

WAAI-FM
January- March 2024
Issues & Programs Report

Program: On Delmarva

Airs: Sunday Mornings 9-9:30 am

Issue: Financial Assistance / Education

Airdate: Sunday, January 28

Spoke with Mike Difiore, chairperson of the Better Living Expo about the upcoming event set to take place at the Wicomico Civic Center in Salisbury. This annual event showcases vendors and artisans. It raises money for the Salisbury Optimist scholarship fund. The organization gives our scholarships to several graduating seniors each year to help with college tuition and expenses.

Issue: Child Advocates

Airdate: Sunday, March 7

Spoke with Jerrona Smith about the 1st Annual Pinwheels For Prevention Soiree, "A Night Of Country Elegance" to be held Friday, April 5th at Kylan Barn in Delmar, MD. This event would serve as a fundraiser for CASA. Casa stands for court appointed special advocates for children of domestic violence or abuse.

Issue: Mental Health

Airdate: Sunday, January 28

Spoke with Mirela Handy about her and her husband's mission to pair veterans with service dogs. The couple seeks out dogs at local humane societies to see if they may be a good fit for a local veteran, suffering from PTSD. Currently, they have 11 veterans and 4 first responders in the program. Their goal is to help the mental health of our military.

Issue: Community Networking / Sports

Airdate: Sunday, January 28

Spoke with Jimmy Sweet, assistant general manager to the Delmarva Shorebirds, minor league affiliate to the Baltimore Orioles. Jimmy was in studio to discuss their upcoming Hot Stove Banquet that featured many guest speakers and fan opportunities.

Issue: Animal Welfare

Airdate: Sunday, March 24

Spoke with Whitney, director of events from the Humane Society of Wicomico County about some of their pets available for adoption. Whitney is a regular guest on the show.

Issue: Employment

Airdate: Sunday, January 7th

Spoke with Stephanie McVey about an upcoming Job Fair set to take place in Georgetown, DE. The event set to host over 40 businesses was free to attend for job seekers. Attendees were encouraged to “dress for success” and to bring resumes. The goal was to help those in need of a job, find one. Full-time, part-time and seasonal jobs were available and some candidates were hired on the spot.

Airdate: Sunday, February 4th

Spoke with the Worcester County Government’s Department of Resources representatives about the correctional officer jobs currently available in the county and how to apply.

Issues: Seniors and Retirement

Airdate: Sunday, January 7

Spoke with Charlie Papparella from Travels With Charlie, television program, about his upcoming retirement, as well as his many memories from touring Delmarva’s small towns, undiscovered gems and unique people.

Issue: Youth In Need

Airdate: Sunday, February 18

Spoke with Paige Howell founder of Paige's Kindness Project about her ongoing mission to help those in need. One of Paige's biggest endeavors is to provide clothing to homeless students at the local elementary, middle and high schools. She does this by collecting from family, friends and neighbors in her community.

Issue: Youth Fitness

Airdate: Sunday, January 14th

Spoke with Staci Alexander, director of the Creative Movement about their upcoming show, Candilandia. This dance production features students of all ages. Creative Movement is all about teaching children how to express their thoughts and emotions through dance. It gives them a creative and mental outlet to express themselves while at the same time becoming physically fit.

Issue: Special Needs

Airdate: Sunday, January 14th

Spoke with Steve Monz about his upcoming participation in the Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics. This annual event held the first Sunday in February of each year, features thousands of "plunger's" that raise money for Special Olympics. Participants brave the wind and cold temperatures to take a winter dip in the Atlantic Ocean. The event raised over a million dollars in 2023, and they were on pace to top that in 2024.

Issue: Military Support and Aid

Airdate: Sunday, February 18

Spoke with Jeff Merritt, founder of Operation We Care about their mission. Operation We Care is a volunteer organization that packs and ships care packages to our military serving overseas. Boxes include non-perishable snacks and toiletries. They pack approximately 2000 boxes a year, 1000 in the spring and 1000 in the fall. Jeff talked about an upcoming donation drive on Saturday, March 23rd in Bethany Beach, DE. People in the community were invited to stop by Hockers G & E Market between 11am-1pm with a donation.

Issue: Community Activities

Airdate: Sunday, January 7

Spoke with Holly Gilpin, Director of Tourism in Dorchester County about their many upcoming events including their ice festival.

Airdate: Sunday, February 11

Spoke with Holly Gilpin, Director of Tourism in Dorchester County about their many upcoming events spring events and fundraisers. The month of February featured many events dealing with black heritage in the area.

Airdate: Sunday, February 25

Spoke with William Strand Moya, artistic director for the Ocean City Film Festival. This 8th annual event was set to feature over 100 independent films. Films were set to be shown at several different locations in Ocean City during the month of March.

Airdate: Sunday, March 3

Spoke with Holly Gilpin, Director of Tourism in Dorchester County about their many upcoming events to be held this spring including murder mysteries and an adult egg hunt.

Airdate: Sunday, March 10

Spoke with Nick Seitz about the upcoming Ocean Renaissance Festival to be held April 12-14 at the Carousel Resort. This family-friendly event features fire performers, live mermaids and many musical types of entertainment. Period fare would also be served. Vendors and artisans would be in attendance and festival-goers would have the opportunity to participate in contests.

Airdate: Sunday, March 17

Spoke with Steve Monz about the upcoming DSN Outdoors Expo set to take place April 19-20 at the Harrington Fairgrounds in Harrington, DE. Nearly 100 vendors were expected to participate in this two-day show that features everything to enjoy the great outdoors. From camping and fishing to hunting and shooting, there is something for everyone at this event. In addition to outdoor vendors, crafters and artisans would also be participating.