

The following is a summary of Issues/Programs for Q3 as presented on WTHT, Auburn, ME.

On Friday, August 30th, WTHT teamed up with the American Red Cross to actively promote a blood drive called “Out For Blood.” With vacations, especially Labor Day Weekend resulting in regular donors missing their regular blood donation appointments, this causes a significant dip in the local blood supply, so this effort is designed to replenish these all-important blood banks. From five donor locations in Portland, Saco, Sanford, Lewiston and Rockport, a total of 123 pints of blood were raised as a result.

The following topics/issues were addressed via the weekly “Community Connections” program in the third quarter of 2019.

“Community Connections” is a weekly, 30 minute community affairs program spotlighting organizations and individuals in Maine who address issues affecting citizens, work to improve the quality of life in Maine, and deal with human interest topics across many disciplines. Here is a rundown of the program contents for Q3:

Show: Community Connections Airdate: 7/7/2019 Airtime: 5:30am

Guests: Delilah Poupoure, Executive Director, Heart of Biddeford (*encore presentation*)

Topics/Issues: We discuss the many changes over the past decade-plus in Downtown Biddeford, Maine, from the repurposing of old mill buildings to new businesses and cultural offerings as Heart of Biddeford has worked to redefine the city’s downtown. We discuss Biddeford’s status as an alternative to larger cities like Portland in terms of housing and tourism, as well as the positive effects and challenges this growth brings.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 7/14/2019 Airtime: 5:30am

Guests: Celine Kuhn, Exec Director
 Patti Howells, Board Member
 Wilson Haims, student author, The Telling Room (*encore presentation*)

Topics/Issues: The Telling Room is a Portland-based extracurricular writing program that develops young writers of school age in Maine, and allows avenues for professional and peer workshopping of writing of all sorts. We discuss the various programs, as well as the opportunity for students to be published. We also discuss Telling Room’s programs for immigrant and refugee students and the importance of giving this population a voice through writing and storytelling.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 7/21/2019 Airtime: 5:30am

Guest: Ruth Libby, founder/CEO, Ruth's Reusable Resources
Chris Slader, Computer Re-life Program Manager, RRR (encore presentation)

Topics/Issues: Ruth's Reusable Resources has been repurposing and recycling office supplies for school use for over a quarter century. Based in Portland, RRR takes donations from companies large and small from binders and paper to important technology equipment. Schools buy memberships for educators to shop for essentials at significant savings.

Show: Community Connections Airdate: 7/28/2019 Airtime: 5:30am

Guests: Delilah Poupoure, Executive Director, Heart of Biddeford (*encore presentation*)

Topics/Issues: We discuss the many changes over the past decade-plus in Downtown Biddeford, Maine, from the repurposing of old mill buildings to new businesses and cultural offerings as Heart of Biddeford has worked to redefine the city's downtown. We discuss Biddeford's status as an alternative to larger cities like Portland in terms of housing and tourism, as well as the positive effects and challenges this growth brings.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 8/4/2019 Airtime: 5:30am

Guests: Celine Kuhn, Exec Director
Patti Howells, Board Member
Wilson Haims, student author, The Telling Room (encore presentation)

Topics/Issues: The Telling Room is a Portland-based extracurricular writing program that develops young writers of school age in Maine, and allows avenues for professional and peer workshopping of writing of all sorts. We discuss the various programs, as well as the opportunity for students to be published. We also discuss Telling Room's programs for immigrant and refugee students and the importance of giving this population a voice through writing and storytelling.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 8/11/2019 Airtime: 5:30am

Guest: Ruth Libby, founder/CEO, Ruth's Reusable Resources
Chris Slader, Computer Re-life Program Manager, RRR (encore presentation)

Topics/Issues: Ruth's Reusable Resources has been repurposing and recycling office supplies for school use for over a quarter century. Based in Portland, RRR takes donations from companies large and small from binders and paper to important technology equipment. Schools buy memberships for educators to shop for essentials at significant savings.

Show: Community Connections

Airdate 8/18/2019

Airtime: 5:30am

Guests: Mary Brant, External Communications Manager, American Red Cross
Beth Corbeau, parent

Topics/Issues: We discuss the need for blood donations in late summer, as donation levels traditionally drop due to usual donors being out of their routine with school out and vacations in season. We promote the upcoming “Out For Blood” regional blood drive, to help in these efforts. Parent Beth Corbeau discusses how important timely blood donations are to help treat her son who faced a leukemia diagnosis.

Show: Community Connections

Airdate: 8/25/2019

Airtime: 5:30am

Guests: Mary Brant, External Communications Manager, American Red Cross
Beth Corbeau, parent (encore presentation)

Topics/Issues: We discuss the need for blood donations in late summer, as donation levels traditionally drop due to usual donors being out of their routine with school out and vacations in season. We promote the upcoming “Out For Blood” regional blood drive, to help in these efforts. Parent Beth Corbeau discusses how important timely blood donations are to help treat her son who faced a leukemia diagnosis.

Show: Community Connections

Airdate: 9/1/2019

Airtime: 5:30am

Guests: Olivia Fraioli, Program and Events Coordinator, STRIVE
Whitney Wildes, Program Manager, STRIVE

Topics/Issues: We discuss the many programs of South Portland-based STRIVE, who offers a number of after-school and day programs for young adults with developmental disabilities. STRIVE prepares their students for the workplaces, teaches life skills, and allows students numbers opportunities for socialization. We preview STRIVE’s annual “Kevin on the Roof” fundraiser, in which a community volunteers “lives” on the roof of an automobile dealership in Saco to raise funds and awareness for STRIVE.

Show: Community Connections

Airdate: 9/8/2019

Airtime: 5:30am

Guests: Olivia Fraioli, Program and Events Coordinator, STRIVE
Whitney Wildes, Program Manager, STRIVE (encore presentation)

Topics/Issues: We discuss the many programs of South Portland-based STRIVE, who offers a number of after-school and day programs for young adults with developmental disabilities. STRIVE prepares their students for the workplaces, teaches life skills, and allows students numbers opportunities for socialization. We preview STRIVE's annual "Kevin on the Roof" fundraiser, in which a community volunteers "lives" on the roof of an automobile dealership in Saco to raise funds and awareness for STRIVE.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 9/15/2019 Airtime: 5:30am

Guest: Ruth Libby, founder/CEO, Ruth's Reusable Resources
Chris Slader, Computer Re-life Program Manager, RRR (encore presentation)

Topics/Issues: Ruth's Reusable Resources has been repurposing and recycling office supplies for school use for over a quarter century. Based in Portland, RRR takes donations from companies large and small from binders and paper to important technology equipment. Schools buy memberships for educators to shop for essentials at significant savings.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 9/22/2019 Airtime: 5:30am

Guest: Donna Dwyer, CEO, My Place Teen Center

Topics/Issues: We discuss the work of Westbrook-based My Place Teen Center, which offers after-school and summer resources for area youths, including homework help, meals and job training. My Place Teen Center especially focuses on at-risk youths. We preview My Place Teen Center's new location to be opened soon in Biddeford, to better serve children of York County.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 9/29/2019 Airtime: 5:30am

Guest: Dan Brennan, Director, Maine Housing

Topics/Issues: We discuss Maine Housing's role in managing federal heat-assistance programs with colder weather around the corner. Dan notes many who qualify do not apply or are not even aware of the help they could get. We also discuss the Weatherization program to help eligible homeowners use energy more efficiently, as well as Maine Housing's programs to help first-time homebuyers.

Respectfully submitted,

Leif Erickson
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WTHT-FM
