

WEAF/1130am
ISSUES AND ANSWERS QUARTERLY SUMMARY
October – December 2023

Ascertainment Issues

Ascertainment respondents listed the following topics as community issues of concern:

Community

Politics

Mental Health

Politics

Crime

Minority Businesses

Women's Health

Mentorship

Business

Faith

Greif

Children

Health

Politics

Media

Empathy

Insurance

Government

Ascertainment Answers

WEAF answers to issues submitted included, but was not limited to; producing and airing the programs listed addressing the identified topics.

WEAF Radio
October - December
:60 Daily

WEAF airs the "Community Calendar" each hour. The Community Calendar features information submitted from the public on upcoming, local events that empower and inform the Columbia Community. The Community Calendar airs Monday-Friday, 6am-10pm. The Community Calendar aired 400 times in this period.

WEAF FM aired 1,200 Public Service Announcements during the quarter of October - December from various Churches and non-profit organizations. WEAFF ran an additional 300 minutes of public Service Announcements from government agencies concerning local, regional and national information.

WEAF Radio
October 1-31

WEAF produced a :60 promo series that spotlighted information concerning "Breast Cancer" during "Breast Cancer Awareness Month". The :60 features were aired Monday-Friday, 6am-10pm.

WEAF Radio
October 1-31

WEAF produced a :60 promo series that spotlighted information concerning "Domestic Violence" during "Domestic Violence Awareness Month". The :60 features were aired Monday-Friday, 6am-10pm.

WEAF Radio
November 4th-18th

WEAF teamed up with the community for a "Day Of Sharing". This community effort raised \$7,650 to help assist 250 families with Thanksgiving Meals.

WEAF Radio
December 21th

WEAF teamed up with the community to provide underprivileged families with gifts. \$5,000 dollars was collected to assist 200 families.

"The Urban Scene"

WEAF's Public Affairs Program. The Urban Scene airs weekly on Sunday evenings at 6pm. The Urban Scene A weekly program providing information and analysis about local issues. The program utilizes an interview and discussion format to explore political, social, economic, and cultural themes relative to the Columbia Area.

October 1st

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Mental Health

Conversation with Katlyn Hunter from, National Alliance Of mental Illness of South Carolina about Mental illness and it's effects on youth in our communities.

October 8th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Politics, Crime

Conversation with Perry Bradley from Building Better Communities about Crime in our area and how it will effect the upcoming elections.

October 15th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Women's Health

Conversation with Pam Johnson, CEO of the non profit, Sisters Empowering Each Other. The organization assists women, in need with personal women's products to help them with daily hygiene.

October 22nd

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Health, Business

Conversation with Frank Knapp from the SC Small Business Chamber of Commerce about the open enrollment period for health care and why it's important.

October 29th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Health

Conversation with Yvonne Donald and Breast cancer survivor about the proves of dealing with breast cancer during breast cancer awareness month

November 12th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Politics

Conversation with newly elected City Councilman, Tyler Bailey about his win, his plans and who he is.

November 19th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Health

Conversation with Kimberly Richardson, founder of Widows Of Opportunity about dealing with Holiday Depression and it's lasting effects.

November 26th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Health

Conversation with Kesha Hase, about dealing with Holiday Depression and it's lasting effects.

December 10th

30 Minutes

Issues Covered: Community, Safety

Conversation with Fire Chief Albry Jenkins about winter and holiday safety and how to handle emergency situations that may occur during the holidays.

December 17th
30 Minutes
Issues Covered: Community

Conversation with Jamie Devine, member of Columbia's, 100 Black Men Organization. Jamie talks about the 100 Black Me, what it does and why it's important to our community.

December 24th
30 Minutes
Issues Covered: Community, Women's Health

Conversation with Pam Johnson, CEO of the non profit, Sisters Empowering Each Other. The organization assists women, in need with personal women's products to help them with daily hygiene.

December 31th
30 Minutes
Issues Covered: Community, Mentorship

Conversation with Kerry Able and Dr. Craig Witherspoon about a program within The Richland One School District. It's Called R1 Champs. A program to mentor male students. It will grow to include females as well.

The P.A. Bennett Show
:60 minutes

The P.A. Bennett show airs Monday through Thursday at 6pm. The program features information and analysis of local issues, government, health, community resources and community events. The program utilizes interviews, guest discussions, social media interaction as well as ZOOM and listener phone calls to explore social, economic and cultural themes relative to residents in our coverage area.

