

Issues Programs List

Q4

**Townsquare Media Bangor
WBZN, WDEA, WQCB, WWMJ, WEZQ**

October 1 – December 31st, 2022

Section I. Issues

The stations have identified the following topics as significant issues facing our community in this quarter:

- A. **Crime-** Maine Concerns covers stories we think are important to Maine residents from drug trafficking to scams and security related issues. We cover human crime stories, as well as environmental crimes, with information from the Maine Warden Service, U.S. Coast Guard, and Maine Marine Patrol. In addition, we discuss resources available to victims of crime, like domestic assault.
- B. **Health-** Maine Concerns covers a wide variety of health related stories and works with regional hospitals, the Maine CDC, and other organizations to get the word out about conferences, medical developments, viruses, and seasonal concerns like Lyme disease or flu. Many of our stories dealing with public safety can be considered health related as well, citing our warnings about CO poisoning during power outages as one example.
- C. **Economy-** Maine Concerns covers job fair activities, training and development opportunities, and available resources for educational financial aid. We have also reported on economic initiatives to help in times of crisis, like CARES ACT funding, and donation drives for local non-profits.
- D. **Environment-** Our environmental coverage spans a wide variety of stories including promoting public hearings, campaigns to protect Maine's wildlife, and educational programs. In addition, we cover stories about local efforts to clean up communities, add more green space to urban areas, and promote Maine's natural resources as a tourism destination.
- E. **Education** - Maine Concerns covers stories in Maine from school budgets to school safety initiatives. Stories about innovative college studies and research are also covered, and how to learn more about financial aid.
- F. **Public Safety-** Maine Concerns covers stories that impact the public safety of the community which can run the gamut from natural disasters to police emergencies. We also cover local police force initiatives to connect with the community, like Coffee with a Cop, or drug takeback events.

Section II. Responsive Programs

Our community issues program, Maine Concerns, airs each Sunday on WBZN and WQCB at 6:00 a.m., WEZQ at 6:12 a.m., WWMJ at 6:20 a.m., and on WDEA at 11:10 a.m.

10-2-22 Public Safety (Length – 24:53)

American Red Cross Disaster Relief Volunteers – Cindy Campbell chats with two members of Maine’s Disaster Relief team about the many ways their volunteers help with everything from hurricanes to house fires. Executive Director Carolyn King talks about the types of responsibilities that go with volunteering, and the many jobs performed by volunteers in large-scale disasters, while Disaster Volunteer and house fire survivor Kim Myerdierks tells us some of the relief efforts she has been a part of, including installing smoke alarms in residents’ homes.

10-9-22 Education, Environment, Economy (Length 24:39)

Maine Discovery Museum – Cindy is joined by the Maine Discovery Museum’s Executive Director Kate Dickerson, who explains the hands-on educational opportunities at the facility in STEM subjects, and describes a new exhibit that will focus on the environmental evolution of the Penobscot River. She also talks about an upcoming 90’s Party fundraiser that will support the museum’s mission in making STEM learning fun.

American Red Cross Disaster Relief Volunteers Part 2 – Cindy talks, once again, with American Red Cross Disaster Relief Executive Director Carolyn King about Hurricane Ian. In this interview, King explains the best ways for Maine residents to help in any large-scale disaster and, in particular, for the devastation in Florida. She urges people to donate funds to the Red Cross, rather than trying to gather donations of food or clothing, and let them find the best way for the money to be used.

10-16-22 Economy, Health (Length 24:49)

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry – Charlie Dayhoff, the new Executive Director of the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry in Ellsworth, invites the public to the facility’s open house. Loaves and Fishes has moved into a new, much larger building, which will give them more space, but also offers a chance for classroom education. Dayhoff also encourages local agencies to contact them about scheduling a time when they would like to host more community learning opportunities, like budgeting and nutritional cooking.

Ronald McDonald House in Bangor – Whitney Linscott, Executive Director of the Bangor Ronald McDonald House, updates us on renovations being done at the facility and explains who is eligible to stay at a Ronald McDonald House. She also directs people to their Amazon wish list, which makes it possible for the facility to provide basic necessities, for free, to parents of sick children.

10-16-23 Public Safety, Health, Education (Length – 24:51)

Partners for Peace – Cindy Campbell talks with Casey Faulkingham of Partners for Peace about Domestic Violence Awareness Month, who shares statistics on the abundance of domestic crimes in Maine. Faulkingham also discusses the many resources offered by Partners for Peace; including educational tools to help people better understand the different types of abuse and how they can avoid/survive it. She also explains why PFP calls it Domestic Violence Action Month; because she says the time for awareness has passed and it's time we all took action to protect victims of domestic violence.

World Stroke Awareness Day – Dr. Andrew Ehrhardt joins Cindy Campbell to explain what causes a stroke and the types of lasting effects that can be caused by one. He explains the acronym FAST (Face, Arms, Speech, Time), and the importance of getting medical attention as soon as possible, to reduce the long-term effects.

