

## **WEZQ 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Community Issues Report**

**April 1 – June 30, 2019**

The **WEZQ News Department** covers issues and community concerns during weekend programming with the Sunday morning show **Maine Concerns**. Our News Director is in regular contact with local, county, state and federal officials. In addition, community leaders and nonprofit organizations are contacted to determine what issues are of greatest concern to our listening audience.

**The WEZQ community issues program, Maine Concerns, airs Sundays at 6:12 a.m. and some of our news stories are also posted on line on our website at [929theticket.com](http://929theticket.com).** Stories covered generally fall into the following categories:

**Crime-** WEZQ covers stories we think are important to Maine residents from drug trafficking to scams and security related issues. When necessary, we support efforts of law enforcement by releasing names and information pertaining to missing person's cases or searches. We're in regular contact with the Maine Public Safety spokesman, Maine Emergency Management Agency, and Maine Drug Enforcement Agency. We also cover marine crime related stories with information provided by U.S. Coast Guard and Marine Patrol.

**Health-** WEZQ covers a wide variety of health related stories and work with regional hospitals, the Maine CDC, and other organizations to get the word out about conferences, medical developments, viruses, and seasonal concerns like Lyme Disease or flu. Many of our stories dealing with public safety can be considered health related as well, citing our warnings about CO poisoning during power outages as one example.

**Economy-**The economic struggles faced by Maine and the nation continue to dominate our news coverage. We continue to report on laws and initiatives affecting the economy as it relates to municipal, state and federal programs and services. We report on training and development opportunities in the state as well as job fair activities.

**Environment-**Our environmental coverage spans a wide variety of stories to promoting public hearings such as the DEP hearings for the Juniper Landfill in Old Town, or the public hearings on the DCP Midstream proposed liquid propane tank in Searsport, to stories about necropsies on whales.

**Education-** WEZQ covers stories in Maine from school budgets to school safety initiatives. Stories about innovative college studies and research are also covered.

**Community-** WEZQ recognizes the work of community non-profit groups who utilize volunteers to promote the general welfare of Maine citizens. From food drives to help feed those struggling seniors Downeast, to matching grant challenges to serve single mothers, to charity runs and concerts, WEZQ provides a lot of coverage for these kinds of events.

**Public Safety-** WEZQ covers stories that impact the public safety of community which can run the gamut from natural disasters to police emergencies like shootings or standoffs.

**If the situation warrants, the News Director will include stories of national significance and those stories might include anything from National Security, Natural Disasters, Congressional activities or Presidential declarations.**

**The following is an extensive sampling of our community issues content during the second quarter of 2019:**

**4-14-19 Environment-Health-Community (6:12AM Length - 24:18)**

Ticks – Cindy Campbell talks with Jim Dill of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab about the tiny insects that have just started showing up for Spring. He discusses the different kinds of ticks, and the various diseases that they carry. Dill offers tips on how to avoid being bitten and explains that ticks that people have removed can be sent to the tick lab. The experts will identify the type of tick it is, and the diseases that it may carry.

Lyme Disease – Cindy chats with Dr. Siiri Bennett of the Maine Center for Disease Control about the symptoms of Lyme Disease. Dr. Bennett discusses ways to avoid getting bit, and what signs to watch for, after a person does remove an embedded tick. She also explains the long-term effects of Lyme Disease and discusses the treatment options.

Bears – It's the season for bears to be waking up from hibernation, so Cindy talks with bear biologist Jen Vachon about how to avoid attracting them to the yard. She talks about taking in bird feeders, keeping grills clean, and storing trash inside, among other suggestions. Vachon also offers tips on what to do if a bear does find its way into the yard.

211 Maine – 211 Maine Program Administrator Nikki Busman explains to Cindy the many service listings that can be found on the free phone number/website. Folks can find everything from the location of the nearest food pantry, to crisis hotline numbers, to recycling centers to help them unload all their old stuff during Spring cleaning.