Quarter highlights included:

Politics, local and national, dominated much of the daily discussion in this Quarter. Candidates for municipal offices and for the Special Election S.C. Senate District 19 were guests and listeners took advantage of the opportunities to pose questions or present concerns. National politics also dominated discussion on multiple shows with the selection of a new House Majority leader in Washington and the legal challenges facing Presidential candidate Donald Trump in several

jurisdictions. Several programs focused on community concern over the re-assignment of teachers in a Midlands School district in order to meet staffing goals. Listeners also took great interest in discussing the operational woes facing the Richland County Detention Center, an elderly Lowcountry homeowners' fight with developers trying to buy her property and the growing need in many families dealing with elderly family members.

Issues Covered: Politics, Elections, Education, Law Enforcement, Eminent Domain, Development, Gerontology

Other P.A. Bennett Show Quarter Highlights include:

Oct 2nd

The host focused listener's attention to what she described as the 'inconsistency' of efforts to combat gang violence in our community. She challenged listeners to hold accountable the agencies responsible as well as the community initiatives that seem to appear when there is a publicized incident but don't appear to follow through. Several callers questioned if the money used to combat gang violence is getting to the root of the issue.

Issues Covered: Gang Violence, Law Enforcement, Community Responsibility

October 9th

P.A. reminds listeners of the Columbus Day observance and provides some historical perspective. Listeners took interest in discussing the alternative Indigenous People's Day. Callers to the show also offered varied opinions on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict moving to the advent of war following the Hamas attack on Israel over the weekend.

Issues Covered: Columbus Day, American History, Middle-East Terror, Biblical History, Religion, War

Oct 12th

Frank Knapp is in for P.A. on this show with first guest Nicole Sanchez of the group called Better Ballot SC. Their goal is to pass a state law allowing instant runoff and ranked choice voting. The show's second guest was Delores Shabazz with the City of Columbia giving listeners background information and details on the upcoming Home Buyers Workshop. Frank's final guest was outgoing City Council member Howard Duvall. The discussion began with an outline Duvall's many years of Public Service and transitioned into outlining Duvall's perspective on the major challenges facing city council including homelessness and low income housing.

Issues Covered: Voting, Election Law Changes, Homeownership, City Government, Homelessness, Low Income Housing

Oct 17th

The show begins with the rundown of the news events including the update on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Then, Tameika Issac Devine answered host and listener questions regarding her candidacy for the Senate District 19 seat. Final Guest, Kahli Gallman, gave listeners details on the upcoming Find Your Place Columbia event. The city-wide initiative is designed to connect local organizations, no-profits and small businesses with Midlands residents.

Issues Covered: Middle-East Conflict, War, Elections, Community Resources

Oct 24th

Ms. Veronica Primus is a guest on today's show. She gives listeners details on the 'Circle of R.E.S.T.E' – a program designed to provide awareness and access to mental health resources for teachers, school administrators and other in the midlands. She explains how these persons often neglect their mental health and adversely impact students and others in their care.

Issues Covered: Mental Health, Education

Oct 31st

This show focused on the community and political discord caused by the re-assignment of teachers in Richland School District One. Administrators say the re-assignments were to cover staff shortages and meet guidelines for student/teacher ratios. Parents and some political leaders say the moves were racially motivated and had negative impact on schools or classrooms with minority dominate student populations. Callers offered diverse opinions and Richland One Superintendent Craig Witherspoon joined th show to help clarify and explain.

Issues Covered: Teacher Shortages, Teacher Salaries, Education, Racism, Politics

Nov 2nd

Regular contributor Attorney James Shadd was the guest on this show dedicated to answering listener questions on divorce. Shadd offered background on South Carolina divorce laws and guidelines. Shadd also clarified myths and misconceptions on the grounds under which parties may seek to end a marriage.

Issues Covered: Divorce Law, Marriage

Nov 8th

This show was dedicated to a review of the local state and national general election results. Listeners offered comments on the results of campaigns for Columbia City Council as well as results from elections in other states that have the potential to change the political balance for upcoming Presidential elections. Listeners also commented on other state election results that might impact national voting and abortion policies.

Issues Covered: Politics, Elections, Abortion, Voting Rights

Nov 13th

The host and listeners offered varied opinions on the news that South Carolina Senator Tim Scott was dropping his campaign for President. His decision was a surprise to many including callers who indicated that they planned to vote for Scott. The second part of today's show was dedicated to updating listeners on another inmate riot at the Alvin S. Glenn detention center in Richland County. Callers offered accounts of other unreported incidents at the facility which is under federal investigation.

