

OCTOBER 2019 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

TUESDAY OCT 1ST

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg Fire Chief Kevin Roy came in and started off talking about the passing of Jack Naylor. Chief Roy talked about his relation to Jack and Jack's time as a city councilor. He talked at length about the response to the Beekman Street Bartley Nolan Condo Complex fire. The Chief spoke about challenges dealing with getting water to the site as well as a rescue they made. He also spoke about the new trucks being used in the fire. He also talked about the agencies involved in the investigation.

8:10-8:30AM

Third District Congresswoman Lori Trahan called in. Congresswoman Trahan talked about the memo released by the White House as well as the whistleblower report relating to the President's conversation with the Ukrainian President about Biden. Congresswoman Trahan spoke about the importance of letting the facts come out. Congresswoman Trahan spoke about the most recent Columbia Gas leak and the need to know the full reason behind it. She also talked about her recent appointment to the National Defense Authorization Act Conference Committee, and spoke about the bill. She also spoke about her recent visit to the Montachusett Opportunity Council and an upcoming meeting with members of the North Central Chamber of Commerce.

WEDNESDAY OCT 2ND

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau addressed the bear that was recently shot and killed at Coggs Hall Park. He talked about the actions his officer and the environmental police had to take for the safety of the public. He talked about tips to reduce contact with bears and things we can do to keep them from becoming too familiar and comfortable approaching humans. Chief Martineau spoke about the hands free driving legislation being discussed at the state house and why he is in favor of it. Chief Martineau and Lt. Jeffrey Howe spoke about the walk to school program with their community engagement unit and students. He also talked about today's Coffee with a Cop event. Lt. Howe also talked about the return of the pink patch project and fundraising effort. He wrapped up by discussing their upcoming coat drive.

THURSDAY OCT 3RD

7:10-8:00AM

Dr. John Strang and Mary Lotze from the Fitchburg Republican Committee dropped in for their monthly visit. They began talking about the primary election for city officials in Fitchburg. They also talked about the campaigning process and the closeness of Ward 3 along with the virtual tie leading to three candidates advancing.. Mary talked about her experience working the polls. They also discussed the senate race shaping up between Senator Ed Markey and Congressman Joe Kennedy III. They also spent time talking about the democratic candidates entering the

presidential race. They also discussed Ukraine and Hunter Biden and whether the President communicated in an appropriate manner. Lastly they discussed the latest episode of “Your Right To Know” on FATV.

WEDNESDAY OCT 9TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale began his segment talking about changes coming to the Fitchburg Airport. He touched on the improvements and how they will make the airport more viable. He also talked about Jack Naylor’s passing and role on the airport commission. Mayor DiNatale spent time talking about Chapter 90 funds and the need to restructure how it is given out, and the need for more funds to Fitchburg and North Central Mass. He talked about extra money the City has put towards roads and other capital improvements like DPW equipment and a new salt shed. He spoke about the latest progress for the North Street project. Mayor DiNatale also talked about the ongoing response to the Beekman Street condo complex fire. He also warned about a Unitil scam going around.

8:10-8:30AM

Kory Eng, President and CEO of the United Way of North Central Massachusetts talked about his new role in the organization and in the community. He spoke about the organizations they partner with and services they support. Eng spent time talking about the residents displaced in the Beekman Street condo fire. He talked about the partnerships and services being offered to them from the start, and what the long term needs are going to be. He also talked about the fundraising efforts to help the victims.

TUESDAY OCT 15TH

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg DPW Wastewater Commissioner Jeff Murawski was joined in studio by DPW Civil Engineer, Nick Erickson. Erickson talked about his role as a civil engineer and what his job with the City entails. They spoke about the need to clean leaves away from sewers and how leaves in the system can impact the water system and alter phosphorus levels. They talked about changes in reporting required for the EPA. They also talked about the process to clean catch basins. Murawski talked about youth outreach and help with STEM opportunities at the Boys and Girls Club and Fitchburg State University.

WEDNESDAY OCT 9TH

7:10-8:00AM.

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella began his segment talking about Connolifest earlier in the week. Mazzarella talked about the events as an opportunity to bring the community together and also serve as an economic driver. Mazzarella also talked about the need for more businesses that can create foot traffic and turn downtown into a destination for services and experiences. He talked about a grant to help with researching business needs for downtown. Mayor Mazzarella

also spoke about manufacturing in the City. He talked about the \$400,000 downtown revitalization grant and what it will be used for. He answered a listener question regarding the city's homeless population and the impact it has had on businesses and customers in the downtown area. He also talked about the warming center opening back up once the cold weather arrives.

