

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAM LIST
STATION: WEBR AM/FM
APRIL 1 – JUNE 30, 2023

View Point is a 60 minute locally produced program that airs Monday – Friday, 9am – 10am Hosted by Tom Darro covering various topics of the day, serving both Erie & Niagara Counties Community Issues include education, economy, health care, crime, environment, and tourism

DATE: April 07, 2023
GUEST: Hank Nevins - WLVL News Reporter
DESCRIPTION: Reported on various news stories including the merging of the two stations (WEBR/WLVL) into one family. Other topics discussed were Yankee Baseball coverage on WLVL, Memories of Vietnam, and Summer Car Shows.

DATE: April 11, 2023
GUEST: Kristen Jacobsen – Memorial Day Parade Organizer
DESCRIPTION: The discussion focused on the planning of the Memorial Day Parade including getting Marching Bands and other participants signed up and road closings for the Parade. Ms. Jacobsen also covered the Hands Healing Hero's program that is scheduled for September.

DATE: April 12, 2023
GUEST: Lee Wallace – Supervisor – Town of Niagara
DESCRIPTION: The Supervisor covered many topics of interest to the residents of the Town of Niagara including an Amazon update, Summer Concert Series, Military Road School demolition update, and Truck Stop update. He also spoke about low-cost housing being proposed for the Town of Niagara.

DATE: April 17, 2023
GUEST: Mike Filicitti – Niagara County Sheriff
DESCRIPTION: The Sheriff explained what is involved in welfare fraud arrests and investigations. He also reviewed the topics of swatting, boating safety, and traffic safety. Sheriff Filicitti talked about Bald for Bucks – a Roswell Cancer Fund Raiser.

DATE: **April 19, 2023**
GUEST: Robert Restaino – Mayor – City of Niagara Falls
DESCRIPTION: The Mayor’s discussion focused on Sal Maglie Stadium improvements, lighting the city with new streetlights, street repaving, traffic control, and Blue Cardinal Main Street development. Another topic of conversation was the summer lifeguard and pool programs.

DATE: **April 26, 2023**
GUEST: Majeed Siddiqui M.D.
DESCRIPTION: Dr. Siddiqui talked about health issues including obesity, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and hypertension. The discussion surrounded medical concerns, prevention, and treatment.

DATE: **April 27, 2023**
GUEST: Mark Laurrie – Niagara Falls School Superintendent
DESCRIPTION: The Superintendent addressed security in the schools. Another topic of discussion was electric buses and the cost to the districts. Mr. Laurrie also explained American Rescue Funds and how they will be spent and School Board Elections.

DATE: **April 28, 2023**
GUEST: Angelo Morinello – Assemblyman – 145th Assembly District
DESCRIPTION: The Assemblyman addressed District concerns including late State Budget. He also discussed all-electric vehicles and Electric Grid and how they can handle the needs of the community.

DATE: **May 09, 2023**
GUEST: Chris Voccio – Niagara County Legislator – 6th District
DESCRIPTION: The Legislator discussed the State Budget and how it will affect Niagara County. Other topics covered were Medicare Funding, County vs. City benefits, and the County Land Bank Program.

DATE: **May 10, 2023**
GUEST: Henry Wojtaszek – President and CEO WROTB
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Wojtaszek discussed the changes in Operations at WROTB. Less OTBs than ever before since horse racing isn't as popular as other sports betting. Also, having Easy Bets in restaurants and bars, casinos, and on-line betting have given people more options. The hotel experience is very profitable. He covered WROTB's desire to create more family friendly attractions near the casino. Some ideas being considered are golf simulators, a bowling alley, and putt-putt.

DATE: **May 17, 2023**
GUEST: Anthony Restaino – City Administrator
DESCRIPTION: The City Administrator talked about the Mayor's Community Meetings and a topic that has already been addressed at the meetings – the public is not satisfied with Modern's garbage collection in general. The city is looking for competitive companies to get better service. Street paving is scheduled, and some 20 streets will be done. Al Maglie Stadium field is completed. Mr. Restaino also spoke about the improved system for Code Enforcements and Public Works monitoring. Also discussed were the problems of abandoned houses and processes that must be followed before demolition can happen.

