

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAM LIST
STATION: WEBR AM/FM
JANUARY 01, 2024 – MARCH 31, 2024

**Viewpoint is a 60 minute locally produced program that airs Monday – Friday, 9am – 10am
Hosted by Tom Darro covering various topics of the day, serving both Erie & Niagara Counties
Community Issues include education, economy, health care, crime, environment, and tourism**

DATE: January 09, 2024
GUEST: Joseph Jastrzemski – Niagara County Clerk
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Jastrzemski discussed local gun shows and the process involved with purchasing guns at these shows. If a representative from the Clerk's office is present, they can amend permits and add a new gun to the permit, run background checks, and provide paperwork. Once amended, the buyer can give the seller the permit and take the gun home that day. If a representative is not there, the seller runs the background check and gives the buyer paperwork to take to the Clerk's office. He reminded everyone that you have to recertify pistol permits every three years. If there are any infractions, you may have to surrender your permit and guns to the local police station until you have a hearing with a local judge to review any charges. The County Clerk covered the topic of DMV appointments and that they are recommended as some offices do not accept walk-ins. He talked about how the state gives the DMV revenue to help keep local offices open. For every transaction, whether it is done in person, online, or through the mail, the DMV will receive 10.75%. The clerk's office has partnered with Connect Life and if you are a blood donor you get a certificate to use at the clerk's office which lets you go to "the front of the line". He addressed the issue of enhanced drivers' licenses and that you will need to have one by 2025 to get into Canada and Mexico. Better yet, get a passport which is good for every country. Passports can be applied for/renewed at the court house - not the DMV office.

DATE: January 10, 2024
GUEST: Heidi Wichlacz – Social Security - Local Office Representative
DESCRIPTION: Ms. Wichlacz talked about the cost-of-living adjustment for 2024. Letters have gone out stating the increase is 3.2% and begins in January. It is based on the third quarter 2022-2023 consumer price index. This adjustment is also added to projected benefits for those not yet collecting. She addressed the maximum you can earn if under full retirement age. It is \$22,320 per year and anything over that amount is a payback situation. Your full retirement age varies depending on the year you were born, and social security benefits are based on your best 35 years of employment. Ms. Wichlacz explained "delayed retirement" credit. People who have other means of income to rely on from full retirement age to seventy would receive an 8% return per year for not taking the benefits early. She advised listeners that they can get an appointment at the Social Security office to go over their personal situation regarding retirement, disability benefits, etc.

DATE: **January 17, 2024**
GUEST: Anthony Restaino – Niagara Falls City Administrator
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Restaino gave an update on Sal Maglie Stadium. It is now finished and will host baseball games featuring the Niagara Falls Americans. In addition, NCCC and D'Youville University will play their spring and fall schedules there. The semi-pro hockey team, the Niagara Falls Buffalos, are playing at the Ice Pavilion bringing out-of-towners in for hockey tournaments which is a good source of revenue for hotels and restaurants in the city. They are also looking to bring other events to the new stadium. The City Administrator discussed the Compact with the Senecas. There will be a few changes. Last year, the compact was 25% and the new one will be approximately 18% to 19%. The old 99H law distributed funds to schools, hospitals, and the airport. The new 99H law has the money going directly to the City of Niagara Falls. A caller asked if there was a strategy in place regarding plowing during heavy snowfalls. Mr. Restaino said that the city does not use private contractors in Niagara Falls at this time, there is no stand-by plan, but something they will have to look at for future storm coverage. The City Administrator responded to a question about the damage done at the Hyde Park golf course by four-wheelers. A solution may be to install cameras to monitor the area. He covered the issue of pot holes and dips in roads. To report both, use the 311-call center number. He explained that dips in roads are usually caused by water main collapses (the city's responsibility to fix) or damaged sewer laterals (the home owner's responsibility to repair). Mr. Restaino talked about the financial state of the city. In 2016, the State Controller's office put the city on the "financially distressed" list. The city is now cleared from the list since the bond ratings have gone up and they have developed a surplus.