THURSDAY OCT 10TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Natalie Higgins talked about the new female recovery program opening up in Leominster and the importance of providing coping skills and resources. She also talked about attending the public. She also talked about the house bill aimed at the rules around the campaign finance commission and removing the partisanship component from it. She also spoke about the need for transparency with campaign accounts. Higgins also talked about changes to the education funding formula. She also talked about the need to be counted in the Census 2020 to ensure proper funding for communities as well as representation. She also talked about a briefing she co-hosted on House Bill 483 the Save Students Act.

THURSDAY OCT 18TH

8:10-8:30AM

Tom Skwierawski from the Fitchburg Community Development office talked about the national PACE program that was adopted by Fitchburg and how it can help larger developments. Skwieraski also talked about the new tax incentives for those looking to occupy downtown storefronts through the Vacant Storefronts Initiative. He also discussed the Business Loan Opportunity program and closing the gap on systems and upgrades often needed in restaurants looking to open up. He also talked about the opportunity zone academy and how this impacts Fitchburg and finished up talking about the Food Truck Festival happening on Boulder Drive.

TUESDAY OCT 22ND

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Stephan Hay began talking about the passage of the supplemental budget and the money headed to the State's rainy day fund and chapter 90 funds. Representative Hay also talked about the need to change the amount of chapter 90 funds given to communities. He spoke about the importance of working together as a regional delegation to fight for what is best for North Central Mass. He also talked about the recent congressional luncheon with the North Central Mass Chamber of Commerce and his working relationship with 3rd District Congresswoman Lori Trahan. He spoke about the dedication of a plaque at the Fitchburg Airport for Jack Naylor. He also spent time talking about the education funding formula. Representative Hay talked about his role on the higher education committee and their tour of the state's universities and colleges. He talked about issues of hunger and homelessness among the student population.

WEDNESDAY OCT 23RD

7:10-8:00AM

Gardner Mayor Mark Hawke talked about the recent congressional luncheon and opportunities like this to talk to our members of Congress. Hawke talked about the trouble with unfunded federal mandates like water regulations with the EPA. He talked about the recent domestic violence awareness month event and efforts among the administration, police, and other organizations in combating domestic violence. Mayor Hawke talked about improvements to the Up Down All Around Playground. Hawke spent time talking about additional funding that will be headed to the area following the revamping of the education funding formula. He wrapped up talking about all of the Halloween events in Gardner.

THURSDAY OCT 24TH

7:10-8:00AM

Congressman Jim McGovern began his discussion talking about the recent congressional luncheon at the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce. He talked about the business community concerns regarding uncertainty in Washington DC and the need for more investment into infrastructure. McGovern talked about believing an infrastructure bill could be bipartisan, and the need for rail and bridge improvements across the Commonwealth. He spoke about the House unanimously passing a bill regarding animal cruelty. He spent a chunk of time talking about impeachment and the President's call to Ukraine. He also talked about the passing of Elijah Cummings.

FRIDAY OCT 25TH

7:40-8:00AM

Congresswoman Lori Trahan talked about changes to a funding cap for older caregivers, especially with ones that are needing to step up in the wake of the opioid epidemic. She also talked about the MLB proposal which could put an end to 42 teams including the Lowell Spinners. She talked about what an impact the Spinners and LaLachur Park have on the Lowell economy, but also culture and family opportunities. She also spent time talking about the ongoing impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump and recent testimony of William Taylor. Trahan described the process as a solemn proceeding and said how no one runs to impeach a president. She wrapped up talking about the recent congressional luncheon and area stops.

8:10-9:00AM

State Senator Dean Tran talked about taking up the supplemental budget in the Senate and talked about money heading to the stabilization fund. He also talked about filing six amendments and being able to pass one to bring home \$200,000 for the groundbreaking of the new police station. He also talked about the continuation of lowering the State's income tax to get it back to five percent. He also talked about the education funding formula finally being recalculated and how it is going to impact Fitchburg.

TUESDAY OCT 29TH

7:40-8:00AM

Envoy Lynnette Valentine gave an update on the aid and help being provided to displaced victims of the Beekman Street Condo complex. Valentine talked about their volunteers and the training they undergo to help with She spent time talking about and upcoming Veterans Program being offered for free for area Veterans at the Devens Common Center.

