

## **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, 2018**

---

#### **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 9: A group of panelists discusses UMass Boston interim chancellor Katherine Newman. Newman joined the institution this summer, after a lengthy and inconclusive search for a permanent chancellor. (7 minutes)

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

July 9: Jennifer Smith, Gin Dumcius, and Mike Deehan give an update on the progress of Boston’s Neighborhood Slow Streets. The initiative works with blocks in many of Boston’s neighborhoods to make travel safer for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. (5 minutes)

July 23: Emily Stein and Alyson Lowell discuss the failing efforts of the state to pass effective distracted driving legislature. Lowell has recently joined the movement to pass a law mandating hands-free phone use while driving, motivated by the loss of her daughter to another driver’s distraction. (6 minutes)

## **Government**

August 13: Shannon Jenkins, Erin O'Brien, and Jerold Duquette talk about the upcoming primary elections, including the battle for MA Secretary of State, the Suffolk County D.A. race, and how women and candidates of color are entering more races. (14 minutes)

September 10: Grace Sterlin Stowell, Sue O'Connell, and Janson Wu join for an LGBTQ+ roundtable. Among the current events in this area are under-reported violence against the community, the possibility of red-state Democrats focusing on gay rights as a key to victory, and Ballot Question 3. (14 minutes)

September 17: Jennifer Smith, Gin Dumcius, and Seth Daniel discuss a range of current events, including marginalized voters helping to elect Jon Santiago to the State Senate, plans to improve a notoriously dangerous intersection, and Senator Elizabeth Warren's public support for legalized marijuana in Massachusetts. (10 minutes)

## **Medical/Health**

July 16: Arnie Arnesen, Philip Eil, and Patrick Cassidy explain the reasoning behind a proposal to place a drug rehab facility next to a grade school. Some feel its proximity is inappropriate, and controversy has ensued. (5 minutes)

July 23: Donna Kelly-Williams and Donny Glynn offer their insights into whether there should be a legal limit to how many patients one nurse can have at a time. They differ on their position, and Massachusetts voters will decide on this matter on Question 1 in November. (6 minutes)

## **Employment/Unemployment/Poverty**

July 9: Jennifer Smith, Gin Dumcius, and Mike Deehan discuss new state legislature regarding the minimum wage and weekend pay policies beginning in 2019. One part of the proposal is to decrease Sunday and holiday pay to 140% from 150% (time-and-a-half). (6 minutes)

## **Environment/Ecology**

July 16: Philip Eil joins to talk about District Attorneys who are suing fossil fuel corporations in the name of local resource over-consumption. Doing so is a bit of a legal grey area, as litigation over climate control issues is still relatively new. (6 minutes)

## **Economy/Business**

July 2: Nancy Gardella and Peter Hall discuss H2B Visas, which are given to temporary foreign workers. Many seasonal retail and tourism outlets depend on these for operation, but these specialized visas are now in short supply, resulting in a negative impact on small business owners. (7 minutes)

July 16: A group of panelists talks about plummeting milk prices and the adverse effect on farmers, both financially and psychologically. (6 minutes)

August 27: Arnie Arnesen, Philip Eil, and Paul Pronovost discuss a new partnership, between the Wampanoag tribe of Aquinnah and the Chickasaw Nation's Global Gaming Solutions, which aims to advance plans for gambling on Martha's Vineyard. (5 minutes)

### **Family/Morality/Religion**

July 16: Lois McCloskey, Aviva Lee-Parritz, and Letrez Cole discuss Bridge the Chasm, the Boston conference focusing on pregnancy and women's health. Researchers gathered to educate on a range of topics including childbirth complications and maternal medical care. (9 minutes)

July 30: Julio Ricardo Varela and Marcela Garcia talk about the Boston Public School Home Assignment Policy, which was put in place to ensure equal opportunities for students across Boston's neighborhoods, but has actually done the opposite. (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.*