



# **ISSUES & PROGRAMS**

## **WBAK-FM**

**3rd QUARTER 2021  
(JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER)**



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**Public Affairs**

WBAK-FM airs the public affairs show "Maine View" that is designed to address important community issues. The following is a list of show topics during the Quarter. Each edition of Maine View also includes Maine Governor Janet Mill's weekly radio address and the response from the Republican Party in Maine. Each address runs roughly 5 minutes. Maine View has a run time of 20 minutes and airs Sunday at 6:00am

7/4: This edition features a conversation with Helen Hemminger of the Maine Children's Alliance. The 2021 kids count data book is out with statistics on how Maine compares to other states in our nation on poverty, education, and the health and well-being of children. Helen discusses means gains and losses and the work toward preventing continued declines in light of the pandemic. We also meet up, again, with young author Emma Rose of Hamden. She has written two books, and announced on our program the name of her third book coming out next month. Emma writes about grief and loss of teens. And she shares again her story of losing a loved one to suicide.

7/11: This edition features a talk with Dave Cheever, former Maine State Archivist, and current Vice Chairman of the Maine Bicentennial Commission. After the onset of Covid 19 forced the postponement of bicentennial events in 2020, the Commission rescheduled most of them for 2021 – and labeling this year a "Bicentennial Plus One." County agencies kept the grants given by the Commission to fund events, and they have proceeded since early spring. Large events include: the Sailing Ships Festival throughout the summer; the Bicentennial Parade in Lewiston/Auburn on August 21; the Innovation Expo in Portland on November 20; and the time capsule sealing at the Maine State Library in December. Also discussed was the unfortunate lack of adequate summer employees in areas of Maine, and how that would impact lodging and restaurant business during the Bicentennial Plus One year.

7/18: This edition features a conversation with state senator Chip Curry of Belfast. He is called upon the legislature's government oversight committee to investigate the department of health and human services following the death of three-year-old Maddox Williams in Stockton Springs. Curry discusses the heinous nature of the death plus the disturbing trend in child deaths in our state in the month of June. He also shares his hopes for what the investigation might produce. We also speak with Shawn Laatsch of the verse in power astronomy center of the recent Virgin Galactic flight to the edge of space. He talks of how this is a Not the first step in space exploration and what trends might follow. He also details events at the astronomy center at the University of Maine in Orono.



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7/25: This week's edition features a conversation with Dana Doran of the Professional Loggers Association of Maine. U.S. Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) and Congressman Jared Golden (ME-02) announced \$200 million available for logging and log hauling businesses seriously impacted by the pandemic through the Loggers Relief Act, which Collins and Golden co-authored and Senator Angus King (I-ME) and Congresswoman Pingree (ME-01) co-sponsored last year. Doran explains how Senator Collins secured \$200 million for logger relief in the final COVID-19 relief package that was signed into law in December and how the United States Department of Agriculture took months to stand it up and finalize its application process. We also speak with UMaine and UMaine Machias President Joan Ferrini-Mundy about the System's plan to require COVID-19 arrival testing for all unvaccinated students and employees returning for the fall semester. Ferrini-Mundy shared how unvaccinated community members participating in arrival must quarantine while awaiting their test results and wear face coverings while inside university buildings and how more than 5,000 UMS community members have already registered their status by using the voluntary tracking portal to upload an image of their vaccination card. Ferrini-Mundy also discusses the System's plan to draw winners of \$1,000 scholarships among those who've registered as vaccinated.

8/1: This week's edition features a talk with Jim Dill, Pest Management Specialist for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension service based in Orono. The topic was The Browntail Caterpillar and Moth, and the health problems they've caused in Maine in 2021. The caterpillar has tiny poisonous hairs that cause dermatitis similar to poison ivy – and it lasts for up to two weeks. If inhaled, the hairs can cause respiratory illness. Their presence was so invasive; the cities of Waterville and Bangor issued public emergencies. The hairs become airborne and can last up to three years in soil and undergrowth, according to Dill. When the caterpillars turn into moths in late July and August, they lay clusters of eggs on the undersides of leaves. Later, the newborn caterpillars build winter nests on the tips of tree branches. Dill says that is the time to control the pests by cutting the nests down and burying them. This was the method that mostly eradicated the pests in the late 1800's, but despite being controlled elsewhere they naturally have returned to all 16 counties in Maine. The pests need an also a warm Spring to proliferate, which has been the case lately in Maine. Dill said the Coop Extension works closely with the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry in sharing information.

8/8: This edition features a conversation with Suzanne Farley of wellspring Inc., a nonprofit organization on the front lines of helping the addicted find recovery from drugs. Suzanne talks of the increase demand on staff as means drug crisis reaches epidemic levels. And we promote the upcoming "race for recovery" on September 19. We also talked with Peter Geiger, publisher of the Lewiston-based farmers almanac. The farmers almanac is out with its winter prediction of "frosty flip-flopping weather" plus offers life hacks and other interesting bits of information. The latest addition of the farmers almanac hits stands next week, but Peter offers us a preview in this edition.