NOVEMBER 2019 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY NOV 1ST

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Jen Benson began talking about the supplemental budget and how part of it will be addressing PFAS issues in multiple communities in the 37th Middlesex District. Representative Benson also talked about the addition to the rainy day fund. Benson talked about a date being set for the primary. She spoke about the overhaul to the education funding formula and changes it may mean to school districts in terms of some getting more money and others having to spend more money. Representative Benson also talked about carbon pricing and explained how it would work.

TUESDAY NOV 2ND

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg Fire Chief Kevin Roy talked about keeping dry leaves away from structures and the importance of being careful with disposal of ashes, especially with the dry conditions and foliage. Chief Roy talked about being careful with extension cords and power strips, mentioning two recent fires that involved them. He also spoke about the importance of getting heating appliances serviced and the carbon monoxide risks of sources that are not properly cleaned and serviced. He talked about a couple of recent ladder rescues. He also talked about frying turkeys for Thanksgiving and some other turkey cooking safety tips.

WEDNESDAY NOV 3RD

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau began his conversation talking about the decision to move Trick or Treat to the weekend to avoid the threat of weather which ended up largely missing the area. He also spent time talking about the hit and run accident on John Fitch Highway and what people should do if they witness a situation like that. Chief Martineau talked about addressing homelessness as the weather gets colder with the community engagement unit and local agencies to offer services and get folks in and out of the cold. He let listeners know about the success of the coat drive and recent pink patch project fundraiser. Chief Martineau talked about the upcoming swearing in of Hangos the police K-9 and what went into bringing the

program back, selecting an officer to be a handler, and what the process is like to train Hangos . He also talked about the No Shave November fundraiser.

8:10-8:30AM

Irene Hernandez, community leader, came in to talk about the upcoming Torch Leadership workshop. Hernandez talked about the Torch Foundation, and what they do to empower teens in the area. Hernandez talked about what the workshop entails and the leadership skills it looks to instill in teens.

THURSDAY NOV 4TH

7:10-8:00AM

Mary and Kathy from the Fitchburg Republican City Committee discussed the recent municipal election. MARY talked about her experience working the polls and the turnout for the highly contested three way race for Ward 3. They also spent time talking about the 2020 campaign and whether or not former Vice President Joe Biden stands a chance in securing a nomination. They also talked about the divisions between supporters for candidates on the Democratic side and whether that is helping President Trump. They addressed the impeachment inquiry and how they believe it is strengthening his supporters and base. Mary and Kathy wrapped up talking about the latest episode of “Your Right To Know” on FATV surrounding veterans rights and benefits.

WEDNESDAY NOV 13TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale started his segment talking about the City’s Veterans’ Day Ceremony and how he feels about the day as a veteran himself. Mayor DiNatale spoke about the challenges facing his next term in office, highlighting the continued effort to expand economic growth downtown and through the rest of the City. He spoke about the renovation of City Hall as a way to show their commitment to restoring Main Street. He highlighted Water Street and Lunenburg Street as other areas of focus. He also spent time talking about homelessness and substance abuse in the City and organizations that the City partners with to address these issues. Mayor DiNatale spoke about looking at a zoning rewrite and the need to address zoning of sober houses in the area. He addressed news about the closure of Sears over in Leominster.

THURSDAY NOV 14TH

7:10-8:00AM

Leominster State Representative Natalie Higgins started off talking about the House vote to ban all flavored vaping products and tobacco and raise the tax on vapes to bring it up to the same rate as cigarettes. She also talked about a portion of the bill requiring insurance companies to cover smoking cessation products and treatments. She talked about attending a meeting regarding the possible closure of the community pool at Fitchburg State University and concerns brought to her from constituents. Representative Higgins spent time talking about Conrad’s Law, a bill she is sponsoring to combat domestic violence and prosecute those who have been found to coerce

someone into suicide. She wrapped up talking about her children's book drive with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

FRIDAY NOV 15TH

8:10-8:30AM

Tom Skwierawski from the Fitchburg Community Development Office called in to talk about a Smart Growth conference he is attending in Boston to discuss Fitchburg's use of Opportunity Zones. Skwierawski spoke about what the Fitchburg census tracks are for the Opportunity Zones and how they are planning development around this. He also talked about Fitchburg looking to redo the zoning ordinances and how necessary it is to reflect how the City has changed and to help with further growth. He also spoke about the need to invest more in rails and public transportation access. He also talked about a community input session for the upcoming CDBG year.

