

APRIL 2020 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

WEDNESDAY APR 1ST

7:40-8:00AM

Marion Larson from Mass Wildlife called in to talk about the fishing season in Massachusetts and the stocking of trout. Larson talked about obtaining a fishing license online during the COVID-19 outbreak. Larson talked about the state wildlife areas that are open and maintaining social distance while out in nature and fishing. Larson talked about fishing, hunting, and exploring local town lands, land trusts, and other places as opposed to travelling across the state. She spoke about the state's website for fishing locations and trout stocking locations. She also gave tips for observing wildlife.

8:10-8:30AM

Ayn Yeagle, of Growing Places, called in to talk about the mobile produce market they are operating during the COVID-19 pandemic. Yeagle talked about the importance of having access to fresh food and how food insecurity is likely to increase the longer the pandemic continues. She talked about working alongside local pantries to make sure fresh food needs are met for the community. She talked about expanding the market to more communities and helping with meals. Yeagle also spent time talking about the education efforts of Growing Places helping people getting started with gardening and producing their own fruits and vegetables. She also talked about going virtual for their efforts.

THURSDAY APR 2ND

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Republican City Committee members Mary and Kathy called in for their monthly segment. They talked about how they think COVID-19 might affect the presidential and local elections. They talked about the campaigning falling by the wayside in recent days with COVID-19 taking center stage. They talked about the daily news coverage the President gets from COVID-19 updates and whether or not Joe Biden can compete with that coverage. They also talked about how the President's handling of COVID-19 may make or break the remainder of his presidency and chances for reelection.

8:10-8:20AM

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale called in to provide an update on COVID-19 in Fitchburg. He provided an updated number of 44 confirmed cases in the City. DiNatale talked about how city operations have been closed to the public and how they have changed following a firefighter and a city hall employee both contracting the illness, and the updated stay at home advisory from the state. DiNatale talked about his daily briefings with the health, police, and fire departments.

He also talked about the Landry Arena being converted to a temporary mortuary during the COVID-19 pandemic. He talked about the MEMA plan for emergency staging.

FRIDAY APR 3RD

8:10-8:30AM

Jeff Roberge and Staci Johnson of the Mass Hire North Central Workforce Board called in to talk about how they help those who are unemployed and businesses seeking employees. The two talked about unemployment in the area, navigating unemployment for the first time, and changes that are already being done at the state level in the wake of COVID-19. They talked about the potential impacts of extended closures and working from home on area businesses. Johnson talked about her role and the work that they do in their career center. They also talked about some opportunities for employers and new employees in businesses shifting production to meet the needs of the COVID-19 environment.

MONDAY APR 6TH

7:50-8:00AM

Chris from the Townsend Farmers' Exchange called in to talk about raising chickens. He talked about the popularity of chickens for farm fresh eggs at home. He also spent time talking about gardens at home, how to start with a garden, and why this might be a good idea to ensure access to fresh vegetables during the COVID-19 era.

8:20-8:30AM

John Paul of AAA Northeast called in to provide an update. Paul spoke about the importance of cleaning the frequently touched buttons and surfaces with everything going on right now. He talked about products that are safe and unsafe in vehicles. He talked about the downward trend on gas prices and how those looking to get out of the house and just go for a drive can make out well at the pumps. Paul spoke about checking fluids and making sure you are still starting up cars and taking them for rides even if you aren't going to work. He talked about some changes repair shops are doing for pick ups, drop offs, and additional cleaning for appointments. He spoke about the closure of AAA offices, their help with cancelling or adjusting travel plans, and the safety procedures and protocols for their roadside assistance.

TUESDAY APR 7TH

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg Fire Chief Kevin Roy called into the program and started off his segment talking about how their protocols have changed to respond to their fire and medical calls. He talked about the increased use of PPE. He spoke about the screening questions dispatchers are asking to ensure first responders know the medical situations they may face when they arrive. He talked about adjusting schedules and splitting up training times. He talked about increased cleaning of

apparatus and multiple deep cleanings of the stations following cases of COVID-19 within the department. He talked about the threat of brush fires. He also spoke about burning season precautions and safety rules surrounding recreational fires. Chief Roy talked about the daily calls with city officials and leaders to continue coordinating their COVID-19 response. He talked about recent donations of PPE from area schools and businesses and supplies they have been able to obtain through MEMA.