DATE: **January 18, 2024**
GUEST: Chris Voccio – Niagara County Legislator – 6th District
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Voccio responded to a caller's question regarding cameras, neighbors, and privacy issues. The Legislator said that there is a "delicate balance between security and liberty". He is not opposed to cameras with wider ranges as it may help law enforcement identify people committing break-ins and thefts. When it comes to cameras seeing inside a home, he recommended calling an attorney. Mr. Voccio addressed the migrant crisis. When immigrants came from Texas to New York City, and NYC wanted to send them to Niagara County, the county said "no" as they do not have the human services infrastructure to manage housing, healthcare, or education. In other cities, hospitals have gone into debt due to the number of people coming into the system. A caller expressed concern about high taxes including the 4% tax on fuel which was not eliminated in the county, and the lack of reduction in government spending. Mr. Voccio did not vote on bonuses that the Biden Administration allowed after COVID. He explained what is involved in his job, which includes attending 11 full legislative meetings and 11 committee meetings. All are open to the public and are scheduled on a public calendar. He encouraged anyone interested in local politics to consider stepping up and running for local offices.

DATE: **January 24, 2024**
GUEST: Josh Meloni – Writer for the Tribune and Sentinel
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Meloni discussed the Solar Eclipse happening on April 8, 2024. The Historical Association of Lewiston wanted to have an event on Center Street but in the best interest of public safety it was decided there would not be one. He commented on the hearings regarding the possible closure of Niagara Scenic Parkway from Findlay Drive to Lewiston - trying to keep more of the focus on downtown Niagara Falls and the business district. This reconfiguration began approximately 20 years ago and will depend on how the public perceives it. Mr. Meloni gave an update on the restoration of The Frontier House. It was built in 1824 and is celebrating its 200th anniversary. Its new tenant, Billy Club Restaurant and Bar, has a target date of spring/summer 2024 to open. He talked about the many Festivals planned for this year on Center Street: the Art, Jazz, Garden, and Peach Festivals, and some parades. Mr. Meloni covered the topic of Academy Park. The band shell was moved and has been a success. The question is what to do with the rest of the park to encourage people to come out and use it more while keeping the vision of the park open and accessible. Some ideas suggested were adding a Pavilion, metal art, and a mural. He reminded the listeners that full versions of the papers are free online at WNYPPapers.com.

DATE: **January 26, 2024**
GUEST: Mike Filicetti – Niagara County Sheriff
DESCRIPTION: The Sheriff discussed Solar Eclipse plans and problems other cities faced including the large number of people coming to the area, traffic jams, people going on private property, etc. His department will meet with other law enforcement agencies to address these issues and plan on the best use of their combined resources. Mr. Filicetti commented on the editorial that was in the newspaper that presented stats from 2023: how many calls the sheriff's department responded to, number of people arrested/booked for crimes, tickets for traffic infractions, number of accidents, calls answered, community events, etc. A caller had a question regarding traffic tickets. Sheriff Filicetti stated that the town gets zero revenue for tickets. When pulled over, however, all narratives are recorded whether a ticket is issued for a traffic violation or just a warning is given. He spoke about the All-Stars program where deputies go to schools to speak about the consequences of alcohol abuse, drug problems, internet safety, bullying, etc. Mr. Filicetti covered the subject of internet security. There is a deputy trained with the forensic lab (FBI level) to do computer/internet investigations who is assigned to the Cyber Task Force. Sheriff Filicetti explained neighborhood apps and "ring doorbells". The department can request video from homeowners, but it is not mandatory to release it and they encourage homeowners to report if they see crime happening on a neighbor's property to help law enforcement.

DATE: January 30, 2024
GUEST: Sylvia Virtuoso – Supervisor – Town of Niagara
DESCRIPTION: Ms. Virtuoso reported on the new truck stop on Porter Road that is opening soon which will increase sales tax revenue. The DOC superseded the planning board on configurations of thruway exits and the parking situation and driveways to Aldi's have seen significant traffic problems and many accidents. According to mall management, shopping at the Fashion Outlet Mall is picking up. The Supervisor discussed some of her goals for her administration – senior housing, developing Military Road – bringing in more new businesses, and welcoming Caliber Collision to the area. Since there is minimal property available for development, there are traffic studies done for every new business coming into the area. Ms. Virtuoso addressed the problem with Republic and the odor from their establishment. They have been fined, have been in court, and have been regulated a lot more. She encouraged people to call the DEC complaint line whenever there is an odor problem from Republic's facility. The Supervisor talked about Noel at Niagara. Beginning this year, they will ask for a "volunteer donation" to help defray the cost of the event which is held every night throughout the holiday season. She gave an update on Amazon and confirmed that the project is proceeding, and the developers have been very cooperative with traffic concerns.