TUESDAY NOV 19TH

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg DPW Wastewater Commissioner Jeff Murawski was joined in studio by Fitchburg Sewer System Manager, Tony Meressa. Tony spent time talking about his role as sewer system manager. Meressa spoke about several projects going out to bid this winter that are a continuation of the ongoing sewer separation project. He gave a potential timeline for the projects. They talked about Fitchburg's geography and geology and how those put additional strains on the system and can make some projects more involved. They did talk about how the hills in the City really reduce the need for pumping stations in portions of the City. They also spent time talking about the importance of not dumping grease and food waste into the sewer system. They talked about some of the problems that can arise with improper disposal of waste.

WEDNESDAY NOV 20TH

7:10-8:00AM

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella started talking about his reelection and his campaigning efforts. He talked about how elections and campaigns can really help you gauge concerns of residents. He mentioned that paving is always a concern for residents. He also talked about needing to look into property tax relief for the elderly. He talked about the changes coming to Route 2 and other highways with mile markers. He talked about some vacancies in downtown and businesses that are already in the process of filling the storefronts. He talked about needing to continue attracting more businesses and more tourism to the area. Mazzarella also talked about changes coming to the Route 13 corridor near Route 2 and the armory up to the Jiffy Lube area.

8:10-8:30AM

Congresswoman Lori Trahan began by talking about attending Fitchburg's Veterans' Day ceremony and her role on the Armed Services Committee. She also spent time addressing the Ethics Committee's probe into her campaign finances and personal funds. Congresswoman

Trahan also talked about amendments to the Safer Pipeline Act. Trahan talked about the ongoing impeachment inquiry into the President. She also talked about the importance of protecting baseball teams like the Lowell Spinners and the letter she wrote opposing the MLB plan to reduce the number of teams by 42.

THURSDAY NOV 21ST

8:10-8:30AM

Congressman Jim McGovern addressed the loss of Worcester firefighter Lt. Jason Menard and the other losses Worcester has endured starting with the Cold Storage fire. Congressman McGovern talked about the ongoing impeachment inquiry and testimony of Ambassador Gordon Sondland. McGovern also spoke about snap benefits and what a cut to those could mean for constituents. He also talked the Protect Hong Kong Act he introduced that passed in the House and Senate.

MONDAY NOV 25TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Senator Dean Tran discussed the Hands Free Driving Bill being signed later in the day. He talked about his experience sitting on the conference committee for the bill, and the importance of the bill for the safety of residents. He talked about concerns relating to data collection. Senator Tran also talked about how conference committees work to fine tune bills and debate final versions to send to the Governor's desk. Senator Tran explained how the bill will restrict the use of cell phones and how it will be enforced. He also talked about discussions regarding the banning of plastic bags and why he is opposed to the ban. Senator Tran also discussed the bill banning flavored tobacco products and why he voted against it, even though he wants to prevent these products from getting in the hands of minors.

TUESDAY NOV 26TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Stephan Hay talked about the Breakfast with the Bands with the Fitchburg and Leominster Rotary clubs supporting the LHS and FHS bands. He spoke about the importance of the arts and music. He also talked about helping out with the Trees for Soldiers event. Representative Hay spent time talking about the Hands Free Driving Bill which was signed by the Governor yesterday. He talked about giving his maiden speech in regards to the funding formula bill and how this will help Fitchburg's disadvantaged students. He talked about the higher education committee tour and raising awareness about homeless students, food insecurity among students and students needing to drop out for financial and health reasons. He also talked about his support for the ban on flavored tobacco and vape products. He also talked about the push to ban single use plastic bags at the state level.

WEDNESDAY NOV 27TH

7:40-8:00AM

Gardner Mayor Mark Hawke talked about winning reelection in Gardner but choosing to take the position of Town Administrator in Westminster. Hawke cited the City Council's decision not to not increase his salary again making it the fourth year in a row and eighth out of 14 years he would have served if he finished this new term. He cited this as his main reason and wondered if the City Council has a problem directly with him and he has chosen to move over to Westminster's role. Hawke reflected on what he was able to accomplish with the council and how the City has changed since he began serving as mayor. Hawke also talked about some challenges that the next Mayor will need to address. Hawke talked about how he will be serving in a dual role capacity as Mayor until the special election while serving in his new role in Westminster.