DATE: **May 19, 2023**
GUEST: Angelo Morinello – Assemblyman – 145th Assembly District
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Morinello spoke about the Police Memorial Service honoring those who lost their lives in the line of duty. It was the 23rd annual service held at St. Peters Episcopal Church. Also addressed was the issue of Concealed Weapons Restrictions which was included in the State Budget making it legal for persons participating in military ceremonies, funerals and honor guards, historic reenactors, and lawful hunters to have concealed weapons. He covered Niagara Falls Tourism focusing on natural elements and changes in the downtown area to attract families. Mr. Morinello also spoke about the immigrant situation, illegals who are not vetted, and how the federal government has failed local areas.

DATE: **May 23, 2023**
GUEST: Dave Frabrizo and Stan Zimmerman – Veterans Commission
DESCRIPTION: The guests talked about the upcoming Memorial Day ceremonies. A day of reflection to honor and remember those veterans who died in battle. There will be a community choir, prayers, Mayor’s speech, and other speakers. They discussed the Veterans’ Monument which is on the National Veteran’s Register – made of granite costing 1.8 million dollars. They informed listeners about the updates for the monument area: installing high intensity lighting and monitored security cameras. They explained how to get a name on a monument: applications are on the website, or you can call a commission member to help with the process.

DATE: **May 24, 2023**
GUEST: Joe Jasyrezemski – Niagara County Clerk
DESCRIPTION: He discussed the Purple Heart dedication ceremonies on August 6th. Work is being done on the monument – recipients’ names are being added and walkways are being placed at the County Courthouse in Lockport. Mr. Jasyrezemski also presented information regarding Passports, Real I.D.s, and Nexus Passes explaining all three and which one is needed for different circumstances. Advised listeners that they can renew their passports at the County Courthouse. He talked about Food for Paws – an organization that helps senior citizens and vets who have service animals with the expenses incurred with having pets when you are on a limited income. The event is on June 8th. He reviewed gun laws - concealed weapons changes (where to carry and who can carry) gun permits semi-automatic rifle permits vs. pistol permits and the different hours of training to obtain each one.

DATE: **June 02, 2023**
GUEST: Mike Filicitti – Niagara County Sheriff
DESCRIPTION: Sheriff Filicitti covered drone operation and their use in Law Enforcement. They are a big asset – can get eyes in the sky quickly. Provide video feedback, heat-seeking technology which is used to look for missing persons, suspects, and aid Fire Departments. He also commented on Bail Reform. Small changes are happening with “no bail”, giving judges more discretion to put bail on some individuals. The term “least restrictive means for judges” was removed. Judges can now look at all factors of a criminal’s history and impose bail instead of ROR. The Sheriff also discussed new ATV laws: vehicles can’t be on roads, only open land, additional fees will be imposed for offenses, and ATVs will be impounded.

DATE: June 08, 2023
GUEST: Mark Laurie – Niagara Falls School Superintendent
DESCRIPTION: He discussed graduation and all the fun activities planned for the seniors. Gave updates about the COVID money call-back by Federal Government. The district has until September 2024 to utilize the funds. Niagara Falls District has a detailed plan on the website with exact usage of the funds. Also, each school district will be audited to see how the money was spent. Mr. Laurie also talked about the Student Police Academy. A one-year program with eight graduates this year. He covered “Trade Schools” and how they are no longer in one location. Students are taken by bus to various facilities for training in a particular field. For example, nursing - hospitals, laborers – local union buildings, etc. Some programs will go through B.O.C.E.S. He commented on School Board meetings. There are two meetings per month, and they are live-streamed. One has speakers/topics and the other is a work session.

DATE: June 15, 2023
GUEST: Angelo Morinello – Assemblyman – 145th Assembly District
DESCRIPTION: The Assemblyman explained where the process is regarding the Seneca Compact. There is an agreement with the state (in principle), but they are still finalizing it (in writing). He also discussed the Trade and Apprentice training offered to High School students in various fields – B.O.C.E.S. and more. That training in welding, carpentry, and electrical are offering high paying jobs and alternatives to college. He talked about the desire to make the Underground Railroad more of a tourist destination.

DATE: June 21, 2023
GUEST: Robert Restaino – Mayor – City of Niagara Falls
DESCRIPTION: He spoke about the rededication of Sal Maglie Stadium. Two million dollars in renovations including artificial turf. The mayor discussed the concerns of callers including laws regarding surveillance cameras on houses and issues of privacy. There are no city ordinances for that. Also covered was the possibility of putting Electric Charging Stations in public parking lots. May be revenue for the city. Hotels and motels are looking into the same option. The mayor addressed the city repaving project which will include about ten blocks at a time. He explained that repaving usually does not involve water lines/damage, however if a problem does come up, it is usually the responsibility of the homeowner for sewer lateral line repairs and advised listeners to contact their insurance company regarding sewer line and flooding coverage.

