

## **WPRO-FM/92 PRO-FM Public Service Report**

**First Quarter 2024 (January 1 to March 31)**

**Prepared by: Mary Ellen Kachinske**

**Here are the surveys of community leaders on the issues most important to RI:**

Keeping the athletes able to participate at no cost/ fundraising goals, housing crisis, primary Dr shortage, closing female pay gaps. population growth, wildlife threatened by environmental changes, river overflows, Education, crime, and caregiving access to people with elderly parents, Chronic Absenteeism, School Dropout, Education, Traffic, construction & more women focused events, Bridge, education and access to child care for underemployed, Technology in schools, school lunch, transportation, PC relations with RI, Student recruitment, Financial assistance, Highway construction, bridgework & air pollution

### **CUMULUS COMMUNITY: ALL shows Air Sunday Mornings, 6:30am**

- Jan 7**            **Host Bekah Berger. Guest Ed Pacheco of Special Olympics, Rhode Island.**  
The Penguin Plunge recap, initiatives for 2024 and upcoming events.
- Jan 14/21**       **Host Mike D. Guest Bridget Newman, Director of Institutional Giving for Year Up**  
Rhode Island. How to get into the programs that help local adults of low income  
Develop skills, college credits and corporate internships to give them a better start to life after high school.
- Jan 28**           **Host Bekah Berger. Guest Elissa Kalver Wegothis.org**  
Fundraising for cancer patients, breast cancer awareness and new ways of  
Fundraising for research.
- Feb 4**            **Host Amy Pontes. Guest Carla Mulhern, Izzy Foundation**  
The Izzy foundation, how it began, functions and Winterfest fundraiser this month.
- Feb 11**          **Host Nick G. Guest Angelica Infante-Green Education Commissioner**  
Rhode Island Department of Education. Discussed critical attendance matters, the  
state of education in 2024 and school drop-out solutions.
- Feb 18**          **Host Vic Edwards. Guest Michelle Wilcox, President Crossroads Rhode Island**  
The homeless crisis in our state, winter weather challenges and solutions

- Feb 25** Host Jess Schiano. **Women with Vision featuring Jennifer Santos and colleagues.**  
Women's History Month, networking events for women, self-care practices.
- March 3/10** Host Amy Pontes. Guest Mary-Kate O'Leary, **A Wish Come True**  
Details on organization and benefits, Shamrocks & Shenanigans fundraiser.
- March 17** Host Mike D. Guest Chachi Carvalho, **Transform RI Scholarship**  
Part of United Way 401 Gives outreach/scholarships offered to high school students.  
to fund their community cause. Direct give and take with students helping others.
- March 24** Host Vic Edwards. Greg Waldron, **PC Development & Relations Programs.**  
Providence College program. Student Myles Johnson joins conversation on how  
students are supported, and ways they participate on the community through Friars Give.
- March 31** Host Jess Schiano. Guest Cori Dubie O'Conner & Brenda Figueroa  
American Lung Association. Fight for Air Climb, Lung Force Walk and where  
funds raised benefit research and families.

**Rhode Island's AMAZING WOMEN Jan-March 2024**  
**Host & Creator: Deb Ruggiero Produced by Karen K/Cumulus**  
***Airs every Sunday mornings on WPRO-FM 6am***

[www.amazingwomenri.com](http://www.amazingwomenri.com)

- Jan 7<sup>th</sup>:** You know her as an attorney and a Providence city councilwoman serving Ward 2. **HELEN ANTHONY** is also an avid hiker and discusses her life-changing accident while hiking in California when she was hit by an ATV vehicle. She endured many surgeries and spent months recovering in the hospital. As she says, "It wasn't my time."  
  
**Keywords:** *Providence City Council, accident recovery, overcoming obstacles*
- Jan 14<sup>th</sup>** **PAGE CLAUSIUS PARKS**, executive director of *RI KIDS COUNT*,  
discusses challenges and goals for this statewide policy and advocacy organization that improves the health, education, and economic well-being of RI's children.  
  
**Keywords:** *Children's mental health, well-being, RITECARE, education*
- Jan 21<sup>st</sup>** Reverend **REBECCA SPENCER**, is the first woman to serve as senior Minister at the Central Congregational Church in Providence. She

discusses retirement after 35 years, raising her cows on her farm, spiritual awakening, and how to find common ground in turbulent times.

**Keywords:** *Women in Religion, Central Congregational Church, spiritual awakening*

**Jan 28<sup>th</sup>**

**KRISTEN WILLIAMS**, executive director, of RIVERZEDGE ARTS in Woonsocket discusses the economic engine of the art community in this state. She highlights programs at RIVERZEDGE ARTS that paid, work-based learning for teens.