DECEMBER 2019 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

TUESDAY DEC 3RD

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg Fire Chief Kevin Roy was in studio for his monthly segment. Chief Roy talked about the challenges winter weather can provide when responding to emergencies. He also spent time talking about the need to clean three feet around each fire hydrant. Chief Roy talked about snow on roofs, cleaning around vents, and addressed carbon monoxide concerns with people who struggle to stay warm using stoves or old space heater. He talked about getting chimneys cleaned, inspected, and repaired if necessary. Chief Roy talked about the importance of carbon monoxide detectors in basements near heating sources and getting those sources serviced. He also talked about safety with Christmas lights, trees, and other decorations. He again urged caution with extension cords and power strips.

WEDNESDAY DEC 4TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau was in studio along with K-9 Handler Officer Josh Lambert and Hangos the K-9. Chief Martineau talked about the process of bringing the K-9 program back to the department and the grant that is funding the effort. Officer Lambert spent a great deal of time talking about the training that both he and Hangos have gone through and will continue to go through. Lambert talked about what his new role is as Hangos' handler. They talked about how Hangos will be utilized by the department and neighboring departments when needed.

THURSDAY DEC 5TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Republican City Committee members Dr. John Strang and Kathy Goguen began the segment talking about the verbal sparring between President Donald Trump and Justin Trudeau at the NATO meetings. They also talked about the President's ongoing trade war with China and his approach to dealing with North Korea. The two of them also spent time addressing the latest

testimony and the impeachment inquiry. They finished their segment talking about the latest episode of “Your Right To Know” on FATV.

FRIDAY DEC 6TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Jen Benson started her conversation by talking about the details of a bill she was working on, An Act Relative To Children’s Health and Wellness, that has now passed in the House and Senate and has been signed by the Governor. She also spent time talking about how the amount of aide will change for communities with the revision to the foundation formula with some receiving more, and some receiving less. Benson explained net school spending requirements. She also spent time talking about the supplemental budget that is currently held up in conference committee. He talked about the importance of conference committees and why debates in the committee are important.

TUESDAY DEC 10TH

8:10-8:30AM

Congresswoman Lori Trahan talked about the completion of the new parking garage in Ayer and how it took so long to finally see it come to fruition. She talked about how necessary it was for the district. Congresswoman Trahan talked about using public transit to cut down emissions and also how traffic and congestion are causing a huge economic loss in terms of loss of productivity. She spoke about the need for an infrastructure bill. Congresswoman Trahan also talked about the latest impeachment news that Nancy Pelosi will be delivering Articles of Impeachment. She spent time talking about a task force she is forming to save minor league baseball teams across the country including the Lowell Spinners.

WEDNESDAY DEC 11TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale began his segment talking about the morning’s storm cleanup. DiNatale talked about how much of the budget has been put aside for storm cleanup and how much may be put aside later in the season if need be. He also talked about the extra resources that the City has to use because of its hills and geography. He also spoke about his involvement with the new parking garage in Ayer. He also talked about the Memories on Main Street event and the response from area businesses, organizations, and residents. He also spoke about the new three million dollar grant to convert Main Street and Boulder Drive back into two way streets. He also talked about partnerships with NewVue Communities and Fitchburg State University downtown. Mayor DiNatale also talked about the decision by the city council to move back towards a single tax rate for businesses and residents. He also stressed the importance of the 2020 census and need for residents to fill it out.

THURSDAY DEC 12TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Natalie Higgins talked about the supplemental budget passing through the conference committee last night. She talked about how conference committees work. She also talked about her book collection event with Santa and Mrs. Claus for families last week. Representative Higgins talked about supporting local nurses at their candlelight vigil outside the hospital in Leominster the other day. She talked about the continued need to find a way to ensure safe patient limits and adequate care. She spent time looking at 2020 and the biggest priorities facing the House being a transportation bill and more healthcare legislation. She also talked about working on more student loan borrower protections.

MONDAY DEC 16TH

8:10-8:30AM

Sue Chalifoux-Zephir from Ginny's Helping Hands was here during the 8:00 to talk about work that is by the non-profit organization. How it expanded from a food pantry back in its early days in 1980, to where they are providing more than 6,000 pounds of food on a daily basis to people in North Central Massachusetts. She also talked about the holiday season, the challenges that come with Christmas and the winter season and the dedicated staff that helps them meet those needs.

TUESDAY DEC 17TH

7:40-8:00AM

Jeff Murawski, Deputy Commissioner for the Waste Water Department for the City of Fitchburg, looked at the holidays, and offered suggestions for listeners to make the season a better for all residents. Suggestions include what should and should not go into a kitchen sink, how those items (like cooking oil or fats from meats) can damage the system citywide. He also talked about classes in environmental science, making them available for high school students, and how the skills they learn can lead to promising careers.

