

WEAF/1130am
ISSUES AND ANSWERS QUARTERLY SUMMARY
JANUARY – MARCH 2024

Ascertainment Issues

Ascertainment respondents listed the following topics as community issues of concern:

Community
Politics
Health
Education
Women's Health
Human Trafficking
Mental Health
Nutrition
Black History
African American History
Education
City Government
Mental Health
Finances
Civil Rights
Social Security
Politics
Entertainment

Ascertainment Answers

WEAF answers to issues submitted included, but were not limited to; producing and airing the programs listed addressing the identified topics.

WEAF Radio
January - March
:60 Daily

WEAF airs the "Community Calendar" each hour. The Community Calendar features information submitted from the public on upcoming, local events that empower and inform the Columbia Community. The Community Calendar airs Monday-Friday, 6am-10pm. The Community Calendar aired 400 times in this period.

WEAF FM aired 1,200 Public Service Announcements during the quarter of from various Churches and non-profit organizations. WEAF ran an additional 500 minutes of public Service Announcements from government agencies concerning local, regional and national information.

WEAF Radio
January 1-16th

WEAF produced a :60 promo series that spotlighted information concerning "Martin Luther King, Jr." during the lead up to his birthday celebration. The :60 features were aired Monday-Friday, 6am-10pm.

WEAF Radio
January 16th

WEAF Radio broadcast South Carolina's annual "King Day at The Dome" and annual celebration of Dr. Martin Kings birthday.

WEAF Radio
January - February

WEAF produced a :60 promo series that spotlighted information concerning "Tax Preparation". It's Tax Time a :60 feature aired Monday-Sunday 6am-10pm.

WEAF Radio
January 1-31st

WEAF produced a :60 promo series that spotlighted information concerning "Glaucoma" for "Glaucoma Awareness Month". The :60 features aired Monday-Sunday 6am-10pm.

WEAF Radio
January 30-February 3rd

WEAF produced a :30 promo series that spotlighted information concerning "Go Red For Women" for "Awareness of Women's Heart Disease". The :60 features aired Monday-Sunday 6am-10pm.

WEAF Radio
February 1st – 28th

WEAF produced a :60 promo series that spotlighted information celebrating the achievements of African Americans during Black History Month". The :60 features aired Monday-Sunday 6am-10pm.

WEAF Radio
March 1st – March 30th

WEAF produced a :30 promo series that spotlighted information concerning Women for "Women's History Month". The :60 features aired Monday-Sunday 6am-10pm.

WEAF Radio
March 1st – March 30th

WEAF produced a :30 promo series that spotlighted information concerning Women for "Kidney Month". The :60 features aired Monday-Sunday 6am-10pm.

WEAF Radio
March 1st – March 30th

WEAF produced a :30 promo series that spotlighted information concerning Women for "Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month". The :60 features aired Monday-Sunday 6am-10pm.

"The Urban Scene"

WEAF's Public Affairs Program. The Urban Scene airs weekly on Sunday evenings at 6pm. The Urban Scene A weekly program providing information and analysis about local issues. The program utilizes an interview and discussion format to explore political, social, economic, and cultural themes relative to the Columbia Area.

January 7th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community

Conversation with James and Terisa Muldrow about educating the community about the rising issue called mortgage theft.

January 21st

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Politics

Conversation with Carrie Elliot from the League Of Voters talking about the activities of the organization in 2023 and there upcoming efforts for the year of 2024

January 28th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Black History

Conversation with Gene Washington about documenting Black History throughout the state of south Carolina via plays movies and more.

February 4th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Black History

Conversation with Ruben Johnson about youth playing Baseball. He spoke about his you baseball league and why African Americans are not playing baseball.

February 11th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Black History

Conversation With George Frierson about George Junius Stinney Jr. a young man who, at the age of 14, was wrongfully convicted and then executed in a proceeding.

February 18th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community

Conversation with Brandy Pinkston about scams that our community should be aware of and what they need to do to prevent and deal with them.

February 25th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community

Conversation with Dr. Bambi Gaddis former head of the HIV Council about different health areas concerning the African American Community.

March 3rd

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Family, Community

Conversation with Lewis Burns about the importance and seriousness of Life Insurance for you and your family.

March 10th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Housing

Conversation with Kevin Wimberley with the SC Uplift Community Outreach who talked about his no profit community outreach development corporation and Shawn Owens from Suite 65 LLC spoke about his organization that is a Home Accessibility modification organization that helps people modify home so that can age in it. The two work together to ensure elderly clients can stay in their homes.

