

Public Affairs Program CONTACT

The program airs Sundays on the following stations:

7:30 A.M. WRQN

7:00 A.M. WQQO

6:15 A.M. WLQR

6:00 A.M. WXKR, WKKO, WTOD

January 1

Special broadcast, featuring the major stories from 2016

January 8, 2017

Guest: Lindsay Schriver and Toni Mattin, local organizers of the Women's March on Washington

Topic: Political activism

Discussion: Women feel their rights and new-found status in the workplace could be jeopardized under a Trump administration.

January 15, 2017

Guest: Scott Carpenter, spokesman for Toledo Metroparks

Topic: Community Resources

Discussion: The Metroparks are planning to hire sharpshooters to cull the growing deer population. Many residents near the park are fearful. Scott explains the process and why it is necessary from a wildlife management point of view.

Guest: Katie Mastee, Girl Scouts

Topic: Volunteerism, Charity

Discussion: The annual Girl Scout cookie sale is underway. We discuss how people can purchase cookies and the life lessons participating in the sale girls learn.

January 22, 2017

Guest: Robin Reese, Executive Director of Lucas County Children Services

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: There is a major need for more foster families in the Toledo area. We discuss that need, who can become a foster family, and training that is provided.

Guest: Melissa Portala, Collingwood Arts Center

Topic: Arts

Discussion: Art in the Heart is a series of concerts that will support the Collingwood Arts Center and its arts community.

January 29, 2017

Guest: Jim Gee, General Manager, Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority

Topic: Transportation

Discussion: Should we change the method of paying for public transit from a property tax to a sales tax?

February 5, 2017

Guest: Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken

Topic: Government Initiative

Discussion: Welcome Toledo & Lucas County is an initiative to bring more people to the area to live, work and go to school.

February 12, 2017

Guest: Toledo State Representative Teresa Fedor

Topic: Crime of Human Trafficking

Discussion: Excerpts from the day-long presentations at the Ohio Statehouse discussing human trafficking and steps being taken in Ohio to curtail it. The event is hosted by Rep. Fedor.

February 19, 2017

- Guest: John Martin, Director, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
- Topic: Human Services; Drug Abuse
- Discussion: The governor has launched “Start Talking,” providing parents, grandparents, caregivers, teachers and other school administrators with information about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, as well as action steps they can take to help children resist peer pressure to use.

February 26, 2017

- Guest: Megan Stamos, Coyle Funeral Home
- Topic: Finances
- Discussion: Pre-planning your funeral can save you money and reduce stress on your family.
- Guest: Lisa Comes, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Topic: Human Services
- Discussion: The CommUNITY Film Festival allows individuals with developmental disabilities the opportunity to produce their own videos to show their success with community inclusion.
- Guest: Melissa Green, Columbia Gas
- Topic: Finances; Public Utilities
- Discussion: A home energy audit can save you money and make your home more comfortable.

March 5, 2017

- Guest: Ken Leslie, America Matters
- Topic: Human Services
- Discussion: America Matters is a not-for-profit that helps homeless veterans find places to live.

Guest: Todd Crandall, Run for Recovery
Topic: Drug Abuse
Discussion: This not-for-profit offers counseling to teenagers to help them kick their drug addictions.
Guest: Doug Jambard-Sweet, Move to Amend
Topic: Political Activism
Discussion: The Toledo City Council will hold its annual Democracy Day allowing citizens to comment on how they believe government is functioning. This is an action that was made mandatory during the 2016 election.

March 12, 2017

Guest: Lucas County Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak
Topic: Environment
Discussion: We discuss proposals to clean up Lake Erie and maintain safe drinking water.

March 19, 2017

Guest: Michele Myerholtz, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Topic: Human Services
Discussion: March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. We discuss the efforts to help individuals with dd find access to housing, employment and social opportunities in a non-segregated setting.

March 26, 2017

Guest: Wendy Huntley, Connecting Kids to Meals
Topic: Human Services
Discussion: Formerly called Feed Lucas County Children, this program helps Toledo school kids receive healthy meals year round.

Guest: Pam Hayes, Armed Forces

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: This not-for-profit provides counseling for veterans who have traumatic brain injuries.

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April 2, 2017

Guest: Vicki Obee, Director of Bittersweet Farms

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: April is Autism Awareness Month. We discuss the autism spectrum, how autism is diagnosed, and current treatments.

April 9, 2017

Guest: Kara Steele, Life Connection of Ohio

Topic: Human Services, Social Issues

Discussion: We discuss how to become an organ and tissue donors, myths surrounding organ donations, and how to discuss with your families that you wish to be an organ donor.

Guest: Mike Ferner, Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie

Topic: Health & Safety, Social Issues

Discussion: Action is needed to protect the Great Lakes from again developing poisonous algal blooms. Farmers need to take steps to reduce the runoff of fertilizer into the lakes.

April 16, 2017

Guest: Toledo State Representative Teresa Fedor

Topic: Health & Safety, Social Issues

Discussion: We have audio from the Ohio Statehouse where Representative Fedor hosts an annual conference on human trafficking. She is championing legislation to fight what she calls “modern day slavery.”