WEDNESDAY DEC 18TH

7:10-8:00AM

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella looked ahead to the holiday season. He also talked about the state of the city as 2019 comes a close, looked ahead to 2020, talked about property taxes for the city in the new calendar year, and talked projects in the upcoming like the new Police Station, and the trail that connects Leominster and Fitchburg.

FRIDAY DEC 20TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Jen Benson was in studio to share the news that came out yesterday that she is stepping down from her role as a state representative on January 8th to go work as the president of the Alliance for Business Leadership. Benson talked about making the decision to move over to the new role. She also reflected on her previous campaigns and tenure as a state

representative. She talked about pieces of legislation she was able to work on, and also talked about what lies ahead for the district.

8:10-8:30AM

Fitchburg Community Development Director Tom Skwierawski talked about the City's partnership with ReImagine North of Main and working with the TDI fellow. He also talked about the upcoming transition of Main Street and Boulder Drive back to two way traffic. He spent time talking about the new traffic configuration, parking situation, light changes, and intersection changes. Skwierawski also talked about Fitchburg's first marijuana business getting ready to open up. He also talked about the CDBG deadline coming up in January.

MONDAY DEC 23RD

8:10-9:00AM

State Senator Dean Tran talked about last minute Christmas shopping. Senator Tran talked about the recent grants coming back to Fitchburg with the MassWorks Grant for the downtown traffic configuration and the grant heading to the Housing Authority for Wallace Tower improvements. Senator Tran talked about the importance of researching grants and applying for grants. He talked about the income tax dropping down to five percent for fiscal 2021 following the supplemental budget. He talked about money for chapter 90 funds in the supplemental budget and the need for more money for potholes and infrastructure. He also talked about, An Act Relative to Emergency Insulin Access, a bill he is working on.

TUESDAY DEC 24TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Stephan Hay talked about the 3 million dollar MassWorks Grant coming to Fitchburg to change the configuration back to two way traffic. Hay also talked about grants coming to the Fitchburg Housing Authority to help keep seniors in their homes at Wallace Towers. Representative Hay spoke about the committees he sits on in the house and the testimony that he has witnessed in this session. He spoke about the importance of hearings for all bills and how crucial it is for folks to come out and testify regardless of which side they are on.

THURSDAY DEC 26TH

8:10-8:30AM

Congressman Jim McGovern talked about the Articles of Impeachment and whether he thinks House Speaker Nancy Pelosi will bring those forward to the Senate. McGovern talked about his desire for an objective and neutral impeachment. He talked about the seriousness of impeachment and how it should not be a party issue. McGovern spoke about concerns of foreign interference in 2020 and social media ads in politics. McGovern talked about a new house bill to lower drug costs and whether or not it will be taken up by the Senate.. He also talked about other legislation the House has passed, including bipartisan legislation that the Senate will not take up.

WPKZ Fourth Quarter Issues Report, Monday Lunchbox
October 1 through December 31, 2019

The program airs on Mondays from 12 noon to 1:00 pm unless it is pre-empted by Bruins Hockey or Celtics Basketball All interviews are 20 minutes in length unless otherwise noted. The Monday Edition of the Lunch Box is hosted by Sherman Whitman.

"DEVICED: BALANCING LIFE AND TECHNOLOGY IN A DIGITAL WORLD," October 7th, 12 noon

Doreen Dodgen-McGee says her book is about our growing dependence on technology, how we find ourselves controlled by the technology in today's world, how our brains can change from the excessive use of technology and approaches that can give us a healthier long-term prospective. Dodgen-McGee says her book can help readers assess current technology use, break bad habits, set new norms with today's technology, and re-engaging with life as they have known it.

MOSQUITOES, AN UPDATE, October 7th, 12:30 pm

Tim Deschamps, Executive Director of the Central Mass Mosquito Control Project, talked to us about how listeners have been coping with a difficult season with the state's mosquito population. He talked about the lifecycle of mosquitoes, the 52 types of mosquitoes that are found in Massachusetts, the infections they can carry and transfer to humans and animals, how mosquitoes that are created during the Summer are more dangerous than those which were born in the Spring, how the summer-like temperatures are enabling them to transmit the viruses they carry, the damage they can cause when they bite, how bird migration patterns can affect people in Massachusetts, the cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis reported, what we can do to protect ourselves and when we can hope for temperatures to fall below 30 degrees.