DATE: February 02, 2024
GUEST: Mark Laurrie – Niagara Falls School Superintendent
DESCRIPTION: The Superintendent addressed the cost of educating migrants and the district's obligation to hire teachers specialized in speaking various languages. No migrants are in the area; therefore, bilingual teachers are not currently needed. Regarding immunizations – migrant students have much more relaxed rules than local children. A caller asked if Niagara Falls would be offering Continuing Education courses that were halted during COVID. Mr. Laurrie said that they are thinking about resuming them which would make use of the school buildings and raise the cultural and civic level. He also covered the topic of electric buses which cost anywhere between \$250,000 - \$400,000. Other considerations are how they affect the infrastructure and the need for charging stations. The state is pushing an aggressive approach, and the district will have to report on its progress in 2025. Governor Hochul is recommending a program to set aside \$2.4 billion for migrants' education, using \$10 million to train teachers in the Science of Reading. This would include training K – second grade teachers to teach phonics instructions. Mr. Laurrie explained "Let's Say Yes" – 16 different programs. He is most interested in Saturday Academy from 8a – 1p, continue to work with boys and men of color, and "last money in" where a Foundation pays for college scholarships and apprenticeships once other grants and aids are exhausted. The Superintendent provided information regarding changes in the NYS Education Department for graduating and competencies. More "performance ratings" – proficiency in skills/Trades and not all about "Regents".

DATE: February 06, 2024
GUEST: Nicholas Ligammari - Niagara Falls Police Chief
DESCRIPTION: The new Police Chief introduced himself. He has been in the department for 29 years; started as a patrol officer, worked in every division of the department, worked for the Sheriff's office for 1 year. He has been promoted to lieutenant, captain, and now chief. He feels he has the knowledge and experience to accept the challenge. When Mr. Ligammari was asked about the Thanksgiving eve bridge accident, he responded that the investigation is still ongoing, now on a local level, they are in contact with the Bentley company, but there is still no definitive explanation. Regarding the Hyde Park vandalism, it is still being assessed. He was questioned about school zone patrols. The Police Chief said that there is some flexibility granted in "no parking" areas when dropping off/picking up children and they do not write tickets for that. Mr. Ligammari reviewed his goals for the next two years: recruitment and retention of officers. He hopes the national climate for law enforcement will change and hold police in higher regard. One of the challenges with recruitment is that they are not getting many people interested in taking the civil service exams, so the list is cut down quickly. Another goal the Police Chief spoke about is to have officers visible in the community this summer walking beats and structured patrols in neighborhoods and parks. He talked about the Explorer Post Academy where young people (ages 16 – 20) who are interested in law enforcement can go to learn about the field and many then go on to become dispatchers, officers, or deputies. Presently, there are 15 – 20 students enrolled. The new Police Academy at the college will be up and running by June. The Police Chief discussed what a rewarding career police work is, great benefits, good health care, and how you can retire after 20 years.

DATE: February 07, 2024
GUEST: Henry Wojtaszek – CEO Batavia Downs Gaming
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Wojtaszek talked about the weekend of February 2 – 4 as the best they have ever had – over \$14 million in credits played and a bourbon and BBQ event. They brought in experts on the making of bourbon, had taste-testing, outstanding food, and bands. Over the year, a billion dollars will go through Batavia Downs Gaming. Money then goes to the NYS Education fund, along with other associations. Callers wanted Mr. Wojtaszek to address the facts in the article that appeared in the Investigative Post. He stated that the information in the article was not accurate. He spoke about Dennis Bassett who was elected as Chairperson of the board of directors of WROTB - a great business mind with 50 years in corporate America. He reviewed how Batavia Downs employees are not state employees and are employed by a Public Benefit Corporation. Their pensions and salaries come from the corporation - no funding from any municipal organizations. Mr. Wojtaszek presented the upcoming entertainment lineup including Beatle Mania, Million Dollar Dice Roll, Brewfest, a Prince Tribute concert, the Niagara Wine trail – "Vino at the Casino", and a very popular event - the Legends and Stars Sports Expo with past and present Buffalo Bills and Buffalo Sabres who will sign autographs and sell memorabilia.