**4-21-19 Health-Economy-Community (6:12AM Length – 24:18)**

Relay for Life – Cindy Campbell chats with Stacy Durant of the American Cancer Society about this annual event that's coming up in May. Stacy talks about changes in the event, including the venue and time, and about how even spectators can help to raise money. She explains how the money is used, including providing rides to cancer patients in Maine.

Bark for Life – Cindy talks with Organizer Sarah Smith about an event that's similar to Relay for Life, expect folks are encouraged to bring their dogs. Like Relay, all the money raised by the event goes to support the American Cancer Society and cancer patients in Maine.

Ronald McDonald House Charities – RMHC has a fundraiser coming up in May, to help fund the organization's many programs. Stacy Weidner of Ronald McDonald House Charities explains the many functions of the group, including the houses that offer a family-type living arrangement for people with children in the hospital, a family room in the hospital in Portland, and the grants that they offer. She also explains the Purses with a Purpose fundraiser in May.

Fresh Air Fund - Cindy talks with Jennifer Leavitt, who is an administrator and host mother for the Fresh Air Fund, which gives inner-city kids from New York City a chance to come to Maine for a week or more during the summer. She discusses the advantages to the kids, the requirements for the host families, and especially the rewards experienced by all.

#### **4-28-18 Community, Public Safety, Education, Environment, Health (6:12AM Length: 24:54)**

Beal College Fundraiser – Cindy Campbell talks with Beal College student Jessica Murry about fundraisers she’s organizing, that will benefit the family of fallen Maine State Police Trooper Benjamin Campbell. She talks about her own connection to law enforcement and how the tragedy hit close to home. All of the fundraisers are being held at, and with the cooperation of, the school administration.

Bears – With videos popping up on social media of bear sightings around the state, Cindy shares an interview she did with Maine Warden Service Bear Biologist Jen Vachon about how to avoid attracting bears to your own property. She advises taking in any food stuffs, covering trash cans and cleaning grills (and taking them all inside), and taking bird feeders in at night.

Suicide – A group of students gathered this weekend in honor of Suicide Awareness, so Cindy shares an interview she did with Mary Gagne of Health Affiliates Maine. Gagne discusses how someone gets to that point, the warning signs that may indicate someone is considering suicide, and what to do if you suspect someone of considering it. She offers websites and phone numbers, along with local resources that could help.

Color Bangor – Organizers of the American Folk Festival announced this week that their biggest fundraiser, Color Bangor, is going away next year. So Cindy chats with Executive Director Heather McCarthy about what’s involved in the 5K fun run/walk and how people can get signed up. Heather also explains that all the money raised by the event helps to support the festival’s lack of an admission fee.

#### **5-5-19 Health, Community, Environment, Public Safety (6:12AM Length: 24:32)**

Stroke Awareness – May is National Stroke Awareness Month, so Cindy Campbell talks with Dr. Gillian Gordon-Perue of Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center about the topic. Dr. Gordon-Perue explains what causes a stroke, its effects on the body, and details warning signs to watch out for. In addition, she emphasizes the importance of getting help as quickly as possible to minimize the damage.

Cancer Fundraiser- The Greater Bangor Bark for Life dog-friendly event is less than a week away, so Cindy, who co-hosts the event, talks with organizer Sarah Smith about some new changes this year. Smith also talks about how people can get involved and the many ways that the funds raised work to help cancer patients in Maine, including providing rides to their treatments.

Ticks – Tick season is just getting started and it looks like it's going to be a bad one. So Cindy talks with Pest Specialist Jim Dill, of the University of Maine Tick Lab, about the many different varieties of ticks. He explains which ones are dangerous and how to tell them apart. And Dill gives tips on how to avoid getting bit.

Beal College Fundraiser – Cindy talks with Beal College student Jessica Murry about fundraisers that she's helping plan, with all the proceeds to be donated to the family of Maine State Police Detective Ben Campbell, who died in the line of duty. Murry is the daughter and sister of law enforcement officers, and so says her heart goes out to the Campbell family.