April 23, 2017

Guest: Erin Thompson, Social Security Administration

Topic: Government

Discussion: How do we apply for Social Security, should we start collecting as soon as we can or delay, and where can we seek counseling.

April 30, 2017

Guest: Bill Gill, Toledo Metropolitan Council of Governments

Topic: Transportation

Discussion: Trains are still a major part of the Toledo transportation network, but the current proposed federal budget could eliminate Amtrak routes through Toledo.

Guest: Lance Dasher, Toledo Metropolitan Council of Governments

Topic: Transportation

Discussion: Bike to Work Week allows us to talk about alternative forms of transportation such as riding a bike, taking a bus, or walking. We also discuss how the area governments are planning for future transportation needs.

May 7, 2017

Guest: Colonel Scott Reid, Ohio Air National Guard

Topic: Government

Discussion: The Toledo air national guard base provides a large impact on the area economy. There are plans to expand the base and the mission of the unit.

May 14, 2017

Guest: Julie Pratt, Trauma Informed Care

Topic: Health & Safety

Discussion: Trauma Informed Care is a new methodology of treating mental illness. For every effect, there is a cause. Learning about the

causes, often the result of trauma in one's life, can help develop methods of coping.

May 21, 2017

Guest: Allen Leppard, Erie Shores Boy Scout Council

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: We discuss the modern Boy Scout program and we also learn about celebrating the 100th anniversary of Camp Miakonda in Toledo, the oldest scout camp in the country.

May 28, 2017

Guest: Dr. Cecelia Williams, University of Toledo Social Justice Institute

Topic: Crime, Social Issues

Discussion: We have the audio from a news conference dealing with the human trafficking issue in Toledo... and the arrest of two pastors in Toledo who have been charged with human trafficking.

June 4, 2017

Guest: Wendy Hundli, Connecting Kids to Meals

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: Several area organizations are working together to ensure that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals during the summer months when school is not in session.

Guest: Patti Powers, Easter Seals

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: The big Walk for Easter Seals is later this month. It is the organization's biggest fundraiser of the year.

Guest: Jim Gee, General Manager, Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority

Topic: Political Activism, Government

Discussion: TARTA is suggesting changing its funding model from a property tax to a sales tax. This would allow the transit service to expand throughout the entire county.

June 11, 2017

Guest: Douglas Siebenaler, Sunshine Communities

Topic: Human Services

Discussion: The Black Swamp Festival will help raise funds for Sunshine, a service provider for persons with developmental disabilities. We discuss how individuals with developmental disabilities are becoming more engaged with their communities.

June 18, 2017

Guest: Sarah Allen, Welcome Toledo-Lucas County

Topic: Government, Social Issues

Discussion: "Love Letters to Toledo" is a project that works to build Toledo's reputation as a welcoming community.

June 25, 2017

Guest: Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program

Topic: Social Issues, Crime

Discussion: Toledo's growing opioid addiction problem is the focus of this discussion. Why has the problem grown? Why does it continue to grow? How can we all become involved in the fight?

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July 2, 2017

Person Interviewed: Scott Carpenter, spokesperson for Metroparks Toledo, discusses expansion projects and the levy that will appear on the November ballot.

Topic: Recreation, Government

Person Interviewed: Bill Gill, representing All Aboard Toledo, discusses a proposal from the Trump administration that would end passenger rail service through Toledo.

Topic: Transportation, Government

July 9, 2017

Person interviewed: Erin Thompson, a spokesperson for the Social Security Administration discusses what new programs are being offered, how to file for Social Security, and where to get assistance.

Topic: Government, Retirement, Financial Planning

July 16, 2017

Person interviewed: Colonel Scott Reed, Vice-Commander of the 180th Fighter Wing of the Ohio Air National Guard, discusses the mission of the unit and the preparations underway for the 9-11 Memorial.

Topic: Government, Military, Civic Involvement

July 23, 2017

Person interviewed: John Edwards, Director of the Urban Minority Outreach Program, discusses the growing opioid problem and steps we can take as a community to fight the epidemic.
Topic: Drug abuse, civic involvement

July 30, 2017

Person interviewed: Scott Noonan, candidate for city council in Maumee, talks about how individuals can get involved in the political process. Scott is a person with a disability and also talks about perceptions that often stand in the way of employment, housing, and social opportunities.

Topic: Government, Disabilities Issues

Person Interviewed: Jean Schoen, Executive Director of Cancer Connection, outlines how her organization works to provide support services for persons suffering with cancer.

Topic: Health

August 6, 2017

Person interviewed: Toledo City Councilman Tom Waniewski, who is running as a republican candidate for mayor. He outlines his campaign platform and explains issues currently being addressed by the city council.

Topic: Government

August 13, 2017

Person interviewed: Cheri Pistula, spokesperson for Columbia Gas, discusses ways we can save on our gas bills and the Columbia budget plan.

Topic: Public utilities

Person interviewed: Ruth Moeller, Walk to End ALS.

Topic: Health, Civic Involvement

August 20, 2017

Person interviewed: Jeff Ault, author, talks discusses the book he wrote about hiking the Appalachian Trail and how it spurred a major fundraising activity for Sunshine Communities and the individuals with developmental disabilities being served.

