

## **WCRB**

*WCRB – 99.5 Lowell, MA*

*W242AA – 96.3 Beacon Hill, MA*

*WJMF – 88.7 Smithfield, RI*

*WGBH – 89.7 HD-2 Boston, MA*

*WCAI – 90.1 HD-2 Woods Hole / Martha's Vineyard, MA*

### **Quarterly Issues and Programs Report**

**January 1 – March 31, 2019**

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#### **Public Safety**

WCRB provides comprehensive weather forecasts along with information about all special weather-related watches, warnings, and advisories that affect listeners in the region. Delayed school openings, school closures, and notices about weather-related event cancellations and venue changes are also included in this information. (In drive time, forecasts are given approximately four times per hour, with each report being about 30 seconds in length.) The station also provides serious traffic and transit alerts when the situation is of great significance to the listening audience.

#### **News**

Each Monday morning, airing at 2:00am and running for one hour, WCRB airs a program produced by WGBH News called *Under the Radar*, an in-depth look at some of the week's stories that may have gone unnoticed in the news cycle. Local experts join as panelists with host Callie Crossley of WGBH News. The topics covered and the guests interviewed for the shows are included in the following partial list of issues.

#### **News Stories of Community Interest**

##### **Education/Youth/Schools**

February 18: Miguel Gomez Ibanez and Sarah Turner discuss the North Bennet Street School. The school, which has been offering crafts and trades training to students for nearly 140 years, is now entering a new chapter under a new president. (6 minutes)

March 25: Emilia Huerta-Sanchez, Rori Rohlf, and Rochelle Reyes present a new project by researchers at Brown University (and San Francisco State University) that aims to highlight the contributions of women in STEM history whose efforts have been downplayed or erased in the past. (7 minutes)

March 25: Local news experts consider what's ahead for the Boston Public Schools. Dozens of people are vying to be the next superintendent, and the group explains the current state of the schools as well as issues facing the system. (5 minutes)

##### **Public Safety/Crime**

January 7: Arnie Arnesen, Philip Eil, and Paul Pronovost join for a roundtable to discuss a needle exchange program. Communities are making efforts to decrease HIV/AIDS, and the controversial program has citizens concerned. (7 minutes)

## **Government**

January 28: Three contributors from the Mass Politics Profs blog talk about the 2020 Presidential campaign. The pool of candidate hopefuls is getting larger, and the group talks about who is and who isn't running. (5 minutes)

January 28: A roundtable of political experts discuss the House Democrats' anti-corruption bill, HR 1. Some are suggesting Massachusetts adopt some of the bill at a state level. (5 minutes)

February 25: Callie Crossley interviews first-time State Representatives Liz Miranda, Tram Nguyen, and Patrick Kearney. The three discuss a range of state topics and share their excitement to make a difference in their communities and for their constituents. (25 minutes)

March 25: Julio Ricardo Varela and Maria Cramer talk about Julian Castro and his 2020 Presidential campaign. The panel discusses whether a Latino-oriented campaign could work in his favor. (4 minutes)

## **Medical/Health**

January 28: Erin O'Brien, Shannon Jenkins, and Luis Jimenez join for a Massachusetts Politics roundtable, focusing on a new poll revealing that immigration has replaced healthcare as Americans' top issue. (4 minutes)

March 11: Arnie Arnesen, Philip Eil, and Paul Pronovost explain the hazards of dogs eating people's marijuana. Pets can easily be poisoned, and it has become a common incident. (5 minutes)

## **Employment/Unemployment/Poverty**

March 11: A new program in Providence is providing kids with free meals on snow days. A local news roundtable explains the program and how many have benefitted from the initiative. (6 minutes)

March 18: Nicole Maestas, Toni Wolf, and Sonya Malloy discuss unemployment issues. The group focuses on unemployment among disabled workers falling faster than among the general population, and that it shows no signs of slowing down. (6 minutes)

## **Environment/Ecology**

March 18: Brenda O'Connor, John Sullivan, and Bob Chessia join for a St. Patrick's Day episode, talking about the benefits of seaweed. The Irish have found multiple uses for it in medicine and beer, and local residents are looking to continue the same traditions in Massachusetts. (7 minutes)

## **Economy/Business**

February 18: Jennifer Smith, Gin Dumcius, and Seth Daniel are this week's regional roundtable looking into the Bayside Expo Center's plans to build on land purchased from UMass Boston. Professors at the college are protesting the plans, citing that the financial details of the deal are not in the best interests of the school's financial future. (6 minutes)

## Family/Morality/Religion

January 7: The Center for Disease Control and Prevention is awarding grants to a handful of worksites to build spaces and provide technology and literary materials for new mothers. (6 minutes)

January 7: A lawmaker in Rhode Island is proposing that the state pays people up to \$10,000 to move there for at least a year. A group of reporters discusses the finer details of this proposed Qualified Family Migration to Rhode Island Act. (7 minutes)

January 14: On this week's Latinx News Roundtable, Marciela Garcia and Adriana Maestas focus on a network of organizations in Boston, primarily churches and synagogues, that are providing immigrants sanctuary while their citizenship status is stuck in limbo. (6 minutes)

February 4: Grace Sterling Stowell, E.J. Graff, and Janson Wu join for a LGBTQ roundtable. They discuss the recent statistic that more than a third of transgender high school students attempt suicide, and how the Democratic primary candidates look through an LGBTQ lens. (9 minutes)

February 18: A local news panel discusses plans for a Vietnamese cultural district being designated in Dorchester. The neighborhood of Fields Corner is rich with Vietnamese culture, and locals are looking to establish a formal designated cultural area. (7 minutes)

March 25: Julio Ricardo Varela and Maria Cramer talk about a range of Latinx current events, including temporary protective status for Venezuelans in the U.S. (5 minutes)

*This listing is illustrative of programs aired on WCRB and is not intended to be an exhaustive listing of programs responsive to issues of relevance to the community.*