BUONANNO FOULKES** stormed onto the political scene in 2022 with formidable Democratic Gubernatorial Campaign in Rhode Island. She discusses lessons learned from that campaign, her current work on public education with several towns, and her decision to run again for Governor in 2026.
- Oct 15<sup>th</sup>** Rosie the Riveter is the most iconic image of working women. There are many skilled tradeswomen today. **ANITA BRUNO** started ***Rhode Island Women in The Trades*** in 2019. This non-profit organizes, educates, and trains women for employment empowerment.

- Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>** We are all getting older and all of us want to ‘age in place’. In the next six years, over a third of the population will be 55+. **CAROLINE GANGJI**, executive director of the **VILLAGE COMMON of RHODE ISLAND** discusses which communities have established a ‘village’ for people to age in place, and why it is the future.
- Oct 29<sup>th</sup>** **ANNO CANO MORALES**, Vice President for External Relations, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Rhode Island College, discusses the future of Rhode Island College, RIC as a Hispanic Serving Institution, and the importance of a secondary education in today’s marketplace.
- Nov 5<sup>th</sup>** **KRISTEN WILLIAMS**, executive director, of RIVERZEDGE ARTS in Woonsocket discusses the economic engine of the art community in this state. She highlights the programs at RIVERZEDGE ARTS that paid, work-based learning for teens in the state.
- Nov 12<sup>th</sup>** Coastal management of the 420 miles of coastline really matters in the Ocean State. **PAULA BONTEMPI**, Dean of URI School of Oceanography, discusses the importance of the Blue Economy in our state, coastal resiliency, and the lure of Narragansett Bay.
- Nov 19<sup>th</sup>** The Narragansett Indians have been in Rhode Island for over 30,000 years. Tribal Council member, **LOREN SPEARS**, discusses the history and culture of the Narragansett Indians and the future of the Indigenous people.
- Nov 26<sup>th</sup>** You may not think twice about your next family meal, but 11% of Rhode Island households are food insecure. **LISA ROTH BLACKMAN**, chief philanthropy officer at the Rhode Island Food Bank, discusses health equity, community farms, and the important role the RI Food Bank plays in supplying local food pantries.
- Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>** Athletic competition is a doorway to self-confidence and success. University of Rhode Island women’s basketball coach, **TAMMI REISS**, talks about coaching young women to be the best in the conference, excel in academics, and learn the game’s life lessons for
- Dec 10<sup>th</sup>** Homelessness and affordable housing are top-of-mind policy issues in Rhode Island. **KAREN SANTILLI**, CEO Crossroads RI, discusses new projects for the unhoused, and what the state needs to do to mitigate the housing shortage.
- Dec 17<sup>th</sup>** **JENNIFER HAWKINS** is the CEO of One Neighborhood Builders, a nonprofit community. development leader. We discuss where affordable housing is being built in Rhode Island, mixed income social housing, and how short-term rentals have impacted the housing stock for year-round renters.

**Dec 24<sup>th</sup>** We are all getting older and all of us want to 'age in place'. In the next six years, over a third of the population will be 55+. **CAROLINE GANGJI**, executive director of the **VILLAGE COMMON of RHODE ISLAND** discusses which communities have established a 'village' for people to age in place, and why it is the future.

**Dec 31<sup>st</sup>** **VALERIE TUTSON** is an award-winning storyteller, who performs at schools, conferences, and festivals singing songs and telling the stories of Black history and African tradition. She is a Brown University graduate with a Master's in theater art and a BA in her self- designed major *Storytelling as a Communications Art*.

**ONGOING PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS:**PRO-FM Hosts record PSAs that run 1x per daypart/5x a day

Oct: Tomorrow Fund, NAMI Mental Health Walk & International Suicide Survivors Day

Nov: PPAC Food Drive, Attleboro YMCA 5k charity run, and local solicit for organizations to send info on upcoming events and fundraisers.

Dec: Rhode Island Food Pantry, RI Blood Bank

## **APPEARANCES & VOLUNTEER HOURS**

**October** AM Show Co-host Bekah Berger led the PRO-Fm team at the NAMI Walk on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

PM Host Barbijo DiMaria hosted the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Investing in our children luncheon for Children's Friend, improving well-being of RI most vulnerable. WPRO donated a pair of holiday Mariah Carey concert tickets for the silent raffle.

**December** In conjunction with the local Centerville Bank WPRO asked listeners to submit stories of local families in need with Gifts That Give Back. 5 were chosen to receive holiday funds and toys/gifts. The bank was so moved by the stories of need that they helped 7 other local families for the holidays.

Rumford 5k, Sunday, October 22, 8:30-10:30a in Rumford- family friendly 5k run/walk hosted by local businesses whose goal is to enrich and enhance the community's engagement. Jessica Schiano hosted and was Dj for the event.

RI Heat Firefighters Calendar drop, Thursday, November 2, 6:30-8:30p at Moonshine Alley in Providence- Event introducing the Firefighters of 2024 & selling calendars for the Izzy Foundation. Jessica Schiano and Barbijo DiMaria were the official hosts and promoted the calendar sales on social media with pictures and a video.

Zpire Finale, Sunday, December 3, 6p-9p at Kirkbrae Country Club in East Greenwich- The Izzy Foundation provides services and support to those families with children who have debilitating diseases. Jessica Schiano was the Emcee.