WEDNESDAY APR 8TH

7:10-8:00AM.

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale provided an update of COVID-19 cases and recovered cases. He talked about the need to keep the public informed and aware of the cases and how the city is responding. DiNatale spoke about the daily briefings with health officials and first responders. He talked about the COVID-19 hotline established by the city. He talked about concerns he has been hearing from constituents. DiNatale talked about the need to continue providing essential city services and the challenges an outbreak among city employees could lead to. He also talked about partnering with Our Father's House to provide a shelter and quarantine space for the area homeless who may become COVID-19 positive. He talked about recent state legislation aimed at helping cities to extend due dates on property and other various taxes and bills to provide relief for residents.

THURSDAY APR 9TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Natalie Higgins began talking about her upcoming Facebook Live town hall to talk about COVID-19 updates and resources that are available to area residents. Higgins talked about constituent concerns largely focussed on navigating unemployment. She spoke about the possibility of long term closures of schools and ensuring that students have access to the internet and computers. Higgins also talked about ensuring special needs and students with IEP's have equal access should schools remain closed. Higgins talked about food pantries available to help those in need and she also talked about the school system's food distribution. She also talked about a concern about sexual and domestic violence while people are home in quarantine. Higgins talked about the legislature trying to navigate COVID-19 and how they can hold meetings and possibly conduct votes on crucial legislation. She talked about alcohol sales being allowed, but recreational marijuana sales being placed on hold. Higgins talked about a continued need for PPE for Leominster Hospital and for local first responders. She also talked about pauses to expected hospital layoffs.

8:40-8:50AM

Sue Chalifoux Zephir and Brandon Robbins from Ginny's Helping Hands talked about keeping their food pantry open. They talked about changes to their hours and offering outdoor pickup and

limited delivery services. They also talked about a new community foundation grant and other grants that are allowing their operation to continue despite their store having to close for the time being with COVID-19. Zephir and Robbins talked about an increase of demand for food since the state of emergency went into effect and as more people end up out of work. They talked about the safety protocols and the process for using the food pantry. They also talked about ways listeners can donate funds and contribute.

FRIDAY APR 10TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau began his discussion talking about how officers have adjusted how they are responding to calls during the new COVID-19 era. He talked about additional information being collected by dispatch, PPE being worn on calls, meeting with calls outside homes when possible, keeping more distance when talking to people who have been pulled over. He also talked about changes to staffing, reducing the number of officers allowed in different rooms, shorter roll calls. Chief Martineau talked about daily calls with other police chiefs and with city officials. He talked about partnering with State Police and Fitchburg State University Police during crises. He talked about the increased use of virtual tools for arraignment and how it is changing their arrest processes. Chief Martineau talked about their domestic violence advocate and concerns about a rise in domestic violence, assault, and substance abuse calls. He wrapped up the discussion talking about the new stab and bullet proof vest given to Hangos the K-9 through a Massachusetts based organization.

MONDAY APR 13TH

7:40-8:00AM

Kevin MacLean talked about changes to Our Father's House to respond to COVID-19 among the homeless population. MacLean talked about connecting with Pastor Thomas Hughes to start using the converted church building on Walnut Street as a COVID-19 shelter. MacLean spoke about the layout of the shelter, precautions being taken for those who need to use the shelter, and their conversations with a similar shelter in Worcester. He also spoke about working with the city to make the COVID-19 shelter a reality.

8:20-8:30AM

Envoy Lynnette Valentine from the Fitchburg Salvation Army called in to talk about their food pantry. Valentine talked about changes made to hours of distribution and the process of picking up food from the pantry to comply with COVID-19 guidelines. Valentine talked about working with area organizations to ensure the pantry can remain stocked. She talked about the process for connecting with the pantry for the first time, and the rise in need as businesses remain closed and residents remain out of work. Valentine also talked about how residents can help through monetary donations.