DATE: February 09, 2024
GUEST: Angelo Morinello – NYS Assemblyman – 145th District
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Morinello discussed the Governor's \$233 billion budget proposal and how the Controller of NYS said that it is unsustainable, and spending is out of control. The two areas most negatively impacted are Education and Transportation. School budgets need predictability and since the epidemic and illegal entries into the U.S., the expenses have gone up tremendously. More money is needed for mental health, language, special classes, etc. A question was asked about lottery money going to schools. Mr. Morinello stated that lottery revenue does not sustain the entire school budget or lower school taxes. Regarding transportation, which includes road paving and snow removal, the amount was left the same without taking into consideration the increase in paving materials and extreme winter recovery. There has been a decrease of \$60 million for road repair across the state. He commented on the \$2.4 billion used to cover expenses for people entering illegally. There has been a 300% increase in illegal entries across the Niagara River since November. NYS has passed laws so Federal authorities cannot access NYS DMV license plate data bases thus protecting illegals. The Assemblyman weighed in on the topic of school buses going to electric. The cost will triple from \$250,000 per bus to \$750,000. Batteries cannot sustain the runs so there will be disruptions in school schedules. Mr. Morinello gave an update on the summer reading program which encourages students to read in July and August. This year, over 300 signed up and 144 won the challenge. Twenty-one schools participated and five schools had ten or more winners in their school.

DATE: February 20, 2024
GUEST: Dr. Becker Steinemann, DO – Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center
DESCRIPTION: Dr. Steinemann discussed the topic of cholesterol. He explained the numbers: your total cholesterol should be under 200, with your HDL (good cholesterol over 50) and LDL (bad one) under 100. He recommended lifestyle modification including changes in diet and exercise and commented on how heredity also plays a role. The doctor talked about ways to improve your health including eating egg whites and more lean meats - broiled instead of fried and avoiding processed and fatty foods, eggs, beef, greasy foods, etc. Dr. Steinemann reviewed when testing usually begins – around age 40 or earlier if the person has a cardiac or family history. Physicians determine cholesterol levels through bloodwork and usually prescribe statins to help manage bad cholesterol. The most common side effect of statins is muscle aches especially in bigger muscle groups like shoulders and legs. He spoke about how bad cholesterol contributes to vascular issues, strokes, and heart attacks. Patients should be reevaluated every three to six months to see if there are any changes which could result in an increase or reduction in their medication. He advised listeners to check with their primary care physician as they should be coordinating your various doctors and the medications each has prescribed.

DATE: February 21, 2024
GUEST: Robert Restaino – Mayor – City of Niagara Falls
DESCRIPTION: The Mayor discussed that in the future he would like to see plans put in place to develop North Main Street for student housing, the Boulevard for a multi-purpose Event Center, and refurbish a city-owned building to handle abandoned animals and hire an operator to run the facility. He commented on the casino compact saying it has been extended until the end of March and negotiations are on-going. Mr. Restaino spoke about the April 8th Eclipse event and the huge number of people coming to the area. A caller questioned the rates hotels are charging and if it is price gouging. The Mayor said that it is not since rates are based on supply and demand. If anyone does feel it is, they can contact the State Attorney's office. Mr. Restaino replied to a question regarding Robins Drive to Porter Road and the lack of lines and how hard it is to see at night. He explained that the city must first check if repairs are needed before painting. He also said that the paving schedule will be out soon. He spoke about the damage to the golf course in Hyde Park and the recommended plan to add cameras in the area and the possible use of drones once more police staff are certified to fly them. A listener wanted to know the status of the Edward Dean Adams Power Station. The Mayor responded that it is not a historical designation since the property is not owned by the city. It is privately owned so eminent domain is not in place since it is not used for a public purpose. Mr. Restaino gave an update regarding the city's website. It is being revamped to offer more current information and archive older items. The goal is to make the website a place where you can conduct business, apply for permits and pay for them, and chat – leaving questions for the administration. They hope to launch the website in the spring.

DATE: February 27, 2024
GUEST: John Di Sciullo – Executive Director of Production and Promotion - WBBZ
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Di Sciullo talked about this year's Variety Club Telethon. It will air Saturday, 3/9 on WGRZ and Sunday, 3/10 on WBBZ. The 2024 celebrity child is 7-year-old Oliver Cope. He said that the Variety Club has been in existence for 90 years and this is the 62nd year of the Telethon. It is a Western NY staple that began with Dr. Robert Warner – a medical expert that started the Rehabilitation Center. Mr. Di Sciullo reported that 80% of the telethon proceeds go to the rehab center and 20% to other charities. It is one of the last locally produced Telethons and the longest running one in the United States. The emotional connection of the community keeps the Telethon going. Some local businesses that support it are Chef's, Delta Sonic, Anderson's, and Batavia Downs to name a few. A listener asked why the telethon left WKBW. Mr. Di Sciullo explained that the Variety Club and the management of Channel 7 had two different ideas of how the telethon needed to change. The Variety Club thought it was time to reinvent it with another TV station, so they moved to WGRZ and WBBZ. He advised that WKBW, however, still contributes by giving them a satellite truck to use and donates satellite time so they can broadcast from the Variety Club's Lancaster headquarters. He reminded the listeners that they can donate by telephone the day of the Telethon or on the Variety Club's website, varietybuffalo.org.