**Keywords:** *Economic engine of the arts, workforce development, work-based learning for teens,*

**Feb 4<sup>th</sup>:**

**KIM KALUNIAN** is a news anchor at WPRI TV 12 and a native Rhode Islander. She discusses her news career, the influence of social media, and working with her husband in the same in the same industry and in the same newsroom

**Keywords:** *WPRI TV, working couple reporters, Ted Nesi, social media*

**Feb 11<sup>th</sup>:**

**SARAH ANDERSON** CEO and Superintendent of Blackstone Valley Prep discusses the role of charter schools- which are public schools- and how the shift in RI's education funding formula in 2026 will impact all public schools.

**Keywords:** *BVP, charter schools, mayoral academy, public education*

**Feb 18<sup>th</sup>**

**HELENA BUONANNO FOULKES** stormed onto the political scene in 2022 as a Democratic Gubernatorial Campaign in Rhode Island. Will she run again in 2026? She discusses the lessons from that campaign and her decision on running again.

**Keywords:** *Democratic Gubernatorial candidates, Women political leaders, CVS leadership,*

**Feb 25<sup>th</sup>**

**ANNO CANO MORALES**, Vice President for External Relations, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Rhode Island College, discusses the future of Rhode Island College, RIC as a Hispanic Serving Institution, and the importance of a secondary education in today's marketplace.

**Keywords:** *RIC, diversity and equity, Hispanic Serving Institution*

**Mar 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**KELLY NEVINS**, CEO of *The Women's Fund of Rhode Island*, a social justice organization with the goal of improving the lives of women and girls in RI. We discuss the status of women and girls in this state,

grantmaking through a gender lens, economic security, civic engagement, and why it all matters

**Keywords:** *Gender equity, WFRI, Fair Pay, Family Leave, Women's Policy Institute, Reproductive Privacy Act*

**Mar 10<sup>th</sup>**

**ANITA BRUNO** started *Rhode Island Women in The Trades* in 2019. This non-profit organizes, educates, and trains women for employment in building trades for economic empowerment.

**Keywords:** *RI Carpenters Local Chapter Sisters in the Brotherhood, Women in non-traditional jobs, RI Women in the Trades*

**Mar 17<sup>t</sup>:**

**ELLEN FORD** worked at People's Credit Union for 37 years. She grew up in Newport and discusses rising through the ranks from an entry level teller to the president/CEO for the last 17 years of her career.

**Keywords:** *Women in Banking, corporate culture, credit unions, Bank Local*

**Mar 24<sup>th</sup>**

For many families, with two working parents, homelessness can be a step away with the loss of the apartment. Despite legislative initiatives and affordable housing, **JENNIFER BARRERA**, chief strategist with the *RI Coalition for the Homeless*, talks about why these continue to be major policy issues.

**Keywords:** *Homelessness, Affordable Housing, RII Coalition For the Homeless*

**Mar 31<sup>st</sup>**

**JENNIFER HAWKINS** is the CEO of *One Neighborhood Builders*, a nonprofit community. We discuss where affordable housing is being built in Rhode Island, mixed income social housing, and how short-term rentals have impacted the housing stock. .

**Keywords:** *affordable housing, St. Patrick Church Cumberland, social housing, mixed income*

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## **ONGOING PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECTS:**

**Q4 PSAs** 92 PRO-FM hosts record PSAs that run 1x per daypart/5x a day

Jan: Micheal Lorenzen Fund for Autism event, Mardi Gras event to benefit Fall River Family & Child Services and Red Cross urgent blood donation need.

Feb: Mardi Gras event to benefit Fall River Family and Child Services, PPAC Arts Scholarship event and RI Blood Center local need for donations.

March: RI Blood Center donation need, generic PSA soliciting event information to be sent to an email for future PSAs, 401 Gives Day.

**JAN** **Martin Luther King Jr Day** local events page was post from 1/11-1/15 that listed educational resources and events to attend. It was in the lead carousel at 92PROFM.com and received 20 recorded promos.

**FEB** **Black History Month** was celebrated with a web resource page at 92PROFM.com that listed local and regional events and educational forums. The recorded promo ran 50 times this month.

**MARCH** **Women's History Month** was also promoted with a recorded promo and this one ran 70 times, directing listeners to 92PROFM.com to find our resource page that included historical women who made important contributions in Southern New England as well as local events and happenings.

## **STAFF HOURS**

**MARCH** Bekah Berger, WPRO-FM Morning Show Co-Host, participated in a University of Rhode Island Networking event on March 4, 2024. She was there for 2 hours and is an alumni.