

The Public's Radio - Issues and Programs Lists

Q2: April 1 through June 30, 2023

Here follows a listing of some of the significant issues responded to by The Public's Radio in Providence, Rhode Island, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of 04/01/23 thru 06/30/23. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

1. Arts and culture: April 13, 2023

The New Bedford Art Museum is filled with sound: There's a new exhibition at the New Bedford Art Museum. But it doesn't include paintings or drawings. It features Sound Art — works of art meant to be experienced in person with your *ears.* Artscape producer James Baumgartner checked it out and brought his microphone along so you can hear it.

Length: 7:30

2. Criminal Justice/Courts: April 20, 2023

Unsealed footage of 2020 ICE detainee uprising leaves unanswered questions: A violent confrontation between guards and immigrants at a Bristol County detention center in 2020 spawned conflicting accounts of what happened. Three years later, the release of a heavily redacted subset of the original footage offers little in the way of objectivity.

Ben Berke talks with Morning Edition Host Luis Hernandez about the story.

Length: 6:53

3. Immigrants win big settlement in labor dispute: March 30, 2023

The nearly \$1 million concession by Bob's Tire could have ripple effects in other workplaces where undocumented immigrants quietly endure harsh conditions. Ben Berke reports.

Length 5:00

4. Housing/Politics: May 25, 2023

Rhode Island faces a long haul to tame the housing crisis: Rhode Island's housing crisis has climbed to the top of the state's political agenda. But making progress remains difficult due to a number of factors. In the first in a series of periodic stories from our newsroom on the housing crisis in our region, we look at what happens when the rubber meets the road. Ian Donnis reports.

Length: 7:45

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5. Housing: June 1, 2023

“It’s a relentless pursuit”: How one organization has secured housing for homeless people with cash incentives: As homelessness has skyrocketed in Rhode Island, one nonprofit is combating the issue by giving private landlords thousands of dollars in cash for every homeless person they house. “It’s really just a relentless pursuit,” said Albert Schiavone. He works for Amos House, a nonprofit organization in Providence that offers a wide variety of services and resources for homeless people in Rhode Island. Olivia Ebertz reports.

Length: 5:00

6. Politics/Environment/Housing June 9, 2023

The fight over who has access to Rhode Island’s shorelines has taken a major step forward. South County Bureau Reporter Alex Nunes gives us the latest. Also, The Golden Rule peace boat makes a stop in Providence this weekend on its months-long journey around the country to spread a message of peace and nuclear abolition. We talk about the issues (and the role Rhode Island plays) with local peace activist Madeline Labriola; Bill Hartung, Senior Research Fellow at the Quincy Institute; and Bob Watt, a member of Veterans for Peace, the organization behind the Golden Rule. Plus: Political Reporter Ian Donniss stops by to break down the week in politics; we talk with Peter Evangelista, Brendan Kinnell and Beth Barron about Providence Porchfest; local chef Sherry Pocknett won a James Beard Award this week; and we share a few tips on what to do this weekend.

Length: 27:00

7. Health: June 19, 2023

Rhode Island communities get millions in opioid settlement funds. But who knows how they’re spending it? More than \$10.5 million has flowed into Rhode Island cities and towns so far from legal settlements with opioid manufacturers, distributors and sellers with no explicit requirements that the municipalities publicly report how the money is spent. The direct payments to cities and towns are part of nationwide settlement agreements with companies like Johnson & Johnson, McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen which state and local governments accused of flooding their communities with addictive opioid painkillers. Lynn Arditi reports.

Length 5:00

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8. Housing/economy: June 15, 2023

URI grad fought for affordable housing in Middletown. Now he's priced out, too. Rhode Island's Low and Moderate Income Housing Act says every city and town in the state needs to have at least 10 percent of its housing stock be affordable. But decades after the law went into effect, only six municipalities have met the goal. In the third installment of our series, "Falling Short: In search of affordable housing," we find that Middletown is one community that still has far to go.

Length: 7:12

9. Arts and culture/politics/health: June 23, 2023

This week, we reported that Lt. Gov. and CD1 candidate Sabina Matos supported a 2020 proposal that could have threatened the survival of two Rhode Island hospitals. We talk with Political Reporter Ian Donniss about that story, and other highlights from the week in politics. Also, millions of dollars are flowing into Rhode Island cities and towns from opioid settlements. But how are they spending it? Health reporter Lynn Arditi looks for answers. And we talk with Tony Award-winning actor Alan Cumming, who comes to New Bedford this weekend for an unlikely collaboration with NPR's Ari Shapiro. Plus, our arts and culture picks for the week.

10. Arts/Culture: June 29, 2023

Words matter: "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never harm me." It's a saying many of us heard as kids. But a project by local photographer Gershon Stark turns the phrase on its head. In this week's episode of Artscape, Morning Host Luis Hernandez talks with Stark about two exhibits at the Rhode Island Center for Photographic Arts that highlight the power of words.

Length 5:00