DATE: **March 08, 2024**
GUEST: Lauren Fix – The Car Coach
DESCRIPTION: Ms. Fix talked about how car manufacturers ask her to review their vehicles. When she does, she assesses them by what it is like to drive as the owner would, taking into consideration how the consumer is going to use the vehicle, visibility, safety features, seating, power, fuel consumption, and technology. A listener asked about repair shop costs. Ms. Fix recommended going to repairpal.com or caradviser.com to check repair costs suggested by the dealer/repair shop. When the shop is stumped by a repair, have them go to the TSB (Technical Service Bulletin) website. This site can fix code in car computers. The Car Coach commented on her top list for new cars: Hyundai, Kia, and Genesis since they offer a 10-year warranty. She also said that there are still new vehicles available in the \$20,000 to \$25,000 range. Honda is the only manufacturer that delivers on gas mileage stated – on all their vehicles. Overall, the cost of new cars and car loans is up mostly due to more mandated safety features. Ms. Fix reviewed what the company Gentex is working on and expressed her displeasure with their research of a feature that will track your eye movements in the rearview mirror, can listen to anything going on in the vehicle, and kill switches which the government is trying to mandate by 2026. Ms. Fix discussed the issue of electric car charging stations catching fire in home garages and how homeowners' insurances are rejecting claim payments. She advised to check with your agent as it will need to be reported as an "addition to the home." The Car Coach posts YouTube videos supplying key facts/information and she can be reached at carcoachreports.com or laurenfix.com.

DATE: **March 13, 2024**
GUEST: Joseph Jastrzemski – Niagara County Clerk
DESCRIPTION: The County Clerk explained that now is the time of year when people are putting their boats in the water and motorcycles and campers on the road. He said that DMV appointments are recommended to register your summer vehicles and boats as some offices do not accept walk-ins. He talked about how for every transaction, whether it is done in person, online, or through the mail, the state gives the DMV revenue to help keep local offices open. Mr. Jastrzemski said that April is "Organ Donor Awareness Month", and the clerk's office has partnered with Connect Life. If you are a blood donor you get a certificate to use at the clerk's office which lets you go to "the front of the line". He addressed what forms of identification can be used to enter Canada. You need an enhanced driver's license, passport, Real ID, or Nexxus card for border crossings. The County Clerk discussed the difference between the enhanced driver's license and Real ID. You can enter Canada with an enhanced driver's license. Real ID is a new standard for identification cards to be used to board domestic flights and access certain federal facilities. They will be required by May 2025. To apply for a Real ID, you will need to provide a birth certificate with a raised seal, a social security card, and, if a woman, a marriage license, or divorce papers to show any name change. The best form of ID is a passport, and it is easier to apply for. Mr. Jastrzemski commented on how this is a busy time of year for their office processing gun permits and new pistol permit applications.

DATE: **March 14, 2024**
GUEST: Chris Voccio – Niagara County Legislator – 6th District
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Voccio spoke about “Coffee with Chris” which began in January 2018. These gatherings are scheduled every other month, are informal and informative, and feature a guest and people in the audience. These get-togethers address constituents’ concerns, have a “Q & A” period, and open dialogue. The County Legislator was asked if there is a Niagara County Executive. None at this time, but there is a County Manager appointed by the County Legislature. Mr. Voccio weighed in on one of the challenging issues in the Niagara County Legislature – Medicaid. All 50 states must participate in Medicaid as it is a Federal program. Each state has some discretion on how they manage them. There are various elements to Medicaid – each state choosing which ones they want to participate in; therefore, some states have more lavish benefits than others. In his opinion, New York State is the worst at managing taxpayers’ dollars, so more expenses are passed onto the counties. The Legislator reported on the Law Enforcement Academy building that will be completed this year and commented on how the citizens will benefit from a strong, capable police force trained there. Mr. Voccio stated that there is an organization working with the city to revitalize the City Market. He reviewed the Legislators’ meeting schedule - two monthly meetings and he currently is on a committee that is planning events to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of the nation to be held in 2025. A caller asked about Regionalism. The Legislator said he serves on the board of the Niagara/Orleans Regional Land Improvement Corp.– a joint-partnership between the two counties to create efficiencies to better deliver services for taxpayers.

