

WERU Issues & Programs Q3 2021

(Please note: This report was originally posted on 10/8/21, and updated and re-posted on 1/5/22.)

Change Agents 7/1/21, 4pm: Discussion about immigration with two people who came to the USA seeking asylum

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Steve Wessler

Discussion about immigration with two people who came to the USA seeking asylum who work on social justice and human rights in Lewiston, ME.

Conversations from the Pointed Firs 7/2/21 4pm: An interview with Rob McCall, minister, musician & creator of Awanadjo Almanack

58 minutes

Host: Peter Neill

Producer: Trisha Badger

The guest this month is Rob McCall, minister and musician and creator of the Awanadjo Almanack heard here on WERU and circulated across Maine in various publications and through his most recent book, *Some Glad Morning, Holding Hope in Apocalyptic Times*. Rob and Peter will be discussing the tradition of Nature writing in Maine, the characteristics of the genre, and the various methodologies and principles that underlie this special means by which to evoke and understand the natural world that surrounds us.

Maine Currents 7/6/21 4pm: Colin Woodard on his latest book, *Union: The Struggle to Forge the Story of United States Nationhood*

58 minutes

Producer/Editor/Host: Amy Browne

Recorded by: Matt Murphy

Maine-based New York Times best-selling author Colin Woodard speaking in Blue Hill on June 24th, 2021, about his latest book, *Union: The Struggle to Forge the Story of United States Nationhood* FMI: www.colinwoodard.com

Let's Talk About It 7/9/21 4pm: Extreme Isolation and domestic violence

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Patrisha McLean

Technical assistance: Tammy Oropesa

Discussion of terrorizing, isolation, incompetence of District Attorney

Guests: Illustrator Rebekah Lowell talking about how her husband virtually kidnapped her and her two daughters, keeping them confined and isolated for years.

BoatTalk 7/13/21 4pm

58 minutes

Producers/Hosts: Mike Joyce, Alan Sprague, Jon Johansen

boatyard news and lobster boat racing, blue hill maritime festival

guests: steve brookman, leroy weed

Talk of the Towns 7/14/21 4pm: The Challenge of Workforce Housing

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Ron Beard

What is the brief history of your organization's work on affordable workforce housing in your community? What led to its creation? How did you decide to frame the issue for your situation? Where did you find inspiration, including other community examples (Martha's Vineyard, elsewhere?) What approaches have most resonated with people in your community? What strategies have you tried and what has worked well? How have you approached the question of keeping housing that you designate/support as affordable into the future? (covenants, etc.) How have you engaged local government, lending agencies? How is your work funded? Share some vignettes about the families who have benefited from your work? How do they fit into the workforce and as community members? What are the challenges that you have faced in getting the community to support your efforts? Are there myths about affordable, workforce housing that you have had to address?

Guests:

Molly Siegel, Isle au Haut Community Development Corporation

Peter Roth, Island Workforce Housing, Deer Isle-Stonington

Marla O'Byrne, Island Housing Trust, Mount Desert Island

Dawnland Signals 7/15/21 4pm: Creative Changemakers: Midcoast Indigenous Awareness Group

58 minutes

Producers/Hosts: Maria Girouard, Esther Anne

Engineer: Jeffrey Hotchkiss

Critical conversations of truth, healing, and change in the Dawnland: Creative Changemakers with MIAG: The Midcoast Indigenous Awareness Group

Guests: Founding members of MIAG Mia Beale and Ron Nicholas Siviski, Maliseet

Let's Talk Animals 7/22/21 4pm: CDC bans dog imports, hinders Dog Rescue

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Dr. John Hunt

Key Discussion Points

- a) What Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue (YGRR) group does
- b) How dogs are looked at in China
- c) How dogs rescued from other countries
- d) The sudden CDC ban on dog imports- what it means and what needs to be done.

Guest:

Peter Fitzgerald- Law Professor Emeritus, board member of YGRR

Coastal Conversations 7/23/21 4pm: Art of the Maine Coast

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Natalie Springuel

The Maine Coast has captured the imagination of artists for generations. On today's Coastal Conversations we talk with two contemporary artists and an art writer about the relationship between art and the coast of Maine. Why is it that Maine inspires a deep sense of place in so many people? How and why do artists paint here? What are the threads that

link Maine's well known historical artists with today's painters. What makes them different? And finally, how can art help Maine communities be more resilient to changes along the shorelines and in society?