WEDNESDAY APR 15TH*7:10-8:00AM*

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella began his segment talking about his twice daily coronavirus updates he has been doing online and on Leominster Access Television, and the importance of keeping residents informed to avoid the wrong information being spread. He also talked about the balance between keeping places open for recreation but closing playgrounds and courts. He also talked about the number of cases in Leominster and talked about how cases and deaths are reported throughout the Commonwealth. Mazzarella also talked about the work situations at City Hall incorporating work from home, social distancing, closing the interior to the public, and utilizing online services and parking lot appointments. He also spent time talking about the budget process and trying to work with the unknown revenues and funds that the state is dealing with. He also touched on the city's continued efforts to provide meals while the schools remain shuttered. He wrapped up talking local industry that is thriving throughout the pandemic.

FRIDAY APR 17TH*8:10-8:30AM*

Tom Skwierawski from the Fitchburg Community Development Office talked about their work from home situation. He talked about working right now to connect small businesses to local and federal funds and resources during the COVID-19 pandemic. He talked about funding they have been able to provide to over 40 area businesses and the CARES Act funding they are distributing through the CDBG funding to help with COVID-19 emergency spending. He also talked about efforts to help area businesses weather the COVID-19 closures.

TUESDAY APR 21ST*7:40-8:00AM*

Jeff Murawski, Deputy Wastewater Commissioner for Fitchburg, spent time talking about the multiple combination manhole separation projects happening along Water Street. He talked about the process, the environmental hazards of a combined manhole, and the EPA mandate. Murawski talked about an upcoming project planned for the Green Acres Village area. Murawski talked about the difficulty of navigating public hearings for future work during the COVID-19 area. Murawski also talked about changing up staff operations to deal with the COVID-19 threat having to operate on a shelter in place work schedule for their treatment operators having teams work and stay at the plant for 24 hours for 7 days at a time. He also talked about the city's rain barrel program and its benefits for residents and the city.

WEDNESDAY APR 22ND*7:40-7:50AM*

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale called in to give an update on COVID-19 cases in the city. He gave the current count of positive tests as 156, DiNatale talked about the ongoing coordinated effort among the city's first responders and emergency management officials. He talked about the Landry Arena being used as a temporary mortuary and how it has not received the number of individuals they were preparing for. He also talked about the first responder vehicle caravan passing by healthcare and nursing care facilities later in the day.

8:10-8:30AM

Congresswoman Lori Trahan talked about the passage of the CARES ACT and some distribution coming directly to 3rd district communities. She also talked about the expansion of unemployment and increasing benefits. Trahan talked about much needed funding heading to facilities like Community Health Connections in Fitchburg. Trahan talked about the importance of the most recent legislation focussed on business relief and expanding access to testing. She talked about the challenges of working on bipartisan legislation on a very urgent deadline like we are facing with COVID-19. Trahan talked about the Heroes Act they are hoping to pass next. Trahan also talked about the possibility of another round of checks. Trahan spoke about recently introduced legislation requiring insurers to cover not just COVID-19 testing and treatment. She wrapped up talking about the conversations she has had with healthcare workers, university leaders, municipal leaders and constituents through her tele-town halls.

THURSDAY APR 23RD

7:10-7:30AM

Congressman Jim McGovern talked the Rules Committee developing a subcommittee tasked with accessing the federal COVID-19 response and making sure funds are being appropriately distributed. McGovern talked about trying to legislate amid the COVID-19 pandemic and changes that have been implemented in Congress. He talked about additional legislation aimed at providing more funds for PPE. McGovern talked about the need for remote hearings and the possibility of remote voting from a logistical and safety point of view. He also talked about the higher case numbers of COVID-19 in Worcester and ongoing conversations with Worcester and other officials across the district.