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BROADCASTING

8/15: This edition features a conversation with Penobscot County sheriff Troy Morton. The days of reaching citizens via websites is over. The Penobscot County sheriff's department has a new phone application available in the Apple App store or Google play. Sheriff Morton tells us what the app will offer those that download it to their smart phones. We also meet Kat Jenkins, of Treworgy family orchards in Levant. Because of an injury in the family, Kat was called to design this year's corn maze which is styled after E. B. White's Charlotte's Web. Kat explains the process of creating the corn maze and how it is, again this year, in the running for USA today's 10 best corn mazes in America!

8/22: This week's edition features a talk with Barry Norris, Executive Director of the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs. The fairs include the Pittston Fair, Skowhegan State Fair, Bangor State Fair, Farmington Fair and dozens of others. After the Covid-19 year of 2020, the fairs are going forward this year – with some suggested protocols from the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Masks are not required to enter the fairs, but social distancing is encouraged. And Norris said "mocking" of patrons will not be tolerated for wearing or not wearing a mask. Norris said safety measures have been used for decades at Maine fairs around show and farm animals, such as frequent hand washing. With cases on the rise with the Covid variant, Norris said he does not foresee any future 2021 fairs being shut down – but will follow any changing CDC guidelines. Norris, who said he visits many of the fairs each year, says there is a jubilant atmosphere in 2021 as many see familiar faces they haven't seen since 2019. And attendance is up at most fairs. "People want to get out," he said. Norris said the Maine fair community is made up of many families moving from fair to fair throughout the season.

8/29: This week's edition features a conversation with author Kevin Rice. Last check, he'd written "Leadership Forewarned." His new book is "An Arresting Life" which tells his story as a former law and secret service officer. In our conversation, Rice reacts to last summer's riots and scrutiny of police. We also welcome back Ron Round of the Maine Professional Drivers — recent winner of the Virtual National Truck Driving Championship — about the upcoming Convoy For Kids. The southern Maine event raises funds for Camp Sunshine and Camp Postcard. Ron tells us of the missions of both camps and what fun awaits at the Convoy.

9/5: This edition features a conversation with Brad Ryder of Saint Joseph Hospital on the September 26 Commit To Get Fit 5K and 10K. Brad explains that this event is more than just a fun run/fun walk, this event is a challenge to make a long-term commitment to care for your personal health. Brad also explains how the event benefits the safe nursing program, in which the hospitals nurses go into the community to reach and help women who have been victims of sexual assault. We also reconnect with Gerard Queally of Spectrum Generations . He is Living Proof that the Healthy Living for Maine "diabetes prevention program" works. Gerard talks of the meeting with his doctor in which he found out his "numbers" were not good at all. And he details the changes in lifestyle that the program led him to make and the successes that he has seen. Finally, he explains how listeners might learn more about the program and see themselves in rolled and leading healthier lives.



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BROADCASTING

9/12: This week's edition features a talk with Peter Geiger, Editor of the Farmers' Almanac - the yearly publication compiled in Lewiston, Maine. The 2022 edition is out, continuing a tradition that started in 1818. The Almanac's fictional prognosticator, Caleb Weatherbee, is calling for a "Flip-Flop," winter season – in which conditions may be mild some weeks and frosty and snowy in other weeks. For instance, Weatherbee says February, 2022, will be nearly storm free leading into an active March, 2022. As usual, the Farmers' Almanac is filled with witticisms, life hacks, recipes, gardening tips (using mismatched socks to tie-up tomato plants), and interesting articles. Some of the features include: taking cues from nature; the history behind superstitions; winning sweet potato recipes; five common cooking questions answered; treating pain with heat; the dirty history of soap; extraordinary dogs with extraordinary jobs; hurricane preparedness tips; choosing cooking oils; the meaning behind popular sayings; and of course the regular features of local monthly forecasts, brainteasers, and best days to plant and fish. The forecasts cover the months from September, 2021 through December, 2022.

9/19: This edition features a conversation with state entomologist Allison Kanoti. She describes means latest actions in trying to keep the emerald ash borer at bay. This pesky pest has chewed up trees in many states and is active in corners of Maine. Allison explains what measures are now in place to see that this invasive insect does not continue to ruin much of Maine's forests. We also talked with Brian Wilson of the USDA rural services in Maine. The USDA just awarded \$7.2 million in grants two main businesses for renewable energy projects. The \$7.2 million figure also included A significant loan for other projects. Brian Wilson explains what the grants are designed to do and list some of the winners.

9/26: This week we talked with Maine state treasurer Henry Beck, who crunches the August financial numbers for the state of Maine. He discusses the state of Maine cash pool, Maine's budget stabilization fund, revenue sharing two main towns and cities, as well as the trust fund earnings and status of unclaimed property. He digs into how much money Maine has when you filter out the pandemic relief money coming from Washington. we also speak with Lance Mitchell of the main bureau of Highway safety. Maine marks child passenger safety week by reminding motorists that too many children are injured or die in motor vehicle accidents because the children are not properly buckled up. Mitchell direct listeners to where they can find free guidance in securing child safety seats as they should be.