

# COMMONWEALTH BEAT QUARTERLY ISSUES LIST

## 1st Quarter, 2024

Below is a list of the significant issues responded to by radio station <<< call letters, city of license>>>> of Seven Mountains Media – Pennsylvania along with the programming treatment of the issues aired during *The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau*, for the period January 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment
Raising the Minimum Wage in PA	The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau	01/07/24		30 mins	<p>On this episode, Laura discusses the prospect of the General Assembly raising the state minimum wage, as 22 other states did, effective January 1st. Currently, the Pennsylvania minimum wage sits at the same rate as the federal government's minimum wage, \$7.25/hour. Luke Bernstein, President of the PA Chamber of Business &amp; Industry is not a fan of another government mandate being foisted upon business owners, even though most already pay their employees far more than that.</p> <p>The Pennsylvania Statewide Historic Preservation plan, administered by the state's Historic Preservation Office is discussed. The office determines whether sites across the Commonwealth are historic, and not just old. The plan is wrapping up, after five years of study.</p>
The Importance of Agriculture in Pennsylvania	The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau	01/14/24		30 mins	<p>On this episode, three very important federal and state officials discuss the importance of Agriculture in Pennsylvania. PA Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding, Governor Josh Shapiro and USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack discuss the importance of the work done by the Commonwealth's farmers. Their speeches came during Public Officials Day at the 2024 Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg.</p>
Understanding Drug & Alcohol Addictions; how and why people	The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau	01/21/24		30 mins	<p>On this episode, Laura discusses drug and alcohol addiction with a noted expert on the subject, Dr. Deirdre Dingman of Temple University, Philadelphia. She teaches this very subject to undergraduate and graduate students. How quickly can an individual become addicted? What causes one person</p>

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## 1st Quarter, 2024

<p>become addicted.</p> <p>PA-mazing segment: Cherry Springs State Park</p>					<p>to crave drugs after using them the first time, while others can try it and never have the desire to do drugs again?</p> <p>On a much lighter subject in the PA-mazing segment, Laura finds out about the internationally-recognized Dark Sky Location at Cherry Springs State Park in Potter County. What is a Dark Sky location and who comes to be a part of it?</p>
<p>The "Trump Effect" on politics in general, the 2024 Presidential race, and the PA U.S. Senate Race</p> <p>A Dauphin County man has started a charity, taking disabled people into the great outdoors.</p> <p>PA-mazing segment: Punxsutawney Phil's annual prediction and what it means to Jefferson County.</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau</p>	<p>01/28/24</p>		<p>30 mins</p>	<p>With Pennsylvania one of the most critically important swing states in this year's election, Laura discusses the "Trump Effect" on politics with Dr. Christopher Borick of Muhlenberg College, Political Science professor and director of the College's polling service. How will Trump impact not only the outcome of the Presidential primaries but also the November general election. Also, what will his influence be on this year's U.S. Senate race, which is expected to be the costliest Senate race in PA history.</p> <p>There's also a discussion with Jake Peck of Dauphin County. He's started a charity that takes folks with disabilities on outdoor excursions. He discusses how he got the idea to start it, and how people can help make this charity flourish for those who might never get the chance to go on an outdoor excursion.</p> <p>In the PA-mazing segment, a discussion with Kristy Bell, Tourism Director of Jefferson County, which is home to Pennsylvania's #1 Groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil, in advance of his annual weather forecast.</p>

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## 1st Quarter, 2024

<p>The report on racism and racial harassment on Pennsylvania college campuses</p> <p>PA-mazing segment: Discovering the rich history of the D.G. Yuengling Brewery in Pottsville, PA</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau</p>	<p>02/04/24</p>		<p>30 mins</p>	<p>A new report is detailing some very disturbing findings regarding students of color at the Commonwealth's public universities. They're facing racial harassment, racial stereotypes and overt racism on their campuses, making them feel unwelcome at school. The report was compiled by PA Senator Art Haywood and PA Human Relations Commission Executive Director Chad Dion Lassiter. Lassiter is interviewed about what it all means.</p> <p>In the PA-mazing segment, it's off to Pottsville, Schuylkill County, to hear all about America's oldest brewery, D. G. Yuengling &amp; Sons. Debbie Yuengling, part of the 6th generation of that family, discusses her family's company and its legacy, some 195 years after the founding of the brewery.</p>
<p>The PA State Police continue to see increased applications for State Troopers. Also, PSP wants public input on how they're doing</p> <p>PA-mazing segment: The importance of the Brandywine Museum of Art in Chadds Ford, PA</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau</p>	<p>02/11/24</p>		<p>30 mins</p>	<p>In this episode, Laura discusses another successful wave of applicants to the Pennsylvania State Police with Lt. Adam Reed. This new interest in becoming a State Trooper comes in the wake of Gov. Josh Shapiro's decision to drop the 60 college credits requirement that had been in place until last year. Also, Lt. Reed discusses the public comment period the PSP is in, for re-accreditation with CALEA, a law enforcement accreditation service.</p> <p>In the PA-mazing segment, a discussion about the Brandywine Museum of Art, and its collection of works by famed American artists, Andrew Wyeth and his equally famous father, illustrator N.C. Wyeth. The Brandywine is a must-stop for Wyeth fans and those who study American art.</p>

