



# **ISSUES & PROGRAMS**

## **WBAK**

**4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER 2021  
(OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER)**



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**Public Affairs**

WBAK 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

10/3: This week's edition features a talk with Renae Moran, a Professor of Pomology at the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture and a member of the University of Maine Extension Service. The topic was Maine apples. According to the Maine Pomological Society, 84 farms in Maine produce one million bushels of apples each year, and more than 100 varieties are grown. Moran spends much of her time at the Highmoor Farm in Monmouth, conducting experiments with apple growing and storage, and studying other tree-borne fruit. The 2021 year has been good for growing apples said Moran, with plenty of rainfall in much of the state. Farmers have been impacted by Covid 19, be it not finding enough employees or people not going to crowded farmers' markets. Moran said while many apple farmers have made the move to smaller trees for ease of picking and economy of space, others still feature the older, taller trees. She also spoke about her recent trip to the country of Lebanon to help with the expansion of apple varieties there.

10/10: This is a special edition. We welcomed five physicians from Maine's largest hospitals and healthcare centers to our program to talk about the strain that COVID-19, the Delta Variant, and the perceived impending healthcare worker shortage is having on hospitals and healthcare centers. Topics included the safety of the "shots," the loss of staff in hospitals and healthcare centers as well as nursing homes, The Delta Variant and the variance to come, and what concerns pregnant women and parents should have. Our guests include Dr. Noah Nelson and Dr. Kristen Martin from Penobscot community health care, Dr. James Jarvis from northern light Eastern Maine Medical Center, dr. John Alexander from Central Maine Medical Center, and Dr. David Koffman.



10/17: This edition features a conversation with Brad Dyer and Tammy DeLong of Senior Planning Center changes Washington DC may change to Medicare Advantage. Medicare Advantage is an alternative to traditional Medicare coverage. Brad and Tammy explain what changes may be ahead for those already enrolled. Plus, we talk with Jeni Lloyd, cancel survivor with Northern Light Philanthropy. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month — and Jeni is NOT thrilled. At all. Jeni explains how “pink washing” — reaching for products with pink ribbons — is a poor substitute for supporting local cancer research and support.

10/24: In recognition of October being Fire Prevention Awareness Month, this edition features a talk with Richard McCarthy, Assistant Fire Marshall for Maine in the Prevention and Inspection Division. We usually see or read about Fire Marshalls investigating suspicious fires, but the office is involved in fire permits, law enforcement, inspections of business properties and the careful use of explosives. The office is based in Augusta. The topics included: safe operation of fireplaces and woodstoves; space heater safety; smoke alarms and fire extinguishers; safe use of extension cords and power strips; safe cooking and stove safety; and the preparation of an escape plan from the residence or business in the case of a fire. McCarthy emphasized that every fire is different, and one should try to put one out alone and to call 911.

10/31: In this addition we speak with main state treasurer Henry Beck. He tells us of the “able me” program which his office runs in coordination with Bangor Savings Bank. The program helps eligible individuals with disabilities safe for certain qualified disability expenses on a tax advantage basis. Beck also explains what that means and how someone who qualifies for the program might benefit. We also talk with Northern Light Acadia Hospital specialist Angela Felicia. She tells us of a new view on domestic violence, even as many Mark October as domestic violence awareness month. She explains the new term is national intimate partner violence awareness month, because violence is often one person in a relationship with another and they are not necessarily “domestic partners.” She also outlined services northern light Acadia is offering people who need assistance.

11/7: Kristen Miale of Good Shepherd Food Bank is our special guest in this edition. She helps kick off the ‘Blueberry Broadcasting’ 2021 Food Dr. to feed Baines hungry. Her call to us touches on the food gap in our state, how food donations have rebounded in our semi post pandemic, and what it will take to fill the plates of every Manor this coming winter. We also talked with Elie Espling, the former state representative and national Republican Committee woman, who is organizing the annual “she leads” convention/conference in Maine. She explains how, similar to the way “Emilys list” grooms Democratic candidates for office, The “she leads” conference encourages Republican candidates to seek office, and more importantly, ways to serve in their community.



11/14: In this edition, we talk with Aaron McIntyre of the American red cross disaster services northern New England. The agencies in-home free smoke detector and safety inspection program has returned following a pandemic pause. McIntyre tells us which homes might qualify for this free service and the importance of maintaining smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and having a safety plan our two homeowners during the colder months. We also welcome back Dixie Shaw Catholic charities Maine. Her organization is collaborating with 'Blueberry Broadcasting' and GOOD SHEPHERD food bank for the annual food drive to feed Maine's hungry. Dixie offers a "boots on the ground" perspective of how hunger is haunting too many main families in rural Maine especially. She also details the gratitude that those receiving assistance express when picking up a food donation this time of year.