#### **5-12-19 Health, Environment, Public Safety, Economy (6:12AM Length: 24:48)**

Powassan Virus – Dr. Jonathan Busko of St Joseph's Hospital talks with Cindy Campbell about the Powassan Virus, a tick-borne illness that can have devastating effects. He explains how quickly the virus can be transmitted, symptoms to watch out for, and the best prevention from getting infected.

Lyme Disease – Since the last segment has everyone thinking about Lyme, Cindy talks with Dr. Siiri Bennett of the Maine Centers for Disease Control about symptoms of Lyme, long-term effects of the disease, and what types of treatments are available.

Boating Safety – Boating season has started and so Cindy talks with Corporal John MacDonald of the Maine Warden Service about basic safe boating tips. He discusses the importance of wearing life vests, doing safety checks on the boat before heading out, and letting someone know where you plan to travel, and when you expect to get back home.

211 Maine - 211 Maine Program Administrator Nikki Busman explains to Cindy the many service listings that can be found on the free phone number/website. Folks can find everything from the location of the nearest food pantry, to crisis hotline numbers, to recycling centers to help them unload all their old stuff during spring cleaning.

#### **5-19-19 Health, Community, Economy, Education, Environment (6:12AM Length: 24:58)**

Community Care – Cindy Campbell talks with Sean Scovil and Amy Pierce of Community Care about an upcoming Day of Caring. The waterfront event will feature bagged lunches and bags of hygiene products given out to those in need, as well as tables with information with resources available to the needy on a variety of topics.

Camp Capella – Harvey Chesley of Camp Capella gives the details about two upcoming events that will raise funds for the camp that serves children and adults with a wide variety of disabilities. He also talks about the challenges of operating a camp that needs specialized medical professionals on staff, at all times.

Relay for Life of Hancock County – Cindy talks with organizer Brandy Marchetti about the upcoming Relay for Life Event in Ellsworth. She gives specifics about the schedule of events on June 1<sup>st</sup>, and also details about how the money is used. Some of the funds raised for the American Cancer Society help

provide rides to Maine cancer patients, and fund Hope Lodges that give families of patients a free place to stay.

Brewer High School – Cynthia McLaughlin chats with Cindy about Brewer High School’s Outdoor Education program, that offers an out-in-nature alternative to basic physical education. Students learn about surviving in the outdoors, and skills like hiking, kayaking, and canoeing. The group is holding a flower sale to help fund their many projects.

#### **5-26-19 Health, Education, Community, Economy, Environment (6:12AM Length: 24:06)**

Bangor Y Scholarships – Cindy Campbell talks with the Bangor Y’s Executive Director, Diane Dickerson, and Camp G. Pierce Webber’s Nature Director, Aliexandria Johnston, about the summer camp programs’ scholarships, including one being offered by Johnston. She’s going to cover the cost of tuition, for a week, for two campers, as way to ‘pay it forward’ after spending her youth going to Y camps. Dickerson also talks about the educational programs at the camps, from basic survival to leadership skills.

Purple Iris Foundation – Cindy chats with Purple Iris Foundation founder, Christina Parrish, about the organization that works to raise awareness of pancreatic cancer. An 11-year survivor of stage 4 pancreatic cancer, Parrish talks about what it meant to her to start the organization that now offers support programs to cancer patients and about a charity hike in honor of one man who recently passed away from the disease. Both of these segments emphasize the importance of being outside and appreciating life at its most basic form...in nature.

#### **6-2-19 Public Safety, Health, Education, Community, Economy (6:12AM Length: 24:54)**

Boating Safety – Cindy Campbell talks with Corporal John MacDonald of the Maine Warden Service about boating safety tips. He stresses the importance of wearing a life vest, rather than just keeping it in the boat, and letting someone know when you’re leaving, where you’re going, and when you expect to return, so searchers know where to look, in case something happens. In addition, he discusses putting info on the boat, so rescuers know who to call, if the boat is found in trouble.