Issues Covered: Politics, Law Enforcement, Tax Dollars

Nov 22nd

The host raises the question of the cost and tax burden for S.C. taxpayers for Presidential candidate Donald Trump to attend the annual Clemson/USC football rivalry game. Callers asked if the trip would be considered a campaign expense. Regular contributor, T.S. Mitchell was guest for a segment on this show offering information to listeners with college students. Mitchell advised parents to empower students with financial literacy as they are making decisions, even as students, that will impact finances now and in the future

Issues Covered: Politics, Campaign Finances, Education, Financial Literacy

Dec 6th

The host and callers offered varied opinions on what all agreed was a lack of answers to the growing problems of mass shootings. The discussions focused on the politics of gun control, mental health and public safety measures.

Issues Covered: Gun Control, Mental Health, Politics, Community Safety

Dec 12th

P.A. updates listeners on the case of Texas woman seeking an abortion which has been contested by the Texas State Supreme Court and the Texas Attorney General. Callers alluded to the broader implications of rulings in one part of the country impacting others. A second part of today's show was dedicated to a discussion of the lack of international support of Israel's actions in Gaza. Additionally, Columbia Fire Chief Aubrey Jenkins called in to raise community awareness of the Columbia Fire Department's 'Firefighters Feeding Families Food Drive.

Issues Covered: Abortion Rights, Politics, Middle East War, Community, Fire Safety

Dec 14th

Attorney James Shadd was guest on today's show. He detailed and updated listeners on developments in the case of a group of Middle School girls who attacked one of their classmates. Shadd outlined the juvenile criminal consequences facing the girls and the potential civil liabilities facing their families. Shadd also gave perspective to a case in Conway where a black couple faced the consequences of their white neighbors intimidating them by burning a cross on their lawn. Caller discussion center on the fact that South Carolina is one of a few remaining states without a hate crime law.

Issues Covered: Juvenile Law, Parental Liability, Hate Crimes, Racism

Dec 27th

P.A. opened the program with a discussion on the African American Kwanza holiday. She expressed her wish that younger generations learn the positive lessons of the holiday as opposed to simply celebrating because others celebrate. Callers gave background on the various days of the holiday and their meaning. The rest of the program was dedicated to updates on early voting for the District 19 Senate seat, continuing efforts to update the minimum wage and failing efforts in the national congress to stop budget shortfalls.

Issue Covered: Kwanza, African American History

The Urban Scene with Don Frierson
:60 minutes

Don Frierson hosts The Urban Scene daily at 12noon. The Urban Scene features information and analysis of local issues, government, health, community resources and community events. The program utilizes interviews, guest discussions, social media interaction as well as ZOOM and listener phone calls to explore social, economic and cultural themes relative to residents in our coverage area.

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Issues Covered: Politics, Elections, Education, Law Enforcement

The Urban Scene continued its format of Weekly Segments devoted to community, law enforcement, government and community services. In these segments, guests/co-hosts spends the entire 60 minutes of the program disseminating information and answering listener questions. These regular segments include:

Insight with Antjuan Seawright – In this Quarter, Antjuan reported and hosted multiple shows live from Washington, D.C. – including the challenges of selecting a new House Majority Leader, multiple election results in November and the impact of those results on abortion, affirmative action and Voting Rights. Another program was devoted to the political implications of the Middle East Conflict. Yet another segment featured the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Presidents Senior Housing Advisor on efforts to promote affordable housing in rural as well as urban areas of the nation – with a special emphasis on dollars allocated and available for housing initiatives in South Carolina.

Issues Covered: Politics, Affirmative Action, Economy, Abortion, Voting Rights, Middle East War, Affordable Housing

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott – In this Quarter, Sheriff Lott updated listeners on initiatives his department is undertaking to connect with young people and to stem the flow of firearms to young people and gangs. The sheriff also devoted one program to discussion and caller input on how to react in mass shooting situation. Another program focused on holiday crime prevention and, specifically, how to protect senior family members from scams.

Issues Covered: Gangs, Youth Crimes, Gun Control, Crime Prevention, Mass Shootings, Community Safety

Other Urban Scene Highlights include:

Oct 2nd

Emma Myers and Jo Pauling were the guest on this show focused on the impact of scams on senior citizens. Callers offered additional information on scam nuances and how easily some people fall victim to scams. The guest from AARP also discussed the legal options available to scam victims.