March 12th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community

Conversation with Aubrey D. Jenkins, the Fire Chief of the Columbia Fire Department updating us about the ongoing issues that surfaced at Colonial Apartments. Apartments have been cleared for residents to return as other matters are still under investigation.

March 17th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community

Conversation with Ann Mickle from the Mickle and Bass Law Firm. She is discussing information about the latest cases against companies that produce hair relaxers for women.

March 24th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Religion

Conversation with Pastor Turman Bowen from Trinity Baptist Church about the origins of Easter and the importance of Resurrection Sunday to the Christian Community.

The P.A. Bennett Show

:60 minutes

The P.A. Bennett show airs Monday through Thursday at 6pm. The program features information and analysis of local issues, government, health, community resources and community events. The program utilizes interviews, guest discussions, social media interaction as well as ZOOM and listener phone calls to explore social, economic and cultural themes relative to residents in our coverage area.

P.A. Bennett Show Quarter Highlights include:

Jan 3rd

Following the Special Election for Senate District 19, this show focused on the very low voter turnout, voter apathy and soliciting listener input on causes and solutions. Caller offered varied opinions including the division of state and national Party Politics. The winner of the Special Election, new Senator Tamiaka Isaac Devine called in to lay out her legislative priorities and plans for answering constituent concerns in her district.

Issues Covered: Voter Apathy, Voting Restrictions, Politics,

January 8th

The host opens today's show with updates on local school districts plans to close schools because of anticipated 'high winds'. She and listeners voiced concerns that the school districts were over-reacting and that the result would cause chaos for families because most closing generally coincide with business and government closings. Listeners also moved the discussion to the responsibility of school administrators for the safety of students in light of an incident where a middle school student was attacked by fellow students while on her way home at the end of the school day.

Issues Covered: Students Safety, School District Policy, Teen Violence

January 10th

Regular contributor T.S. Mitchell was today's guest discussing and answering listener questions regarding the primary financial moves families and individuals should aim for in 2024. Those moves included changing your passwords every

three to four months; keeping a fire/water proof safe to protect your important documents; and, if you're turning 73 years old, be sure to withdraw your required minimum distribution to avoid a large tax on your accounts.

Issues Covered: Family Finances, Cyber Security, Retirement

January 17th

Today's show covered a range of listener initiated topics including: a tribute and recognition of South Carolina native Eartha Kitt Day; the new intersection cameras installed by law enforcement in Columbia; cuts in funding for the Healthy Start Program; and, the protest at the annual King Day at the Dome celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Issues Covered: Law Enforcement, Child Food Programs, MLK Protests

Jan 23rd

The Host brings listeners up to date on continuing efforts to investigate the Administrators Richland School District One. The investigation is centered on an unauthorized building project which led to scrutiny of other District Activities. Additionally, a veteran Poll Worker joined the program to discuss changes to polling locations for the upcoming Democratic Primary.

Issues Covered: Education, Taxes, Voting, Elections

January 29th

Today's show was focused on new revelations of misconduct at the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center where employees have been arrested and charged with improper sexual relations and providing contraband to prisoners. The facility has also experienced prisoner on prisoner abuse, several deaths and evidence of deteriorating facility conditions. The detention center is under Federal and County investigation.

Issues Covered: Prison Conditions, Taxes

February 6th

A court ruling in a Michigan School Shooting trial prompts today's discussion of how much responsibility parents have/should have when children commit gun violence. Listeners contributed to the discussion of how mental health issues factor into that judgement.

Issues Covered: Teen Gun Violence, Parental Responsibility, Mental Health

February 14th

A shooting after the Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl victory parade prompts another discussion about gun culture, violence and legislation. Dozens of listeners called with varied opinions on the reason these incidents happen and discussion of the difficult task of preventing firearms from being brought into such large gatherings.

Issues Covered: Gun Violence, Teen Violence, Public Safety

February 20th

The host initiated a discussion of the Georgia District Attorney, Fani Willis, and how her personal travails can/should impact her decision making in the case she has brought against former President Donald Trump. Some listeners lamented that the present circumstances may cause the case to lose focus.

Issues Covered: Politics, Judicial Prudence, Legal System

February 27th

The host solicits listener opinions on Daylight Savings Time. The conversation centered on its benefits, downside and the number of states considering joining others who do not change to DST. The second portion of this show was focused on the state of the Republican Party and South Carolina native Nikki Haley's probability to stay in the race.

Issues Covered: Daylight Savings Time, Politics, Campaign Finances

March 5th

Today's show began with a additional information on the statement from a North Carolina Gubernatorial candidate that said Black people should pay reparations to descendants of slave owners. The topic promoted discussion of slavery, civil rights and several reparation initiatives in multiple states and municipalities. There was also a discussion of governor, Ron DeSantis, declaring that young people coming for Spring Break were not welcome in Florida.