Our guests on today's Coastal Conversations are Tom Curry, a landscape painter from Brooklyn, Maine, Judy Taylor, landscape and figure painter from West Tremont, and Carl Little, art writer, critic and poet from Somesville. Carl Little's art writing featured in Maine Boats Homes and Harbor. Join me as they share insights about their work and what inspires them to keep coming back to the Maine coast for artistic inspiration.

Wabanaki Windows 7/27/21 4pm: 'Unpacking Sovereignty' (6th in a series)

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Donna Loring

Production assistance: Jessica Lockart, WMPG and Joel Mann, WERU

Topics: Importance of language of using "Indians Not Taxed"; Surveying the Penobscot Islands; Importance of the four Townships & the River

Guests:

Professor Harald Prins Historian and expert on Wabanaki History Emeritus Kansas State University,

Dr. Darren Ranco, Asoc Prof of Anthropology and Chair of Native University of Maine and Asoc Prof Micah Pawling History and Native American Studies at the University of Maine. American Programs University of Maine

RadioActive 7/29/21 4pm: Penobscot River Case Decision, Efforts to Reform Settlement Act, Opposition to Mining & NECEC, Rally for Wabanaki Sovereignty

30 minutes

Producer/Host: Meredith DeFrancesco

Today we speak with Penobscot Nation Chief Kirk Francis on the latest court decision against the Tribe in the historic Penobscot River Case. We also look at current legislative efforts to reform the Maine Indian Land Claims Settlement Act to recognize Wabanaki Tribes sovereignty as equal to other Tribes within the United States. And we look at Penobscot Nation's opposition to mining in Maine, and the Central Maine Power corridor, the so-called New England Clean Energy Connect.

Guest: Penobscot Nation Chief Kirk Francis

Healthy Options 8/4/21 4pm: Osteoporosis: Myths and Facts

58 minutes

Host/Producer: Rhonda Feiman

Co-Producer: Petra Hall

Technical assistance: Joel Mann & Amy Browne

Osteoporosis: The myths and facts in diagnosis, new developments in screening technology, and the pros & cons of current treatment options

Guest:

Cindy Pearson, the former Executive Director of the National Women's Health Network of Washington, D.C. Website of Interest: [National Women's Health Network](#)

Change Agents 8/5/21 4pm

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Steve Wessler

My guests were Joel Furrow the Executive Director of the Root Cellar in Portland and Lewiston Maine and Darragh Graham who directs the programming for youth in the St. Columbs House in Derry-Londonderry, Northern Ireland

Discussion of the difficult issues that face the youth from both communities. The Root Cellar in Lewiston serves mostly Somali youth and some Africans from other countries. The St. Columbs Park House works primarily with Protestant and Catholic youth.

Both guests discussed the role of religion in their work. This discussion focused on their own religious beliefs and how that informed their work. While they come from different religious traditions they found significant commonality about how religion informs their work. Both guests discussed the emotional difficulty of their work for staff and for themselves and how to cope with the difficult issues affecting the youth they work with youth.

Conversations from the Pointed Firs 8/6/21 4pm: Gordon Bok

58 minutes

Host: Peter Neill

Producer: Trisha Badger

The guest for Friday, August 6th is Gordon Bok, sailor, singer, songwriter, storyteller, woodworker, sculptor, and keeper of Atlantic memory and traditional music. He and host Peter Neill will discuss traditional ways of thinking that are unique to Maine, to the Atlantic coast, and to the cultural flow of humanity as informed and shaped by our ocean world.