Issues Covered: Scams, Senior Safety, Finances

Oct 9th

South Carolina NAACP President Brenda Murphy was the guest on this show. Ms Murphy gave listeners details on the upcoming State Convention. She also outlined some of the initiatives the State Conferences is undertaking including housing and the passage of a State Hate Crimes Law in South Carolina. Murphy also encouraged NAACP membership and financial support for the organization.

Issues Covered: NAACP, Affordable Housing, Hate Crimes Law, NAACP Membership

Oct 10th

Today's show updated listeners on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and the implications of war in that region. Callers offered varied opinions on the conflict as well as historical development. Callers also talked about the impact of war on South Carolina with its proliferation of military bases.

Issues Covered: Middle East Conflict, War, Military Families

Oct 23rd

Today show focused on the upcoming Democratic Primary Election for Senate Seat 19. All four candidates called in to present their platforms and answer listener question.

Issues Covered: Politics, Elections, Voting, Housing, Education

Oct 30th

Columbia Mayor Daniel Rickenman and the VP for External Affairs at Baptist Hospital, Anthony Jackson, were the guests on this show. They gave listeners information on their Blue Zone initiative – a collaboration between the city and the hospital to improve health outcomes in underserved communities. Callers asked questions on how communities can participate and benefit from the initiative.

Issue Covered: Health, Health Costs, Community Collaborations

Nov 10th

In recognition of Veterans Day, The Urban Scene aired a documentary telling the story of the all African American 369th Infantry. That unit fought in WWII and made significant contributions as well as help eliminate some of the barriers African American military members face in that era.

Issue Covered: Veterans Day, Military Service, History, Racism

Nov 14th

Perry Bradley of Building Better Communities was the guest. Bradley updated listeners on the plight of dozens of senior citizens living in a deteriorating, condemned Senior Housing apartment building. The seniors were facing a 30 day notice to vacate when Building Better Communities stepped in to help mitigate the timeline and help the seniors find alternative housing. Caller expressed their concern that the apartment complex had gotten to the point where seniors were living in dangerous conditions. Bradley advised callers on how and where to report such issues.

Issue Covered: Senior Citizens, Senior Housing, Community Safety

Nov 20th

Kimberly Richardson was the guest. She is President of Widows of Opportunity. That group offers support and resource information to women and men who have lost spouses. Richardson offered specific suggestions for those who lost or lose a spouse during the holiday

season. Several callers also asked about the impact of losing children to death or accident.

Issue Covered: Grief, Grief Counseling, Wills, Heirs Rights

Nov 22nd

Today's show was an open forum on the continuing and escalating war in the Middle East. Caller offered varied opinion on their support/non-support for Israel in the conflict, the major loss of lives in the Gaza and the role America showed play in helping to resolve the conflict.

Issue Covered: Middle East War, Biblical History, Modern Warfare, Politics

Nov 27th

Carrie Elliott of the South Carolina League of Women Voters was the guest. This show focused on voter registration and participation. Listeners were given information on upcoming elections and deadlines and new voting laws. Callers got explanation on how the League of Women Voters has expanded its scope to include all people of voting age.

Issue Covered: Voting, Voter Registration, Election Laws

Dec 4th

Senior Health Advocate Dr. Macie Smith was the guest. She gave listeners the details on a movie premiering at a local theatre centered on a family dealing with impact of Alzheimer's Disease. Smith also offered listeners insight on dealing with Alzheimer's during the holidays. Smith also outlined proactive measures families can take to help victims and themselves through various stages of Alzheimer's.

Issue Covered: Senior Health, Alzheimer's disease

Dec 5th

Pastor Beverly Claire was the guest on this show. She and members of her community organization talked about the groups' initiatives to keep young people out of gangs. Pastor Claire specifically solicited community support to an effort to collect toys and gifts for children in gang plagued neighborhoods.

Issue Covered: Gangs, Gang Intervention, Christmas

Dec 19th

Sue Berkowitz of the Appleseed Foundation was the guest. Her primary focus was on eviction consequences in the holiday season. She pointed out the significant number of families impacted by eviction and rent challenges during this season. She also gave listener information on how the Appleseed Foundation and other agencies offer

resources that can help families mitigate the impact of eviction during the holidays and year round.

Issue Covered: Eviction, Rent Challenges, Community Resources

Dec 26th

Today's show began the annual Urban Scene weeklong observance of Kwanza – the African American holiday celebration. Each day, the host outlines the meaning of the African word describing the day, its origins and continued significance in the African American community. The discussion center on Umoja (unity) with some documentary clips for the International Civil Rights Museum.

Issue Covered: Kwanza, African American History