



# **ISSUES & PROGRAMS**

## **WBKA**

**3rd QUARTER 2022  
(JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER)**



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**Public Affairs**

WBKA 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

7/10: This week's edition features a conversation with Keri Kapaldo and Brad Riders of Saint Joseph Health Care. The "commit to get fit" 5K/10K is September 25. Money raise will benefit the hospitals sexual assault forensic examiner program. Kapaldo explains what the program does and whom it serves. Rider explains the details of the race which does more than demand a run/walk. This event challenges participants to commit to a healthy lifestyle well after the event. We also talk with Maine State Treasurer Henry Beck, Kate Stephens, and Jeff Chetkauskas. Each will participate in a two-day mid-July online event working to reconnect people and businesses in our state to the unclaimed property the treasurer's office is holding. The Trio explains who should tune in to this event, what they can expect, and the easing of the processes in which someone, claiming property, might do so.

7/17: This edition features a conversation with Maine State Fire Marshal Joe Thomas. He expresses great frustration in the irresponsible use of fireworks in Maine in the month of July. Thomas talks of common-sense safety with the use of fireworks. We also speak of the record price of home heating oil and the concern that people in Maine will seek alternatives in heating their homes this winter, unwittingly sparking fatal fires. We also meet Steve Ismail of Glenburn. Steve and his wife, Brooke, recycling in their home town in September of last year when a motorist, who claimed he was blinded by the sun, struck them from behind. Brooke spent three months in the hospital. Steve, who lost one leg, spent more than nine months in the hospital. Steve shares his inspiring story of recovery and forgiveness.

7/24: This edition features a talk with Russ Murley, Operations Manager of Precision Weather Service, which broadcasts weather forecasts for media outlets and companies from Florida to Alaska. He is involved in climate and forensic research, consulting, and more. The topic was the existence or non-existence of Global Warming or Climate Change. The interview came during a period of warm weather in Maine, with daytime temperatures in the upper 90s. Murley said he is not sold on either of the terms, but does insist we are in a climate cycle, that is neither abnormal nor excessive in Maine. He pointed out that people have short memories about a mild winter or a hot summer, when in reality there have been severe winters and mild summers in the same period. The same with drought, he added, that the summer of 2022 has been dry in many parts of Maine – just a few years away from some of the wettest summers in the



Northeast United States. Murley says, though, that urban areas are getting warmer, as asphalt and concrete reflects the heat that is mitigated by greenery in rural areas.z

7/31: In this edition we meet Claude Junkins of the Bangor Band. Claude not only talks of the longevity of the community-based band in Maine's Queen city, but he invites all to a special performance on Tuesday, August 9 at the Maine Savings Amphitheater of Waterfront Concerts. The concert, generously supported by Alex Gray and waterfront concerts, will be in honor of the Bangor bands long time conductor who is ready to retire his baton. We also welcome Bangor Region Chamber of commerce president and CEO Deb Neuman and fitness instructor and personal trainer Jamie Perry. Deb reminds us of our community loss of Sarah Dubay. And Jamie tells us of an event, a 5K run walk, that will honor SARAH and raise money for addiction recovery.

8/7: This week's edition features an update with Jean Sedaris of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine. The Coalition monitors the number of pedestrian related fatalities as well as cycling related fatalities in our state. Sedaris and colleagues recently met Governor Janet Mills during a "tea" at the Blaine House, during which she and others had the opportunity to talk about the importance of cyclists, pedestrians, and motorists, and the responsibilities each phase, ensuring the road safely in our state -- even as Maine flirts with record numbers of crashes this year. Sedaris tells us of the conversations had at the Blaine House. Also, we welcome back Peter Geiger, editor for the Lewiston-published Farmer's Almanac. He and his team released their winter prognostication -- of "shaking, shivering and shoveling" -- early -- to help us brace for what's ahead. Along with the chilly news, Geiger shares many of the other interesting tidbits inside the latest edition -- which at the time of our recording -- would not hit stands for another two or three weeks.

8/14: This week's edition features a conversation with Brandt McCollett of Patriot Riders Chapter 4 here in Maine. His organization -- known best for escorting the replica of the "Moving Wall" Veteran Memorial and carrying stones with the names of fallen veterans to Mt. Katahdin where hikers take them to the top of Maine's highest peak -- is soon hosting a cornhole tournament to benefit veterans' services. We have fun discussing the strategies and rules of cornhole as we highlight the support needs of Maine's population of veterans. We also welcome Renee Muscatell of Penquis about the We've Got Your Back campaign. The collaborative campaign, involving Penquis, Blueberry Broadcasting, Katahdin Trust, and Pulse Marketing to gather donations of new backpacks with school supplies for children from less fortunate families. Never has the program failed to meet the need. Although inflation has driven the cost of everything up -- and this year's campaign appeared at times in peril. Renee brings into our studio, young Ava Burke, who one waved off birthday presents at her party, instead asking friends to bring backpacks with school supplies for the campaign. This year, Ava gathered more than 200 backpacks.