Issues Covered: Slavery, Reparations, Civil Rights

March 7th

P.A. laments with multiple listeners and law enforcement the signing of the permitless, Constitutional Carry Law in South Carolina. The legislative debate and passage of the law divided many sectors of the community.

Issues Covered: Gun Rights, Constitution, Gun Violence, Public Safety

March 13th

The topic of today's show centered on a recent poll indicating a significant increase (generation to generation) of the number of people identifying as LGBTQ. The host outlined the numerous changes in laws, social standards and societal accommodations for that community. Listeners offered varied opinions on how these changes are impacting communities.

Issues Covered: LGBTQ Bias, Discrimination, Religion, Civil Rights

March 20th

Today's show was centered on the Haitian uprising and subsequent impact on that nation and the expected increase in the number of refugees from that country. Listeners offered input on the history of Haiti with many recounting details of the Haitian revolution that began in 1791. Other callers lamented on the instability of the Haitian government and the appearance that there might not be an internal solution that brings peace to the troubled country and its people.

Issues Covered: Haitian History, African American History, World Politics, War

March 27th

Today's show offered the latest available information on an audit of the South Carolina financial status that indicated a \$1.8 Billion dollar surplus that was not in the state's accounting system. The host and listeners offered comments on whether political appointees should be entrusted with statewide finances. Listeners also commented on the political division the discovery initiated as fingers were pointed as to who was the blame for the situation.

Issues Covered: Taxes, State Finances, Politics

The Urban Scene with Don Frierson
:60 minutes

Don Frierson hosts The Urban Scene daily at 12noon. The Urban Scene features information and analysis of local issues, government, health, community resources and community events. The program utilizes interviews, guest discussions, social media interaction as well as ZOOM and listener phone calls to explore social, economic and cultural themes relative to residents in our coverage area.

The Urban Scene continued its format of Weekly Segments devoted to community, law enforcement, government and community services. In these segments, guests/co-hosts spends the entire 60 minutes of the program disseminating information and answering listener questions. These regular segments include:

Insight with Antjuan Seawright – In this Quarter, Antjuan reported and hosted multiple shows live from Washington, D.C. – President Biden's continuing efforts to eliminate or reduce student loan debt. Callers challenged Seawright on how the President's loan forgiveness efforts would impact them and how they could qualify. Another show was centered on the Biden Administration growing dilemma with the war between Israel and Hamas. Seawright also spent one show, unexpectedly, defending Congress and the administration on the real impact of some economic policies – especially in low income communities.

Issues Covered: Politics, Education, Middle East War, Economy, Affordable Housing

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott – In this Quarter, Sheriff Lott devoted multiple visits discussing and soliciting community support in opposition of the Constitutional Carry legislation debated and, ultimately passed by the South Carolina General Assembly. The Sheriff used one visit in the Quarter to publicize

career opportunities in his department. Brittany Jackamounus joined the Sheriff to share her story of rising to the rank of Captain and the numerous opportunities for women and young people in Law Enforcement. The Sheriff also devoted several visits to enlighten the community on the increase in teenage violence in our communities – especially among African American young people – encouraging African American church and community leaders to take a more pro-active role in helping curb the violence

Issues Covered: Gun Control, Crime Prevention, Community Safety, Law Enforcement Careers, Teen Violence

Other Urban Scene Highlights include:

Jan 2nd

Cassie Elliott of the Columbia League of Women's Voters discussed a special program to attract voters to the polls in the upcoming state Senatorial election. Callers called in to discuss the election and the date and location of precincts.

Issues Covered: Politics, Voting

Jan 9th

Kimberly Richardson of Widows of Opportunity discussed getting through 2024 for those who have lost loved ones.

Issues Covered: Grief, Finances, Family

Jan 12th

Richland School District One Superintendent Craig Witherspoon discussed the District's progress and plans to address challenges and concerns identified in his year-end report. Listeners called in to discuss issues related to the Vince Ford Early Learning Center construction project. The project was halted when state and county regulators discovered that the project had not been approved and lacked some needed permits. The Superintendent also addressed the controversy concerning the movement of teachers between schools to address staffing shortages.

Issues Covered: Education, School Administration, Taxes, Teacher Shortages

Jan 15th

The Urban Scene aired live from the Grounds of the South Carolina State House. The occasion was the annual NAACP King Day at the Dome observance. Vice President Kamala Harris was the featured speaker. The program also featured representatives from dozens of community organizations and churches as well as state and local elected officials.

