

# WRCR ISSUES/PROGRAMS

## Q-4 2023

WRCR's regularly scheduled weekly and monthly public interest, community service programs all continued to be aired on the same schedule as in the previous months and years.

They covered variety of issues, such as:

- Organ donation (1 hour show every Wednesday),
- Health care (1 hour show every month hosted by different specialty doctors from our local hospitals),
- Mental health (monthly show hosted by Rockland Behavioral Health Response Team),
- Audiology and hearing loss (monthly 1 hour show hosted by Hudson Valley Audiology)
- Veteran Issues - "Thank you for Your Service" this monthly 1-hour program is our newest addition to the line up, hosted by a local veteran advocate (NEW PROGRAM)
- "Senior Moment" a monthly 1-hour show (hosted by a major local law firm and focusing on legal issues facing seniors), to name a few.

All Town Supervisors, County Executive, our State Senator and newly elected Congressman, Mike Lawler continued with their regularly scheduled interactive Q&A segments, keeping WRCR listeners updated on happenings in their local City Hall, State Capital, Albany and Washington, DC.

This time, we highlight our originally produced environmentally-oriented weekly 2-hour program "**Tough Times**", produced and hosted by Emmy Award winning author Lou Young.

Lou's 60th program, aired exclusively on WRCR, featured "The BEST SCIENCE FAIR EVER" on 11/4/23

Tough Times takes you to the amazing annual open house at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory in Palisades, NY in what host Lou Young is calling "the best science fair EVER." Environmental activist and co-host George Potanovic headed out to the fair

October 14<sup>th</sup> and shares some of the research concepts that are helping Lamont scientists track global climate change. It's an informative two hours that includes a visit to the EarthChurch with Reverend Billy and the Stop Shopping Choir, News From the Natural World with Savitri D and some great eco-music from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

In Tough Times #61: SHE WALKED WITH GIANTS: TERRI THAL, THE GREENWICH VILLAGE FOLK SCENE, AND BOB DYLAN!

Terri Thal comes to "Tough Times with Lou Young" with a story of how music, a revolutionary spirit, and a decade of intense change helped shape our American culture. Ms Thal recalls her time as confidant and manager for folk greats like Dave Van Ronk and Bob Dylan and informs us about the roots of some of the tunes that have become the soundtrack of our lives. For instance, did you know that "Mack The Knife" was a German folk tune with a political edge before it became a a big band-style ode to mob violence? Did you know that Bob Dylan was a rocker before he ever launched into folk music in the 1960's? That the legendary folk trio, "Peter, Paul and Mary" would've been "Dave, Paul and Mary" if a certain folk artist hadn't turned down the gig? Host Lou Young leads Terri through a tour of the seminal changes that took place in New York's music scene before Dylan became an icon and Nobel Laureate as folk singers began penning their own popular tunes ushering in the era of the Singer/Songwriter that remains with us deep into the 21st Century. Co-host George Potanovic and producer Will Hennessey help pilot the show through this two hour journey that includes updates in environmental developments, "News From The Natural World" with Savitri D and a stirring "sermon" from Reverend Billy from the Church of Stop Shopping. Terri's new book "My Greenwich Village, Dave Bob and Me" has it all and we help plump the surface. And what a discovery to find out Lotte Lena, mentioned by Bobby Darin's version of "Mack the Knife," was a real person. And who was Lucy Brown? Music from Tom Paxton, Bobby Darin, and lots of Bob Dylan.

These shows air live every Saturday on WRCR from 1PM - 3 PM. Their Podcasts are also available on Spotify.

Another regularly scheduled public service program comes from **Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Rockland County**. It airs monthly, for 1 hour in prime-time adjacent to our Morning Drive show. It covers a variety of topics, from water quality and stormwater management, fertilizer certificate program, to making compost or creating bee-friendly backyards.

In **November 9th 2023 program**, Cornell Horticultural lab director, Mike Wilson first reminded listeners about lab's diagnostic service for all soil, plant and insect issues. To schedule soil sample drop off, call 845-429-7085.

Next mentioned was Youth Climate Action Program which coaches high school students in design, creation and implementation of service programs centered on climate change. Registration is at [www.RocklandCCE.org](http://www.RocklandCCE.org)

Next topic discussed was NY State Farm Bill - based on the fact that 75% of young farmers under 40 years of age are asking for climate change issues to be incorporated into the bill, to ensure sustainability of their farms.

Another topic mentioned was the "Don't flush the flushable wipes" issue - those clog the sewers and cause pollution from untreated sewage in streets and homes - something that happened over 30 times in Rockland since 2016.

The host also promoted the use of Cornell's fish advisories for the Hudson River.

Finally, the host also mentioned the "Leave the leaves" program, encouraging processing of leaves at home into mulch fertilizer, rather than dumping them into landfill, where they generate methane, a greenhouse gas.

In their **December 14th program**, the host Michael Wilson, Director of Horticultural Lab, presented local Rockland county water quantity and quality issues as well as Fish Advisories, published on CCE website. Due to ongoing PCB pollution issues in the Hudson River and the impending radioactive waste water release from Indian Point nuclear plant, public is advised not to eat any fish from the river.

This was followed by the winter weather report and in-depth analysis of de-icing products for homeowners and their effects on the environment.

First was rock salt - effective for temperatures above 15 degrees Fahrenheit. To minimize the impact on soil, animals and plants, it was advised to use the minimum amount necessary and to choose pet-friendly formula products.

Next discussed was the brine - calcium chloride - a bit safer product, but still harmful to plants when used in excess. It is applied to surfaces before ice/snow precipitation.

It enhances performance of rock salt applied after snow plowing. It works up to minus 20 degrees, significantly lower than salt alone. Still, it is hygroscopic and it keeps any surface wet all the time, increasing corrosion of metals.

Next product mentioned was calcium magnesium acetate - it takes longer to induce ice melting, but it lasts longer, up to 2 weeks on treated surfaces and it is non-toxic and bio degradable. Unfortunately, it only works up to 23 degrees and not in lower temperatures.

Next mentioned was CG-90 Surface Saver - a rock salt product with anti-corrosive additives, making it suitable to use on bridges, grates, guardrails and other metal surfaces.

Finally, a deicer consisting of mixture of NaCl, magnesium chloride, zinc and phosphates was presented - as fast acting and with strong antioxidant properties, but more expensive than other products.

This is just a small sample of many public service programs broadcast every month on WRCR.