Key Discussion Points:

MUSIC & SONG

THE NATURAL WORLD AND THE MAINE COAST

SPIRIT OF PLACE

TRADITIONAL SKILLS AND MUSIC

Guest: GORDON BOK, SINGER, SONGWRITER

BoatTalk 8/10/21 4pm: Ocean's Dream, Wooden Boat School videos, Maine Boats and Homes Show

58 minutes

Producers/Hosts: Mike Joyce, Alan Sprague, Jon Johansen

Guests: Megan Frey, Greg Rossel, Rich Hilsinger, John Hanson

Common Ground Radio 8/12/21 4pm: "The Organic Farming Revolution," a new book by MOFGA

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Holli Cederholm, MOFGA

This episode of Common Ground Radio commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA). To celebrate this milestone, MOFGA put together a 50th anniversary book called "The Organic Farming Revolution: Past, Present, Future." In this episode, guest host Holli Cederholm dives into the pages of the essay collection — and, more specifically, focuses on essays that conjure up Maine's harvest season and agricultural community — in conversation with two of the book's contributors:

Eli Berry, a member of MOFGA's Common Ground Country Fair steering committee, who contributed an essay about creating common ground through the country fair, and apple historian John Bunker, whose essay talks about the democracy of the apple tree.

Downeast Diversity DEBUT! 8/17/21 4pm Stories of People and Culture in Maine: Dawnland

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Alyne Cistone

Technical assistance and editing: Khiva Cheleigh and Amy Browne

Introducing Downeast Diversity! A Maine Podcast that seeks to collect, document and tell stories of people and culture in Maine!, produced by Alyne Cistone, in collaboration with Healthy Acadia. Today's topic: Dawnland

Celebrating diversity, Sharing Maine's BIPOC community contributions to Maine culture, Jason Brown's personal journey and stories about his upbringing on Indian Island and the inspiration for his work.

Guest: Jason Brown, Fashion Designer/Musician and a member of the Penobscot Nation

Dawnland Signals 8/19/21 4pm: Land Back and the Passamaquoddy Tribe

58 minutes

Producers/Hosts: Maria Girouard, Esther Anne

Engineer: Jeffrey Hotchkiss

Critical conversations of truth, healing, and change in the Dawnland: Land Back and the Passamaquoddy Tribe

- How the Passamaquoddy Tribe was dispossessed of their land

- The history of reacquiring Tribal lands

- The emotional, spiritual, and cultural significance of reclaiming land

Guests:

Donald Soctomah, Passamaquoddy elder, historian and Historic Preservation Officer; Dale Mitchell, Passamaquoddy elder at Sipayik, land steward

Let's Talk Animals 8/26/21 4pm: Packaging pet products

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Dr. John Hunt

- Purpose of packaging

- Types of packaging

- Where product is sold

- Sustainability & special consideration (child proofing etc)

Guest: Mark Bennett- engineer for large Pet Product company

Coastal Conversations 8/27/21 4pm: Life and Science on Mount Desert Rock

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Natalie Springuel

Maine coastal and ocean issues: Life and Science on Mount Desert Rock

Today, we venture out to the most remote of all of Maine's islands, Mount Desert Rock, an exposed ledge, barely 3 acres in size, that emerges from a remarkably productive patch of ocean about 22 nautical miles south of Mount Desert Island. We'll then hear about life on

the Rock and the rhythms of the daily research tasks, like tower watches, where all wildlife and vessels spotted from the lighthouse are documented, in an ever growing, decades old data set. We'll learn about the scientific, logistical and artistic work happening at Mount Desert Rock this summer, from interviews with a number of this summer's undergraduate residents. And then we'll wrap it up with a conversation among those residents about the ethical questions they are grappling with related to science and the impact of humans on Mount Desert Rock's wildlife, from sharks to seals, to gulls, the omnipresent gulls, and even down to the microscopic plankton species that drive this complex oceanic food web. The voices on today's show are all members of the 2021 College of the Atlantic Mount Desert Rock crew, all of whom, including station managers, are either current students or '21 graduates of COA.

Community Wellness Watch 8/31/21 4pm: Senior Care

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Emma Weiss, WERU intern

Community Wellness Watch is a program about public health. Hosted and produced by WERU intern Emma Weiss, the first full-length program for this project is focused on Senior Care. Each month, Emma sits down with local healthcare providers to talk about how they have adjusted their practices throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and how they continue to keep our communities healthy and safe. This is not meant to serve as professional medical advice, but rather we hope to inform listeners of healthcare resources in the area and give a huge thank you to these providers for their very important work. Support for Community Wellness Watch comes from the Maine Community Foundation.

