

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

July 1 – September 30, 2017

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

July 10: Arnie Arnesen, host of “The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen” for WNHN-FM, explains New Hampshire’s push for more civics education. Many education advocates in the state argue that resources for civics education are lacking, and have taken action with the state government to assist in securing resources. (9 minutes)

July 31: Massachusetts is one of the states that have recently allowed schools to teach English as a second language in English. Julio Ricardo Varela, an expert on the topic, explains that method is ineffective, as students who don’t understand English well can’t effectively learn in that language. (6 minutes)

August 28: Philip Eil, a freelance journalist based in Providence, RI, discusses how the state has taken efforts to make community colleges more affordable. Many families can’t afford the financial burden of college tuition, and these measures will make education more accessible. (5 minutes)

Public Safety/Crime

July 24: Vandalism at a Dorchester tennis club has forced the organization to close down its youth summer camp activities. The organization is looking for public support to raise \$20,000 in funds so that it can resume activities as soon as possible. (3 minutes)

July 31: Julio Ricardo Varela, *Latino USA* contributor, explains the contentious relationship between Massachusetts law enforcement officials and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency over immigrant detainment requests. I.C.E. submits detainment requests to the officials, but some wonder about the validity of and motivation behind the requests. (4 minutes)

Government

July 10: Rhode Island-based freelance reporter Philip Eil talks about how Rhode Island's end of fiscal year legislation changes are in limbo due to extended deadlines. Every first week of July, the state government is in a frenzy to resolve any loose ends within the allotted time, and this year, leaders in the government stated that those loose ends would have to wait until later in the year. (7 minutes)

July 24: Mike Deehan, Massachusetts State House reporter for WGBH News, talks about a proposed east-west rail line connecting Boston and Springfield, MA. There was a proposal to conduct a study on the feasibility and costs of such project, and its failure to pass in the State House remains a mystery. (6 minutes)

Medical/Health

July 24: Seth Daniel, senior reporter for the Independent News Group, talks about the proposed Shattuck Hospital opioid recovery campus. Among the groups interested in this campus are opioid addicts in Boston's South End, which has a high prevalence of addiction. (7 minutes)

September 4: A group of experts discusses how distracted driving has become a significant medical issue in the area because of the number of crashes that result from distracted driving. The treatment for crash-related injuries can take years of recovery and rehabilitation. (9 minutes)

Employment/Unemployment/Poverty

August 14: Jen Faigel, executive director of CommonWealth Kitchen, talks about her organization: a shared kitchen space hosting fifty local culinary businesses. Most of these businesses are owned by women, people of color, and low-income residents. (7 minutes)

August 14: Doug Rauch, president and founder of Daily Table, and executive chef Ismail Samad talk about their Dorchester grocery store, which is working to decrease the number of food-insecure households. They do so through offering healthful and fresh produce and proteins, prepared meals, and pantry staples to the community at radically reduced prices. (8 minutes)

Environment/Ecology

July 10: Paul Pronovost, editor of the Cape Cod Times, explains the Powassan Virus, a disease passed through ticks and found on Cape Cod. The tick-borne disease is newly discovered, and he discusses environmental measures that can be taken to help prevent the spread of the disease. (6 minutes)

August 28: Patrick Cassidy, news editor of the Cape Cod Times, discusses efforts on Cape Cod's beaches to crack down on irresponsible activities by users. Beachgoers have a responsibility to keep the beaches clean and safe for all, and monitors will be working to enforce this. (4 minutes)

Economy/Business

July 3: Founder of City Awake Justin Kang, financial underwriter at Blue Cross Blue Shield Debora Silva, and co-founder of Fast Forward Pichon Duplan join to discuss millennials in Boston – one of the country's highest concentrations of the demographic – and how the city's economic future lies in their hands. (16 minutes)

July 17: Duane Jackson, Vice Chairman of the MassPort Board of Directors, talks about the Omni Hotel, a luxury hotel being developed in Boston's Seaport neighborhood. The business model focuses on diversity and minority investment at all levels of real estate development. (6 minutes)

August 21: A panel joins to talk about Massachusetts canceling its traditional sales tax holiday weekend. They discuss government opposition to the holiday and the effects the lack of holiday will cause on businesses in the Commonwealth. (5 minutes)

Family/Morality/Religion

August 21: Sue O'Connell, host of NECN's "The Take With Sue Connell," discusses the consequences for tenants when apartment buildings change ownership. Families who had moved into their residences decades ago are now finding rents multiple times higher than their original rent after new management enters. (6 minutes)

September 25: A group of panelists talk about a variety of current Latinx issues in both Massachusetts and the nation as a whole. The group focuses on DACA activists, ICE fliers around cities, and Dreamers themselves. (8 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.