8/21: This week's edition features a talk with Peter Geiger, Editor of the Farmers' Almanac (and FarmersAlmanac.com) published each year in Lewiston. The 2023 edition is out early this year, as Geiger confirms, because of the concerns about rising heating prices. The Almanac offers many suggestions to offset the anticipated costs. As for the winter prognostication for 2022-23, the Almanac reports it will be a season of "Shake, Shiver and Shovel" starting with a late October snowstorm and consistently cold and snowy weather to follow. The Almanac, which bills itself as "life's secrets in the palm of your hands," is filled with other interests including: the past year's winning honey recipes; tips on keeping winter pain away; what to do with leftover clothes; New Year's superstitions; fishing folklore and superstitions; how bubble wrap can keep out the cold; and what foods can be frozen.

8/28: This week's edition features a conversation with Maine State Treasurer Henry Beck. Beck shares the State of Maine's financial numbers for the month of July, including the cash pool, rainy day fund, revenue sharing and unclaimed property. Beck spends a bit of time discussing a near doubling of one account in the past few months. We also catch up with Jonathan Kenerson of Treworgie Family Orchards, again in the running for USA Today's Ten Best Corn Maze in America. Jon shares -- with those that may not yet know -- the design of this year's maze: AA Milne's Winnie The Pooh! He adds the legal challenges of using the image (an associated image is still owned by Disney!) Jon also details how -- after coming in SECOND in the past THREE YEARS -- the Orchard hopes to once again claim FIRST in the nation.

9/4: This edition features a talk with Travis Lazarczyk, a sports reporter with the Portland Press Herald. He started at the Press Herald after many years with the Central Maine newspapers (Central Maine Sentinel and Kennebec Journal), and in 2021 he was named the National Sports Media Association Writer of the Year from Maine. The topic was sports at all levels in the years following disruptions by Covid-19. Other topics included: the departure of Athletic Director Ken Ralph from the University of Maine; prospectus of the 2022-23 Maine football, men's hockey and women's basketball teams; and realignment in Maine high school sports. Also discussed was the dearth of officials for Maine high school sports. The problem, according to Lazarczyk, is abusive fans and parents. Officials are paid, of course, but not enough to offset vocal and sometimes physical interference by fans. Already in 2022 several Friday night football have been moved to Thursday nights because of a lack of officials.

9/11: This edition features a conversation with Maine Public Safety Commissioner Michael Sauschuck. Maine marks Safe Homes Awareness Month. Maine's legislature passed a bill that offers financial assistance to homeowners to purchase special containers to secure firearms and medications. Sauschuck talks of the importance of safely storing (legal) guns and drugs and reflects on a spike in crime in our state. We also talk with Captain Jeffery Pierce (yes, the former member of the Blueberry Team) of the Civil Air Patrol in Maine. Captain Pierce talks of the weekend International Seaplane Fly In at Moosehead Lake near Greenville. He touches on the Civil Air Patrol's participation and gives us insight into the organization's mission.



9/18: This edition features a conversation with Chef Brian Ross. Brian stunned some when sharing his cancer diagnosis mid-pandemic. He lost a lot of business momentum -- and weight -- but gained a perspective of the importance of supporting cancer research in Maine. Brian is putting his talents to work to support the cancer patient support organization Christine B. Foundation in a raffle. Winner gets a custom prepared three course dinner for six. Brian shares his story and how to get tickets.

9/25: This edition features a talk with Carolann Ouellette, Director of the Maine Office of Outdoor Recreation – part of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development. MOOR was permanently established in 2019 to “leverage Maine’s assets and outdoor recreation heritage to grow the outdoor recreation economy.” According to Economic and Community Development statistics, outdoor recreation accounted for 3.3 per cent of Maine’s economy and 20,000 jobs. Next month (October 2022) MOOR is holding it’s first ever Maine Outdoor Summit in Portland to showcase Maine’s outdoors and strategize with members from the private and public sectors. Among the pressing issues is attracting talent to work in the outdoor industry in Maine, as many employers in the economy have trouble finding and retaining employees. MOOR is issuing the slogan “If you can see it, you can be it.”