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## 1st Quarter, 2024

<p>What is a PA Riverkeeper and why is it one of the most important jobs no one knows about?</p> <p>PA-mazing segment: The Kinzua Bridge Skywalk, once one of the wonders of the world and now a world-renowned attraction.</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau</p>	<p>02/25/24</p>		<p>30 mins</p>	<p>There are people in the Commonwealth who take it upon themselves to be "Riverkeepers," otherwise known as stewards of the waterways. They often volunteer huge amounts of time to making sure PA's waterways remain clean, free of trash and plentiful with aquatic life. Laura discusses the role of a Riverkeeper with John Zaktansky, who is the Riverkeeper for the middle branch of the Susquehanna River.</p> <p>In the PA-mazing segment, find out about the Kinzua Bridge Skywalk in McKean County. It was once considered the 8<sup>th</sup> manmade wonder of the world, and has a fascinating history! Laura interview Holly Dzimian, Environmental Educator at Kinzua Bridge State Park.</p>
<p>A new report details Pennsylvania's declining rural population and what it means for the state, going forward.</p> <p>PA-mazing segment: a visit to Falling Water, the Frank Lloyd Wright masterpiece</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau</p>	<p>03/03/24</p>		<p>30 mins</p>	<p>On this episode, Laura discusses the issue of Pennsylvania's declining rural population with Dr. Kyle Kopko, Executive Director of the Center for Rural Pennsylvania. Why is it taking place, and what can state lawmakers do to try and stem the tide? Dr. Kopko discusses some of the findings from the latest population survey conducted, as well as testimony from a recently conducted public hearing.</p> <p>In the PA-mazing segment, with Spring on the horizon, it's time to start planning some getaways in the Commonwealth. The spotlight shines on Falling Water, the Frank Lloyd Wright masterpiece that sits in a remote section of Fayette County. The onetime summer home of a Pittsburgh department store magnate is now declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.</p>

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<p>Interview with Eugene DePasquale, Democrat candidate for PA Attorney General</p> <p><i>(Note: All candidates on the ballot have been contacted, not all have responded. We endeavor to put on as many candidates as possible.)</i></p> <p>PA-mazing segment: What's in store in 2024 for the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau</p>	<p>03/10/24</p>		<p>30 mins</p>	<p>On this episode, Laura interviews PA Attorney General candidate Eugene DePasquale, one of five democrats seeking the party nomination in the April 23rd Primary election. DePasquale shares his thoughts on the issues of the day, including the war on drugs, the need for drug treatment for those who are arrested and have drug addictions, his belief on abortion rights, and other hot button topics. He also shares his personal story, which includes a father who served time in prison, and a brother who suffered from muscular dystrophy.</p> <p>In the PA-mazing segment, hear what's on tap this year at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire and Mount Hope Estate and Winery, in Manheim, Lancaster County. While its most popular attraction is the PA Renaissance Faire, there are plenty of other events throughout the year.</p>
<p>Understanding Medical Marijuana, Part 1</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau</p>	<p>03/17/24</p>		<p>30 mins</p>	<p>On this episode, Laura begins the first of a two-part interview with Dr. Kent Vrana, Chairman of the Department of Pharmacology and Director of the Medical Marijuana Research Group at the Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey. He has great concerns about the THC levels that currently exist in medical marijuana, and would likely increase, once recreational marijuana is legalized. He also discusses the side effects of high levels of THC, and the possible physical and mental health consequences of long-term marijuana consumption.</p>

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## 1st Quarter, 2024

<p>PA-mazing segment: the total solar eclipse and how Pymatuning State Park is planning for it.</p>					<p>In the PA-mazing segment, Pymatuning State Park in Crawford County is spotlighted. It sits in the northwestern part of the Commonwealth and come April 8th, it's going to be a beehive of activity, as the nation lapses into darkness during the total solar eclipse that will be taking place. Laura discusses the park's plans for the sea of expected visitors with Park Manager Dan Bickel, who has a number of eclipse-related activities planned for the day.</p>
<p>Understanding Medical Marijuana, Part 2: Delta 8 THC</p> <p>Interview with Craig Williams, Republican candidate for PA Attorney General</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Beat with Laura LeBeau</p>	<p>03/24/21</p>		<p>30 mins</p>	<p>On this episode, Laura brings Part 2 of her interview with Dr. Kent Vrana, Chairman of the Department of Pharmacology and Director of the Medical Marijuana Research Group at the Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey. In Part 2, we'll hear his concerns over a manmade derivative from cannabis, Delta 8 THC. Because of a loophole in the US Farm Bill, it's being sold as a natural product, but it's far from natural. There's no oversight on how its produced and it has the potential to be a very dangerous substance.</p> <p>Laura continues her series of interviews with the candidates seeking their party's nomination for PA Attorney General. State Rep. Craig Williams is not the GOP-endorsed candidate in the two-person race in the Primary, but he maintains he's got the best chance of winning in November. He provides details about his extensive military background and work as a military lawyer, his work as a Federal Prosecutor, and why he believes he is the best person seeking the open seat for PA Attorney general.</p>
<p>PA-Mazing "Best of" edition</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Beat with</p>	<p>03/31/24</p>		<p>30 mins</p>	<p>Easter Sunday "Best of" Edition of past PA-mazing segments previously aired: the history of the D.G. Yuengling &amp; Sons Brewery in Pottsville; The Kinzua Bridge Skywalk in McKean County; Pymatuning</p>

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	Laura LeBeau				State Park and the plans for the April 8 <sup>th</sup> total solar eclipse.
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