DATE: **March 15, 2024**
GUEST: Mark Laurrie – Niagara Falls School Superintendent
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Laurrie reported on recent altercations involving teachers breaking up fights between students. Recently, there were two different incidents in Niagara Falls High School where both teachers were injured. Teachers are encouraged to file police reports. If filed, students are charged with 2nd degree assault and must appear in family court. He reviewed the difference between students being suspended vs. expelled. Expulsion occurs if a student brings a gun to school. There is no in-person education, classes must be done on-line or through in-home learning for one year, and they must attend anger-management counseling to show rehabilitation. Mr. Laurrie explained that it does not happen as much in elementary schools – usually only 5th or 6th graders. When suspended, they are sent home for three days and when they return to school must demonstrate a “correction in behavior”. If students make threats of school shootings, their rights to education are relinquished and they are charged with making “terrorist threats” which is a Federal charge. He commended the Michigan court’s decision to convict the parents of a student who was responsible for a school shooting. The Superintendent talked about the Niagara Falls boys Basketball team that will be traveling this weekend to compete in the Final 4 of the State Basketball Tournament. Mr. Laurrie covered training offered to students including peer mediation groups, student-to-student groups with adult facilitators, mental health first-aid, coping skills, and many other resources available to help them.

DATE: **March 19, 2024**
GUEST: Maria Genero – Local Personality – Former WGRZ-TV Weather Anchor
DESCRIPTION: Ms. Genero discussed that what drew her to radio was her love of music. She also spoke about how she worked at all three big TV stations in Buffalo and at other stations in many major cities throughout her career. She explained how she got into weather reporting. Ms. Genero went from radio to WIVB. Don Paul needed a weekend weather person. He mentored her, she went to the State University and enrolled in a course. Two years later, in 1989, she became a broadcast meteorologist getting her accreditation from the National Weather Association. An honor she received this year was being inducted into the Buffalo Hall of Fame. When asked about her plans for retirement, she said that she would love to collaborate with the Buffalo Zoo to do some on-air educational programs featuring different animals. Ms. Genero reminisced about all the local personalities she worked with over the years and weighed in on how the media has changed with more corporate ownership – people who are making major decisions about local TV and Radio who really don't know this market, this area, or products important to the people of Western New York.

DATE: **March 20, 2024**
GUEST: Anthony Restaino – Niagara Falls City Administrator
DESCRIPTION: Mr. Restaino spoke about Niagara Falls' new garbage removal company/contract and how they were selected. The city received two bids: one from Modern and one from Casella. Casella Waste Systems was chosen and will begin service on May 1st if approved by the council. The selection of this company was based on what is cost effective for the city and customer service. Casella will provide the same drivers for each area, have consistent staffing, and offer quarterly information to the community regarding holiday schedules. Casella Waste Systems is in Tonawanda and has a 5-year contract. A caller wanted to know how to properly dispose of television sets and computers. Mr. Restaino explained that these will not be picked up and must be taken to the Department of Public Works and dropped off. This service is free to Niagara Falls residents. The City Administrator discussed the multiple meetings that have been held regarding the eclipse events scheduled on April 8th and the many people that are expected to come to the area. Several law enforcement agencies will assist, and the city is considering various options including closing some government buildings that day. He reviewed the topic of animal control in the city. Reports can be made by using the 311-call center number for public works/code enforcement issues. The city has contracted with a business in Grand Island and strays will be brought there since there is no longer a place to handle this in Niagara Falls.

DATE: **March 21, 2024**

GUEST: Majeed Siddiqui, MD

DESCRIPTION: Dr. Siddiqui reviewed the CDC figures regarding chronic diseases which include cancer, diabetes, and heart disease and that six in ten people in the U.S. live with a chronic disease. He stated that chronic diseases are the leading cause of death. He presented some mental health statistics saying that 1 in 20 adults experience mental illness in the U.S. including obsessive compulsive disorder, borderline personality and bipolar disorders, PTSD, major depressive episodes, and anxiety disorders. Dr. Siddiqui also explained that lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals have the highest rate of suicide – around 50.2%. He spoke about various addictions including gambling, alcohol, drugs, smoking, overeating, etc. and how addictions cause changes in the brain which is why the behavior is so difficult to eliminate.

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAM LIST

The Station also aired the following Public Service Announcements during the quarter:

Type of Issue	Duration	Title or Narrative
Health	30 seconds	PSA – American Cancer Society – Road to Recovery
Health	15 seconds	PSA – American Cancer Society – Road to Recovery