11/21: This week's edition features a talk with Gretchen Ostherr, President and CEO of the non-profit Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay. The subject was the upcoming Gardens Aglow display, where multi-colored lights are wrapped around trees, shrubbery and garden ornaments for a Christmastime evening drive-through from November 20 through January 1. More than 600,000 lights are used for the display, and is set up differently every year. There will also be residential and commercial lighting contests for the Boothbay peninsula, on which all visitors can vote. During the warmer months, visitors can stroll the 325 acres of the Botanical Gardens, the largest such property in New England. New this year are a collection of wooden trolls, who represent the "Guardians of the Seeds" throughout the acreage. The mission of the Gardens is: "To inspire meaningful connections among people, plants and nature through horticulture, education and research."

11/28: This week's edition features a discussion with Maine State Treasurer Henry Beck, who outlines the state of Maine's Cash Pool, Budget Stabilization Fund, Revenue Sharing, and Unclaimed Property for the Month of October. Beck dilenitates how Maine's finances stand with and without Federal Cornovisus Relief Funds, American Rescue Plan and Emergency Rental Assistance funds from Washington DC. Beck also digs a bit into how the Treasurer's Office handles Unclaimed Property and -- recently -- one of the largest returns of unclaimed property. Also, we welcome Katie Foster of RH Foster Energy and Dr. Nadine SantaCruise of Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center. RH Foster marked "giving pumps" at Freshies locations across Maine in August and September and promised a penny of every gallon to the Raish Peavy Haskell Children's Cancer and Treatment Center at Northern Light Pediatric Care. And this week, RH Foster presented a check to the Center for \$14,802.39. Katie tells us why they selected this charity and Doctor SantaCruise discussed how it will help.



12/5: This edition features a talk with Elizabeth Barron, Director of Development at Maine Children's Home in Waterville. An organization since 1899, the non-profit has re-branded from its former name - Maine's Children Home for Little Wanderers. The Home has a family adoption program, family counseling center, a teen parent education program, a connected families project and its well-know Christmas Program, including Giving Trees at several area merchants. Every year, the MCH coordinates the donation and shipping of Christmas boxes to more than 1,000 qualified needy children from all over Maine. They include clothes, winter essentials, toys, books and games. Donations are accepted year-round after checking the website ([mainechildrenshome.org](http://mainechildrenshome.org)) and finding the urgent needs list and the Amazon wish list. There is also a Christmas in July drive, and monetary donations are also accepted. Barron said there is more needed this year because of the lingering Covid-19 pandemic. Subsequently, also bigger is the willingness for people to donate.

12/12: This edition features a conversation with Maine public safety commissioner Michael Sauschuck. The commissioner "crunches" the numbers of the 2020 crime in main statistics. Overall crime in Maine continues to decline, with a few exceptions. We discuss the dip in violent crime, robberies, and more — some of the numbers which were anticipated because of the pandemic — with the commissioner. We also meet Kristen Seavey, a podcaster. Her podcast, "murder she told," may be "new," but it is winning great respect and earning great success. And now the Kittery Police Department and the family of a man who went missing in 1983, have welcomed to Kristen to profile the "cold case," in hope of a "thaw." Christian talks to us about the challenges of getting law-enforcement and families to "open up" about such a sensitive topic.

12/19: This edition catches up with Jeni Lloyd of northern light philanthropy. It is not the "most wonderful time of the year" for people battling cancer and their families. Jeni offers valuable insight into how people should approach those battling cancer through the holidays and into the new year. She also has great suggestions on what "acts of service" someone could offer instead of a gift. We also reconnect with Angela Fellicia, of northern light Acadia Hospital. Many people in Maine are affected by "seasonal affective disorder," the blue is that invade when the ground turns white. Angela offers 10 tips to combat SAD and where people might turn for additional help in dealing with what can be a terribly depressing disorder.



12/26: This week's edition features a talk with Joe Reisert, President of Friends of Quarry Road. The Quarry Road Recreational Area in Waterville is a 200-plus acre facility utilized year round. There are cross country ski trails, a new rope tow for alpine skiing, trails for walking and biking, access to Messalonskee Stream for paddling and a disc golf range. There is snow-making ability, and all trails are lighted. It is run as a non-profit, and the website is [quarryroad.org](http://quarryroad.org). Since 2006 the area has been resurrected from the 1960's and 70's when it was part of nearby Colby College. Reisert talked of the upcoming events there including the Club Youth Ski Program, Colby College Nordic races, Community Free Days with winter fun events, and the New England Bill Koch League Festival in March that attracts youth competitors from surrounding states. Maintenance of the area is done by the Waterville Department of Parks and Recreation.