FRIDAY APR 24th

8:10-9:00AM

State Senator Dean Tran began his conversation talking about unemployment rates in Massachusetts and how the state is looking closely at how people can apply and who can be eligible. Tran talked about unemployment opening up for those who are self employed and operate as independent contractors. Tran talked about legislation aimed at preventing evictions during the pandemic. Tran talked about the use of work groups in the senate, and talked about trying to navigate the budget process during the pandemic. Tran talked about legislation to allow

for notary to be done virtually. Tran also talked about the importance of mental health, and the proposed closure of services in north central Massachusetts.

TUESDAY APR 28th

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Stephan Hay talked about unemployment in Massachusetts and the legislature being worked on to make it easier, expand access, and expand the length of benefits. Hay talked about how the pandemic is forcing the state to look at healthcare and see how constituents are being looked at and taken care of by not only providers, but insurers. He talked about the possible impact of the suspension of elective surgeries and how it may impact local providers. Hay also talked about working remotely through hearing, legislative sessions and votes during the pandemic. Hay talked about questions surrounding short term and long term plans for schooling in the commonwealth. Hay also talked about funds heading to colleges for relief and ensuring that additional costs and shortfalls are not pushed onto students.

WEDNESDAY APR 29th

7:20-7:30AM

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzearella called in to talk about the tentative plan for graduation at Doyle Field on August 1st. He talked about the tentative plan that would involve social distancing. He also talked about the fact that there are still so many unknowns as to where the state will be with the pandemic by then. Mazzearella talked about the continued online learning efforts and the continued meal distribution for students which is expected to operate throughout the Summer. Mazzearella talked about Leominster Emergency Management acting as a regional distributor of PPE.

7:40-7:50AM

Sue Chalifoux Zephir and Brandon Robbins called in with an update regarding Ginny's Helping Hands Food Pantry. Zephir gave an update on the hours and return to being open five days a week. They talked about the amount of first time users to the pantry and how the process works for anyone who finds themselves in need of help. They also talked about their procedure changes to remain safe during COVID-19. They talked about their partnership with the Worcester County Food Bank and donations they have received from local residents and companies. They also let listeners know how they can help with funds to purchase more food while the store, which is their main source of income for the pantry, remains closed.

MAY 2020 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

TUESDAY MAY 5TH

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg Fire Chief Kevin Roy talked about two overnight mutual aid calls Fitchburg firefighters responded to in Leominster. Chief Roy talked about some recent causes for fires in Fitchburg having to be electrical related and careless disposal of ashes. He talked about the uptick in fires at residential properties being expected with more people being home. He talked about the start of grilling season and safety tips for grills and recreational fires. Chief Roy talked about additional precautions being taken at the fire stations and while on call to try and minimize the COVID-19 risk for firefighters.

WEDNESDAY MAY 6TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau talked about the new face covering mandate from Governor Charlie Baker. Martineau talked about how the department will be assisting the health department with compliance. He talked about the supply of masks in every vehicle and how they will be provided and how officers are instructed to educate people if they are called to a situation regarding compliance. Martineau talked about the precautions, changes and additional pressure when responding to calls during the COVID-19 pandemic. He talked about the fact that despite state police talking about speeding infractions and accidents rising on state highways, locally there have been less traffic accidents and infractions. Chief Martineau talked about the ongoing concern about domestic violence, mental health, and substance abuse calls while on lockdown. He also talked about some challenges and additional stresses with people in stores and in public worried about social distancing and mask use. He also talked about the police memorial going digital thanks to the efforts of Fitchburg Access Television.

8:10-8:30AM

Joan Goodwin, the executive director of the Fitchburg Senior Center, called in to talk about how operations have changed during the pandemic. She talked about the office still being accessible by phone and email for seniors. She talked about connecting seniors with food by distributing directly and partnering with the Salvation Army. Goodwin also talked about connecting seniors with medical equipment like wheelchairs, canes, etc. She talked about isolation being a major concern, and how frequently they have been contacting them with wellness checks. Goodwin also talked about some virtual zumba and singalong programs they have started for seniors. She talked about donations for non-perishable foods and their outdoor pick up and drop off for puzzles and used books.