Bangor Y Camps – Cindy talks with Bangor Y CEO Diane Dickerson about the Bangor Y camp programs, and the difference between Camp G. Pierce Webber and Camp Jordan. She explains the many educational programs they offer, including leadership skills. Also in the discussion is Aliexandria Johnston, who’s still taking applications for two week-long scholarships to one of the camps.

Camp Capella – The first of Camp Capella’s fundraisers is less than a week away, so Cindy talks with fundraising coordinator Harvey Chesley about the day of go-karts and miniature golf in Holden that will help pay for expansions at the camp. Chesley also talks about the challenges of operating a camp for children with a variety of disabilities, including the need for medical staff.

#### **6-9-19 Environment, Economy, Health, Community (6:12AM Length: 24:33)**

Bangor Greendrinks – Cindy Campbell chats with Bangor Greendrinks Chair Greg Edwards about this organization that works to improve the environmental sustainability of the Greater Bangor area. Through monthly social gatherings, sponsored by environmentally conscious organizations, the group raises consciousness but also funds that are used for things like grant programs, trails maps, and improving current green spaces.

Salvation Army – Captain Rebecca Kirk talks with Cindy about the organization’s many efforts to feed the hungry, including its food pantry/soup kitchen, and youth feeding program. She invites everyone to the ‘Need Knows No Season’ breakfast coming up this week, which is a fundraiser for the many food sustainability programs.

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#### **6-16-19 Health, Economy, Community, Public Safety (6:12AM Length: 24:48)**

Summer CO Poisoning – Cindy Campbell talks with Dr. Christopher Pezzullo about the ways people can be exposed to carbon monoxide in the summer. He discusses power outages and the use of generators, but also the dangers of swimming behind a boat, and operating engines inside. Dr. Pezzullo also talks about when people open up their camps for the summer, and cautions them to check gas lines for any possible leaks that happened during the winter.

Camp Capella – With Camp Capella’s spaghetti dinner fundraiser less than a week away, Cindy chats with Fundraising Coordinator, Harvey Chesley, about the camp that serves children and adults with disabilities. Chesley also talks about the challenges of operating a camp for children with a variety of disabilities, including the need for medical staff.

Islesboro Crossing – Cindy Chats with Cindy Beaton and Melissa Arndt of LifeFlight of Maine about the organization that flies the state’s most critically injured patients to medical facilities both in and out of Maine. They discuss the need for a new helicopter and a fundraising event coming up in August that will help them earn the money to purchase one. The Islesboro Crossing is a 5k, in which participants swim the distance, rather than run.

#### **6-22-19 6-16-19 Health, Economy, Community, Public Safety (6:12AM Length: 24:48)**

Fireworks Safety – Cindy Campbell talks with Jake Johnson of the Bangor Fire Department about some basic fireworks safety tips, including never modifying fireworks. He discusses the importance of keeping kids and pets away from the fireworks and having a bucket of water and/or a fire extinguisher nearby. In addition, he advises checking with the local fire department to learn the specific ordinance in their community.

Suicide – Mary Gagne of Health Affiliates Maine talks with Cindy about the warning signs that someone may be contemplating suicide, and the person’s state of mind when they get to that point.

She offers information about resources, not only for the person who's thinking about taking their life, but also to the people left behind after a loved one dies.

U-Maine Tick Lab – Jim Dill of the University of Maine's Tick Lab talks about the many varieties of ticks in Maine (there are 14), and which ones are considered dangerous because they carry disease. He explains how residents can send the ticks they find to the lab to be identified, so they know whether to be concerned.

Lyme Disease – Since everyone's already itching from the last interview, Cindy chats with Dr. Siiri Bennett about the symptoms of Lyme Disease and when it's time to call the doctor. She explains that it can be treated, but that there's a window during which people need to seek medical help.

**6-30-19 Health, Environment, Public Safety, Economy (6:12AM Length: 24:48)**

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