Topic: Human Services, Civic Involvement

Person Interviewed: Ross Ellett, television meteorologist, discusses recent severe storms and what may have caused them to be so brutal. We review steps to take if severe weather strikes.

Topic: Safety, Science

August 27, 2017

Person interviewed: Jeff Price, President of Toledo Memorial Park, brings us up to date on plans for a 9-11 Memorial Observation with the casting a huge bell.

Topic: Civic Involvement

Person interviewed: Justin Moore, Area Office on Aging, talks about the importance of physical activity for the elderly.

Topic: Support for the Elderly, Health

September 3, 2017

Person interviewed: Sister Suzette Fisher, Double ARC, explains Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, the number one cause of developmental disabilities. FASD can be prevented if pregnant mothers did not drink alcoholic beverages.

Topic: Health, Human Services

September 10, 2017

Persons interviewed: Alyssa Hunt and Brandon Holt, district executives with the Boy Scouts, talk about the upcoming recruitment drive and how Scouting has changed through the years.

Topic: Youth Services, Civic Involvement

September 17, 2017

Person interviewed: Dr. Cecelia Williamson, Director of the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute, discusses human trafficking and why it is called "modern day slavery." The University of Toledo is again sponsoring a national conference on the issue.

Topic: Human Services, Crime

Person interviewed: Jill Borkowski, a founder of the Putts for Mutts golf tournament, a fundraiser for the Puppy Rescue Mission for military veterans.

Topic: Civic Involvement

September 24, 2017

Persons interviewed: Dr. Adrienne Fricker-Elhai, Director of the Cullen Center, and Jennifer Wolfe, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities, explain the term Trauma Informed Care and how this new concept can help in the treatment of persons with mental health issues. A two day conference is scheduled in Toledo about TIC.

Topic: Health

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October 1, 2017

Topic: Local Politics; Elections

Guests: Mayoral candidates Paula Hicks Hudson and Wade Kapszukiewicz discuss their platforms and how their administrations would differ. They each responded to questions from a live audience.

October 8, 2017

Topic: Historical Perspective

Guest: Mike Fener, former Toledo city council member and Viet Nam veteran reflects on the war and comments on the CNN documentary.

October 15, 2017

Topic: Local elections

Guest: Dr. Romulus Durant, superintendent of the Toledo Public Schools, discusses the importance of the schools levy and the ramifications should it not be approved.

Guest: Joe Fosswell, chief of operations for the Metroparks, on the value of the Metroparks levy and how monies raised in the levy would be used.

October 22, 2017

Topic: Health

Guest: Kathy Mitchell, Vice-President of the National Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Association. Fetal Alcohol is the number one preventable cause of intellectual disabilities. If a woman is pregnant, she should not drink alcoholic beverages.

Topic: Safety, Community Action

Guest: Ralph Mahalak discusses the Heart of the Badge campaign to show support for police, fire fighters, and other first responders.

Topic: Health

Guest: Jean Schoen talks about the not-for-profit support group she has founded that provides support to families that have recently received a cancer diagnosis.

October 29, 2017

Topic: Community Action

Guest: Josh McAfee is a musician that has organized a concert to support victims of the Las Vegas massacre.

Topic: Health

Guest: Kara Steele, a spokesperson for Life Connections, discusses the importance of being an organ donor.

Topic: Community Action, Community Resources

Guest: Scott Carpenter, a spokesperson for the Metroparks, discusses the groundbreaking for the newest of the Metroparks and new features this park will bring to the Metroparks system.

November 5, 2017

Topic: Civic Activism, Business and the Economy

Guest: Sara Swisher is with EPIC, a program of the Chamber of Commerce that networks young professionals and help them “develop a voice” in community and business activities.

November 19, 2017

Topic: Civic activism; support to military veterans

Guest: Pam Hayes is the founder and director of the non-profit Arms Forces. We discuss how the organization supports veterans with traumatic brain injuries.

November 26, 2017

Topic: Health, Human Services

Guest: Catina Harding is the executive director of the Great Lakes Cooperative on Autism, a support group for families of children with autism. The organization is conducting a community needs assessment for families.

December 3, 2017

Topic: Human Services

Guest: John Martin, Director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, discusses the need for direct support professionals for persons with developmental disabilities. The shortage of people in this field is affecting the safety and well-being of some of the most vulnerable individuals in our communities.

December 10, 2017

Topic: Safety

Guest: Jamie Blazeovich is the coordinator of traffic safety for Lake Erie Educational Service Center west. We discuss traffic safety programs and some safety reminders for the holiday season.

December 17, 2017

Topic: Human Services

Guest: Sherry Dunn, Lucas County Children Services, discusses the shortage of foster parents, who would make a good foster parent, and the training and support available.

December 24, 2017

Topic: Civic Affairs

Guest: Tedd Long is a member of the board of the Toledo History Museum. We discuss the efforts to build and expand the museum, the history of Toledo, and how the past impacts the present.

December 31, 2017

Topic: News highlights of the previous year, part 1

Program: Highlights from major events of the past year.