THURSDAY MAY 7TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Republican City Committee members Mary and Kathy talked about the coronavirus pandemic completely overshadowing the presidential election. They also talked about the Tara Reade allegations on how it is being handled compared to the Brett Kavanaugh allegations and

investigation. They talked about the possibility of Andrew Cuomo entering the race late, and the need for a strong vice presidential candidate to prop Biden up in order to give him the best chance at defeating President Trump. They also addressed the president's recent confrontations with reporters during the COVID-19 briefing, placing blame on the media and way reporters have been asking questions. The two also talked about the state's response to COVID-19 and the mismanagement of the Soldier's Home in Holyoke and other soldier homes. They talked about a need to assess and analyze the state's response. They wrapped up talking about the latest episode of Your Right To Know on FATV.

WEDNESDAY MAY 13TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale called in and talked about the partnership with Leominster Emergency Management and a donor to distribute masks at a drive through at the city hall municipal offices. Mayor DiNatale talked about their city website redesign and the new tools online to help residents with paying bills, handling permits, and other city issues during the pandemic. He talked about his continued COVID-19 briefings and what may lie ahead for the start of the reopening of the state as well as changes that different departments have had to adopt to be in compliant with the state's current guidelines. DiNatale talked about relief for area businesses through CARES Act distribution to the city of \$600,000 as well as the Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority's Economic Resiliency Grant Program, a TDI grant for businesses from Mass Development and the chamber of commerce's emergency loan fund. DiNatale talked about trying to put a budget together without specific numbers from the state and an expected decrease in revenues. He talked about continuing to move forward with the city hall renovation and the theater block renovation project.

THURSDAY MAY 14TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Natalie Higgins talked about the shift to remote sessions and voting from home while dealing with the pandemic. Higgins talked about this system only being used during the pandemic, but she did talk about keeping remote testimony as an option, especially for residents unable to get to Boston and those in the western part of the state. Higgins talked about Governor Baker's decision to keep retail cannabis businesses closed and the challenges this creates for the industry and their ability to get relief. Higgins also spoke about the contact tracing program in the state. She also talked about empowerment grants for area small businesses in gateway cities like Leominster. Higgins talked about the current legislative session and how COVID-19 related bills are remaining the main focus.

FRIDAY MAY 15TH

8:10-8:30AM

Tom Skwierawski, from the Fitchburg Community Development Office, talked about the just under 600,000 dollars that was incorporated to the CDBG program through the CARES Act. Skwierawski talked about how the funds are being used to help with the response through the small business program, rental assistance, home program, homelessness partners, ppe purchasing. He talked about some other grants and partner organizations helping during the crisis. Skwierawski talked about the start of work on Main Street and Boulder Drive shifting back because of the pandemic to head out to bid this fall and the new start of construction expected for spring of 2021. He talked about some other projects and developments still moving forward in the city like the old Harper Furniture project and Water Street bridge redesign.

MONDAY MAY 18TH

7:40-8:00AM

Attorney Andrew Couture and John DeMalia of Demalia Firearms called in to talk about their recent lawsuit challenging the closure of gun shops during the pandemic. Couture talked about the constitutional and legal issue in Massachusetts and the fact that the shops were deemed essential at a federal level. The two of them spoke about the inability for gun stores to receive federal aid following the state's decision and challenges it presented for businesses. Couture talked about how their court victory could help decide other industry challenges like the closure of churches. They spoke about the need to protect the Second Amendment. Couture talked about the ongoing portion of his lawsuit which seeks to reopen ranges.

TUESDAY MAY 19TH

7:40-8:00AM

Jeff Murawski, Deputy Wastewater Commissioner with the Fitchburg DPW, called in and talked about the shelter in place schedule put in place for operators, the adjusted schedule for other employees, and the increased sanitizing efforts in the workplace. Murawski talked about the projects continuing through the pandemic including six sewer separation projects, three of which were on Water Street. Murawski talked about a bigger sewer separation project planned near the downtown area heading out to bid in June, and two smaller projects. Murawski talked about the awarding of an on call construction contract and how it allows for emergency work to be done outside the scope of what they can handle with their own resources, and two projects built into the contract. Murawski also touched on the necessary rate increases and upcoming rate change.