"FAULT LINES IN THE CONSTITUTION," October 14th, 12 noon

Cynthia and Sanford Levinson joined us for the hour to discuss their book. They say their work looks at the US Constitution, the problems the Founding Fathers had in putting the document together, the importance of people understanding what the document says, the goals the document is seeking, the difficulties in forming a "more perfect union," whether the system meets the goals of the Preamble to the constitution, the challenges we have faced over the years in forming that union and the challenges the nation is facing today in working towards that "more perfect union."

"ROBERT URICH: AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE," October 21st, 12 noon

Joe Martelle joined us for the hour to talk about his lifelong friend who was known for his roles on TV in "Spenser For Hire," "Vegas," and "Lonesome Dove." He talked about the friendship they developed when Urich moved his family to the Boston area, the influences in his life, how his faith carried him through difficult times including struggles with cancer that would claim his life and how his presence in Boston may have led to state officials luring

television and film production companies to look at Massachusetts as a place for doing business.

SHARE, October 28th, 12 noon

Vicky Rego, a volunteer for the organization, and a survivor of breast cancer, talked to us about the organization that provides support to women who are living with breast cancer and ovarian. She discussed what led to the forming of the organization, her struggles with metastatic breast cancer --which is also known as Stage IV Breast Cancer, what is known today about breast cancer and its many forms, the likelihood of a woman being diagnosed with breast cancer, what happened after being told "you have cancer," the treatments and medications that have helped her, the support services provided by the organization, how much more still needs to be learned and whether there are things that can help reduce the chances of being diagnosed with breast cancer.

CAMPAIGNING 2020, November 4th, 12 noon

Roger Wood, a reporter and founding member of In-Depth New Hampshire, and the New Hampshire Center for Public Interest Journalism, told us about the stories they have uncovered that may not have reported by other news outlets. He wondered why people who journalists are seen in a way or an "enemy of the people," why people are focusing on news outlets that share their point of view instead of looking at the facts and going where they lead, how did New Hampshire become so important when it comes to choosing the next President of the United States -- including the first nation's first Presidential Primary, how do the people feel about their state getting all this attention every four years, and what we should be looking out for now that the countdown is on to the 2020 Presidential Election.

"KLARA'S JOURNEY," November 4th 12:30 pm

Ben Frank says his book looks back at World War I, the life of a young Jewish girl named Klara Grossman, the Bolshevik Revolution and the consequences of that time. The story follows her travels to in and out of Russia by way of the Trans-Siberian railway, her becoming a spy for the Red Army, the anti-Semitism she faced along the way, an explanation to why Jews left Russia during the time, and the reunion in Canada with her father who chose to abandon his family. Frank says the story mirrors the life of his aunt who traveled on a similar journey from Russia to Canada.

"GRANDMOTHERING: BUILDING STRONG TIES WITH EVERY GENERATION," November 11th, 12 noon

Kathleen Stassen-Berger says her book is about the challenges facing Grandmothers, including when she became a Grandmother for the first time. She recalled her the birth of her first grandchild, and how she felt the hospital kept her out of the loop until the child was born, how that changed with the birth of her second grandchild, things grandparents need to do to find the proper balance in the lives of their loved ones. She also discussed how the role grandmothers have changed, especially when it comes to helping out in parenting, and the difference in roles between the maternal grandmother and the paternal grandmother and keeping both grandmothers from becoming rivals.

"GENUINE FAKES," November 11th, 12:30 pm

Lydia Pyne said book is aimed at helping understand the difference between things that real and things that are fake. She tells us about artifacts that may be real or fake, how they have changed over time, how some forgeries are seen as real, how some items that are real are still viewed fictional, how diamonds are seen as real and/or fake, and whether the distinction between what is real and is fake is as clear-cut as we'd like to think they are.

"AFTERSHOCK," November 18th, 12 noon

Richard Kahan, a co-author of the book, says the photo essay is about War. He says the photographs were taken by journalists who covered the theatre that would be known as World War II, and tells of the stories told by the photographers, what the pictures of the war's participants are saying to us, the human costs of war and how these pictures are a dramatic contrasts from images that have glorified war over the years as we have seen in movies. Kahan says the pictures will disturb people because we are led to believe that the people we are fighting less than human, and the only people that may understood the real toll of war are those who have lost family, or their how loved ones lives have changed as a result of that conflict.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING, November 18th, 12:30 pm

Jon Hurst, President of the Retailers Association of Massachusetts, shared his thoughts about the upcoming holiday shopping season. He talked about the challenges retailers are facing with Thanksgiving Day on November 28th, meaning there are six fewer shopping days as compared to a year ago. But he also added retailers have prepared for this time year, and cited the confidence in the economy as one of the reasons they were looking ahead to the season. He talked about days like Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday have given consumers an incentive to shop, and that consumers have more options for shopping as compared to 20 years ago. And like previous years he urged consumers to shop locally because it ensured local retailers would survive. And while Amazon and neighboring New Hampshire have become a concern to Bay State merchants, their creativity in reaching consumers has kept them competitive.