Issues Covered: Civil Rights, Politics, Elections, Voting, Housing, Education

Jan 22nd

Today's show featured a documentary on the Children's movement in Birmingham Alabama during the sixties. The Birmingham Children's Crusade was a non-violent protest against segregation May 2nd- 10th, 1963. The protest by Black children is credited with causing a major shift in attitudes about segregation in America and convincing President John F. Kennedy to publicly support federal civil rights legislation.

Issue Covered: Civil Rights, Racism, Politics

January 26th

Ida Thompson, Greenview Historian, discussed a weekend event in the Greenview Community highlighting the historical significance of Greenview. The community was established in 1948 with funds from the GI Bill for the expressed purpose providing homes and a livable neighborhood for veterans returning from World War II. Thompson reflected on how Greenview progressed and became a viable community that still has one of the most influential voting blocks in the City of Columbia.

Issue Covered: Veterans Day, Military Service, History, Racism

February 5th

Anthony Jackson, president of Baptist Hospital discussed the resources his hospital provide for those who lack insurance. Jackson also outlined for listeners the neighborhoods and communities with health care disparities and the community outreach resources the hospital offers. Callers asked questions about resources being discussed and how those resources can be obtained.

Issue Covered: Community Health, Health Resources, Diabetes, Heart Disease

February 9th

Ida Thompson returned as guest today in her role as Board member of The Columbia Domestic Violence Agency. She informed listeners of an upcoming workshop on teenage Domestic Violence. Thompson shared statistics that give evidence of the rise in teenage cases and demographics that indicate the problem is prevalent in all communities. Callers called inquired about ways they can detect domestic violence among their teenagers.

Issue Covered: Domestic Violence, Teenage Domestic Violence, Counseling

February 19th

Christy Savage, Community Activist called in again to notify the Community of openings available in classes teaching electrical engineering. She discussed the training and background necessary, the increasing need for electrical engineers and the job opportunities available after graduating.

Issue Covered: Career Options, Education, Job Training

February 23rd

Today's Show was an Open Forum: Audience members called in to express their opinions on crime and various legislative issues - including the State legislature's refusal to accept a federal summer food program for children and the recent passage of a state law regulating the availability of abortions in South Carolina.

Issue Covered: Crime, Gun Violence, Childhood Hunger, Food Deserts, Abortion

February 28th

Guest host Carrie Elliott continued with her theme "The Fierce Urgency of Now." Ms. Elliott discussed the Club Women's movement and its significance in Civil Rights History. Listeners called in to discuss women's involvement in legal and social issues regarding their rights today.

Issue Covered: Civil Rights, Civil Rights History, Abortion, Legislative Advocacy

March 5th

Playwright and Filmmaker Gene Washington was today's guest. Washington discussed his new documentary on African American High School Coaches in South Carolina and their influence. He explained the role many of those coaches assumed in the lives of their players and community.

Issue Covered: Sports, Education, Gangs, Community

March 11th

Veronica Issac discussed the upcoming appearance of the Johnson C. Smith University Concert Choir in Columbia. Ms. Issac shared the history of the choir and choral programs at HBCU institutions across America – noting that some schools now offer scholarships to students for choral participation. Numerous listeners called in to discuss their attendance at Johnson C. Smith University and recalled the times they sang on the Choir.

Issue Covered: Music, Education, Community, Scholarships

March 13th

Carrie Elliott was today's guest host and Senator Tameika Issac Devine was the guest. They discussed the new Senator's first few months in the South Carolina Legislature and the bills that affect her district. The Senator discussed Constitutional Carry and the development of Scout Motors (the company that will

make the new JEEP vehicles. Listeners presented several questions on the impact of the Scout Motors plant in the Blythewood community and surrounding area. They also inquired whether the company would generate the economic impact expected and whether that impact was worth the concessions and tax breaks they were awarded.

Issue Covered: Politics, Legislature, Open Carry Firearms, Economy, Employment, Taxes

March 18th

Oveta Glover, NAACP Columbia Chapter President, joined the program to discuss an important upcoming NAACP meeting and activities of the Columbia Branch. Listeners called in to discuss joining the NAACP and Glover reminded listeners of the importance of the organization and its continuing advocacy on multiple social, legal and legislative fronts.

Issue Covered: Civil Rights, Legislative Lobbying, NAACP Funding

March 29th

Pastor Thurman Bowens of Trinity Baptist Church discussed the true meaning of Easter. Bowens noted that several African American churches are referring to Easter Sunday as Resurrection Sunday. Listeners called in to discuss the meaning of Easter and how symbols such as the bunny rabbit and Easter eggs have taken away from that meaning.

Issue Covered: Easter, Church, Traditions, Religion