Guests:

Anne Schroth, Co-director and Healthy-aging Program Coordinator

Healthy Peninsula in Blue Hill

René Colson Hudson, Executive Director

Healthy Island Project in Deer Isle-Stonington

Jo Cooper, Executive Director

Friends in Action in Ellsworth

Change Agents 9/2/21 4pm: Conversations with Human Rights Advocates

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Steve Wessler

Conversations with Human Rights Advocates: Examining issues affecting transgender people including (1) discrimination and violence and (2) the issues affecting Black and other transgender people of color

Guests: Jennifer Levi, director of GLAD's Transgender Rights Project and Tre-Andre Valentine Executive Director of the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition

Conversations from the Pointed Firs 9/3/21 4pm: Earl H Smith "Downeast Genius: From Earmuffs to Motor Cars, Maine Inventors..."

58 minutes

Host: Peter Neill

Producer: Trisha Badger

The guest for Friday, September 3rd is Earl H Smith, a native of Waterville, a 40-year veteran of Colby College, former dean of the college, recently retired, and author of *"Downeast Genius: From Earmuffs to Motor Cars, Maine Inventors who Changed the World"*.

Maine Currents 9/8/21 5pm: 20 Years Post-9/11 – Listening Back to WERU's Coverage

58 minutes

Producer/Editor/Host: Amy Browne

Some of the historic segments on today's show were coproduced with Meredith DeFrancesco

The 20th anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy is this coming Saturday, so this week we take a listen back at how the WERU community responded, what was happening behind the scenes at the station in the hours and days that followed, and how our news coverage was impacted—and we'll hear from David Weeda, one of the organizers of an event in Bucksport this coming September 11th.

Talk of the Towns 9/8/21 4pm: Reflections on Retirement

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Ron Beard

How did you come to contemplate retirement for yourself... what were the clues that you might be ready to consider retiring (tipping points)? What questions did it raise for you?

What did you learn about yourself in this time of contemplating retirement? Plus more.

Guest: Rebecca Milliken, author of *Gaining Altitude—Retirement and Beyond*, published by Atmosphere Press, 2021

Common Ground Radio 9/9/21 4pm: Traditional Foodways

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Holli Cederholm, MOFGA

On this episode of Common Ground Radio, we discuss traditional food systems with Barry Dana. Barry is a former Penobscot Nation chief and an advocate for Penobscot values, traditional foodways, language revitalization and education, and environmental protection along the Penobscot River.

Let's Talk About It 9/10/21 4pm: Domestic abuse by a police officer

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Patrisha McLean

Technical assistance: Tammy Oropesa

Weaponizing of children Music: Police cover-up for one of their own; Financial abuse

Roan Yellowthorn of Blue Elan Records

Dawnland Signals 9/16/21 4pm: History of Native activism at USM

58 minutes

Producers/Hosts: Maria Girouard, Esther Anne

Engineer: Jeffrey Hotchkiss

Critical conversations of truth, healing, and change in the Dawnland: History of Native activism at USM.

Guest: Mihku Paul, First Nations poet, visual artist, storyteller, and activist. She was born into the Maliseet Nation and she is a member of Kingsclear First Nation in New Brunswick, Canada.

Democracy Forum 9/17/21 4pm: The Two-party System and the Future of Our Democracy

58 minutes

Host: Ann Luther, League of Women Voters of Maine

We'll talk about the history and the future of the two major parties.

Guest:

Lee Drutman, senior fellow at New America. He is the author of Breaking the Two-Party Doom Loop: The Case for Multiparty Democracy in America

Sandy Maisel, Goldfarb Family Distinguished Professor of American Government at Colby College (emeritus)

Let's Talk Animals 9/23/21 4pm: Exporting Dogs from SouthEast Asia

58 minutes

Producer/Host: Dr. John Hunt

-How dogs and cats are regarded in SE Asia

-The role of Animal Welfare groups in pet management

-The process of exporting dogs

-What importing countries and new pet owners need to do

Guest: Dr Katherine Polak- Animal welfare coordinator in Thailand