DATE: **June 22, 2023**
GUEST: Lee Wallace – Supervisor – Town of Niagara
DESCRIPTION: The Supervisor discussed Music Mania Mondays in Veterans Memorial Park. The concerts feature tribute bands, free to the public, free parking, and the vendors/sponsors who support the concerts. Big celebration planned for July 1st (four bands and fireworks). Mr. Wallace gave updates regarding Amazon. They pulled back on the project but are still moving along - slowly. He reported on the progress of the demolition of the former Military Road School. The town is working with the owner of the building who has hired a demolition company; however, he is having trouble finding workers who have been certified in asbestos abatement. The cost is over \$400,000. The Supervisor also reported on the “no bail” policy regarding shoplifters. Stores are reluctant to prosecute. If caught, individuals are given an appearance ticket. Even though it is a misdemeanor there is no real deterrent.

DATE: **June 26, 2023**
GUEST: Majeed Siddiqui, M.D.
DESCRIPTION: He discussed the epidemic of drug addiction and substance abuse. Dr. Siddiqui explained that drug addiction can include prescription drugs provided by doctors. He also commented on the responsibility of physicians to advise their patients of the risk of developing a dependency/addiction on pain killers. He spoke about what signs parents should look for in their children including not performing in school, how they act at home, and changes in behavior. Dr. Siddiqui believes the way to get children on the right path starts at home with strong family values, positive role models, good parenting, instilling goals and dreams, and having children in supervised activities.

DATE: **June 27, 2023**
GUEST: Josh Meloni – Writer for the Tribune and Sentinel
DESCRIPTION: He discussed how this summer will be packed with sporting, music, and cultural events. Mr. Meloni talked about the Dimino Band stage dedicated to Tony Dimino’s dad. The stage was moved and expanded encouraging more events, concerts, and festivals and is a centerpiece of the area. Tops Markets will be sponsoring the BPO on stage in Academy Park. He spoke about a Lewiston promotion that is in its third year. Three local bakeries comp coffee and treats for all active duty and retired military members to thank them for their service. The dates are July 1 through July 4. Mr. Meloni told the listeners that the paper is available every Friday (paper version and online) and is free to readers – a good source for all events taking place throughout the River Region including Artpark concerts, Fort Niagara reenactments, the Jazz Festival, and many more events. He commented on the quaintness of Lewiston with its unique businesses and local merchants.

DATE: **June 28, 2023**
GUEST: Brian Seaman – District Attorney
DESCRIPTION: He discussed plea deals offered by the D.A.'s office and that public opinion is that criminals are offered something less than the crime. Mr. Seaman explained that since the court system is not set up to cover every case that they get the best results by offering something they can win giving some satisfaction to the victims and their families. He covered the question of how a grand jury works. Twenty-three laypeople (jurors) will sit in court three days per week for varying lengths of time. The Assistant D.A.s present cases and the jury members evaluate the strength of the prosecutor's evidence. Exceptions for individuals to serve on jury duty no longer exist based on occupations. A juror may be dismissed or excused for hardships or bias for a particular case. The District Attorney reported on his office and "cold cases". There are 24 Assistant D.A.s in their office, but not a cold case bureau in Niagara County. They do have Assistant D.A.s who are assigned to a few cases each and police departments keep records of their own open files and cold cases.

DATE: **June 29, 2023**
GUEST: Kathy Kaneley – Elder Abuse
DESCRIPTION: She talked about how abuse of the elderly is quite common; one out of ten older adults is a victim of elder abuse. Ms. Kaneley explained the types of abuse: financial exploitation (mostly by family members), physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional and psychological abuse, and neglect – both active and passive. There is usually more than one abuse that occurs, and most are not reported. Many older adults will not report family members. She reviewed the actions that can be taken to protect the elderly: revoking a power of attorney, getting orders of protection, can get the perpetrator away from the victim, among other actions. There are enhanced multi-disciplinary teams to help. They cover many counties and run through the NYS Office for the Aging with the assistance of law enforcement and the District Attorney's office. Ms. Kaneley let listeners know that anyone can report elderly abuse if they suspect it by calling Adult Protection of Erie or Niagara County. She concluded by stating that every adult should have three documents: a Power of Attorney, a Health Care Proxy, and a Will.