WORLD AIDS DAY, November 25th, 12 noon

Lamar Brown, Community Relations Manager for AIDS Project Worcester previewed the events that are scheduled for December 1st and the following days in Worcester County. He also discussed the progress that has been made in making the public aware of HIV and AIDS...including the challenges from the early days when people thought it was a cancer that struck only gay men, the unwillingness of people to talk about this during the 1980's until prominent entertainers were lost, and how that thinking changed with Basketball Hall of Famer Magic Johnson announced he was HIV-positive. He discussed what increases the risk of contracting HIV which leads to AIDS. And he discussed the progress made in research and medications to treat HIV from AZT one of the first medications, to medications for HIV that are now advertised on television.

THE HOLIDAY TRAVEL SEASON, November 25th, 12:30 pm

John Paul of AAA Northeast prepared our listeners for travel during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. He discussed the need for people make sure their vehicles are ready for the journeys to be with family and friends, the need for checking the tires and the fluids within the vehicles, and making sure the batteries were ready for the upcoming Winter season. He offered suggestions for those who were flying, or taking trains or buses and the need to ready for weather conditions that could affect your travel plans. And he discussed the need for making sure your phones are always working and chargers on hand in case of emergencies.

THE COLD STORAGE WAREHOUSE FIRE, December 2nd, 12 noon.

We spent the hour talking with former Worcester Mayor Ray Mariano about the fire that struck the Cold Storage Warehouse in 1999. That fire claimed the lives of six Firefighters. We looked back at how that day began 20 years ago. He remembered the first calls he got telling him about the fire, arriving at the scene of the fire and the realization of what has happened. He recalled the following days and search for the firefighters which continued for about a week. We talked about his message to Worcester and what felt like the nation at the memorial service for the Firefighters. We also looked at Worcester today, and the fact that since that fire, four other firefighters have been lost in the line of duty, and how the city continues to move forward amid its losses.

IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS, December 9th, 12 noon

Jack Ross former Professor of Law now teaching at Professor at Assumption College, shared his thoughts about the Impeachment proceedings in the house against President Donald. He discussed what has happened to this point, compared these proceedings to those of former Presidents Andrew Johnson, Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton. He also talked about the presentation of the evidence against President Trump, how it compared to the proceedings against President Clinton, how did the House reach the point to where they would take the action where two Articles of Impeachment would be presented, what led House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to seek the Articles, the potential timeline for approving those articles, the failure of the Trump administration to call witnesses to their defense and when the proceedings would go toward the full US Senate.

TECHNOLOGY FOR CHRISTMAS. December 9th, 12:30 pm

Chris Moschovitis, the Chairman and CEO of TMG-EMedia Group; spoke with us about Technology, the public's need and desire for the latest products be they smart phones, smart toasters, any smart products regardless of the risks of privacy being lost or becoming vulnerable to cyber-crime. He discussed whether people are looking at technology and cyber-security and the need for people to become information technologists, and expressed concerns that advancements in technology have expanded to the point where the public at large is vulnerbale to cyber criminals, that cyber technologists need to discuss the need to educate the public about these potential problems and the trends that people should be preparing for as we move ahead to 2020.

CHRISTMAS IN MY HOMETOWN, December 23rd, 12 noon

We closed out 2013 by looking at how people celebrate Christmas. Nelson Laguer, President of North Central Constable Services; George Rodriguez, Minister of New Life Spanish Christian Church; and Lindsey English, Founder and co-CEO of Fostering Change, Inc; shared their memories of Christmas. They talked about the traditions in their households, the challenges their parents or in some cases foster parents faced in making the Christmas season one to cherish for their children, the challenges they face within their families today, the long-standing traditions of their families that remain a part of the season, the work they have been involved in to help make the season bright for families in need whether it's serving meals, providing toys and gifts for children of all ages and special traditions within the various cultures that make this season special.