10-30-22 Health, Public Safety (Length – 24:35)

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning – Dr. Andrew Smith of the Maine CDC talks with Cindy Campbell about the many ways people can be exposed to carbon monoxide, which is especially prevalent during the winter months. He talks about the importance of getting heating systems cleaned, moving vehicles outside of the garage before leaving them running in order to warm up, and operating generators in open spaces away from open doors and windows. In addition, he details the many symptoms of CO poisoning and what to do if you think you've been exposed.

Partners for Peace Part 2 – In this installment of our two-part interview, Cindy Campbell talks with Casey Faulkingham of Partners for Peace about Domestic Violence Homicide. A significant percentage of murders in Maine are classified as domestic violence, and so Faulkingham talks about how families can support a loved one who's in an abuse situation, understanding that leaving is not always the right or safest answer at that time.

11-6-22 Health, Public Safety, Crime (Length – 24:27)

Lung Cancer Awareness Month – Cindy Campbell talks with Amy McLary of Northern Light Health about lung cancer in Maine and the importance of getting screened. McLary says too often the disease has progressed beyond treatment by the time people start showing symptoms, so anyone who thinks they may be at risk should talk to their doctors about scheduling a screening. She also discusses the types of factors that would make a person eligible to be screened.

Avoiding Becoming a Victim of Theft – Lieutenant Wade Betters of the Bangor Police Department talks about the many ways people can become victims of theft, including crimes of opportunity. He discusses with Cindy Campbell some preventative measures, including keeping doors of homes and cars locked and securing valuables, never leaving electronics, etc. in your unattended vehicle.

11-13-22 Public Safety, Health, Environment (Length – 24:53)

Hope for Homeless Part 1 – Cindy Campbell talks with Hope for Homeless co-founder Ann Sweeney about the current homeless population and the challenges faced by the city of Bangor. She discusses the dangers as we head into winter to people who are living outside and the grim realities of a lack of shelter beds. Sweeney stresses the importance of giving the homeless their dignity instead of always assuming they're homeless by choice.

11-20-22 Education, Economy, Health (Length 24:29)

Kidspeace – Suzette Johnson of Kidspeace talks with Cindy Campbell about the need for Foster Parents in Maine. With the holiday so near, Johnson appeals to residents who might be interested in becoming foster parents to think about improving the holidays, as well as the day-to-day lives of young people in the foster care system. She talks about her own experiences as a foster parent and encourages others to do it, as well.

211 Maine – Cindy Campbell talks with Nikki Busmanis about 211 Maine, an informational hotline that can help Mainers connect with the many services and resources in their area. With so many facing hardships due to rising heating costs, Busmanis says 211 can connect people to things like heating assistance, when they may have never needed it before. 211 Maine can also provide information about educational resources, as well as substance use disorder programs.

11-27-22 Public Safety, Health (Length – 24:53)

Hope for Homeless Part 2 – On Thanksgiving weekend, Cindy Campbell talks again with Ann Sweeney, co-founder of Hope for Homeless, this time about the lack of housing in the Bangor area and the challenges faced by people who want to rise up out of homelessness, but don't have the resources. She commends several local programs, including the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter, with helping to connect people with resources that will help them to find a place of their own, but says more needs to be done to control rental costs and give some hope to the homeless.

12-4-22 Health, Economy, Crime, Public Safety (Length – 24:39)

Flu and RSV with Northern Light Health – Cindy Campbell talks with Dr. James Jarvis about the flu and RSV, as the area is dealing with elevated cases of sickness. Dr. Jarvis explains what RSV is, how it's detected, and when parents or others who are at risk should become concerned. He also talks about flu symptoms and encourages prevention, including getting a flu shot.

Scam Protection – Cindy Campbell talks with Chief Chris Greeley of the Holden Police Department about the uptick in scams during the holiday season. He details some of the most common, including fraudulent charity drives, and when people should become suspicious of the validity of a call or email. Chief Greeley reminds listeners to never give personal or financial information over the phone.

12-11-22 Public Safety (Length - 24:53)

Fire Safety – Cindy Campbell chats with Bangor Fire Assistant Chief Chandler Corriveau about fire safety, including holiday tips. He covers many ways people can protect their homes from fire, including getting heating systems serviced and chimneys cleaned, keeping Christmas trees watered, and not overloading outlets. In addition, Corriveau discusses lithium ion batteries, which burn very fast and very hot, and cause a real fire danger if not handled properly.

12-18-22 Education, Economy (Length – 24:39)

Next Gen Accounts – With Christmas nearly here, Cindy Campbell talks with Chris Young of the Finance Authority of Maine about NextGen accounts and how they can be a great way for family members to give thoughtful financial gifts. A NextGen account is a tax-free state account that helps students save money for college, and offers a chance for family members to make direct donations online. Young explains how the accounts work, whether there's a cutoff for setting up an account, and the details of the Alford Grant that's often the first deposit.

Salvation Army Red Kettles – Cindy Campbell talks with Major William Johnson of the Bangor Citadel Corps about the Salvation Army's Red Kettle project. He encourages everyone to donate as they shop for the holidays and details the many projects that benefit from those donations, including sending kids to summer camp, providing heating assistance, and feeding the needy. Major Johnson also talks about the Angel Tree project that provides toys for children in Penobscot County.

12-26-22 No program due to the holiday