WEDNESDAY MAY 20TH

7:10-8:00AM

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella started off talking about the positive tests of two individuals at City Hall, talking about the closures of departments and testing of co-workers. He was limited to what he could say with HIPAA. Mazzarella talked about the ongoing face mask distribution through Leominster Emergency Management. He talked about Governor Baker's planned

reopening and compliance with city businesses. He talked about a grant program being offered through the city aimed at keeping businesses afloat. Mazarella also talked about planned changes proceeding at the mall according to discussions with the new owners. He talked about the library beginning to collect items and offer curbside pickup requests.

FRIDAY MAY 22ND

7:10-8:00AM

State Senator Dean Tran began his segment talking about a recent allocation of 200,000 dollars to the On-Site Academy. Tran talked about assistance his office has been providing with stimulus checks, unemployment claims, helping small businesses navigate grant and loan programs, and trying to ensure nursing homes in the area have proper resources. Tran spoke about the expansion of unemployment availability and the amount of new claims being filed and the need for more resources in the DUA to handle the increased volume. Tran talked about trying to navigate the budget process when they still do not have numbers. He also spoke about the possibility of dipping into the state's stabilization fund and how this financial situation may compare to the 2008 recession. Tran talked about reductions made to the budget during the last recession and how that may become a reality again with this budget. He also talked about the amount of COVID-19 cases in nursing homes and recent legislation aimed at providing more accountability and support.

TUESDAY MAY 26TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Stephan Hay talked about being a part of the Fitchburg Memorial Day Ceremony held virtually on FATV. Hay talked about the mask mandate and the need to continue taking precautions with regards to COVID-19. Hay also talked about the reopening of the state and how it applies to his district. He talked about the legislature only focusing on COVID-19 related items while in sessions while committees are doing virtual hearings and testimony on non-covid issues. Hay talked about changes to unemployment and helping constituents navigating those claims. Hay talked about needing to be cautious when building the budget with the number of unknowns when it comes to revenues, and the fact that additions can always be made down the road as opposed to overfunding and needing to make cuts throughout the year. He also touched on the possibility of dipping into the state's stabilization fund.

THURSDAY MAY 27TH

8:10-9:00AM

Cannabis Control Commissioner Jen Flanagan talked about the way COVID-19 shifted their operations to remote work, with virtual meetings. Flanagan talked about the commission continuing to issue licenses during the pandemic. She also spent time talking about Governor Baker's decision to deem adult recreational use as non-essential. She talked about being able to

keep the medical and growing side of the industry open with newer protocols. Flanagan talked about the upcoming reopening of the retail side. Flanagan talked about PPE and requirements for workers. She talked about rules for online ordering and curbside pickup for both the retailers, and customers looking to complete their purchases. Flanagan talked about concerns if we roll back the phases of reopening, especially where marijuana businesses are not able to apply for federal relief. Flanagan talked about the reception of communities for marijuana businesses the ballot question allowing liquor sales in convenience stores and how an increase in package store licenses would also increase the amount of cannabis establishments that would also be allowed.

THURSDAY MAY 28TH

7:10-7:30AM

Congressman Jim McGovern talked about the latest total of deaths reaching the 100,000 milestone in the United States. McGovern talked about the importance of wearing a mask and why some of his colleagues and constituents are so reluctant to follow medical advice. McGovern talked about the need to reopen the economy slowly and sensibly to avoid having to shut down again. McGovern talked about the need to allow Congress to hold virtual hearings and have flexibility, and reflected on the virtual meeting recently held by the rules committee, along with the casting of the first proxy votes yesterday and the lawsuit challenging it. McGovern also talked about the latest stimulus package by the house and whether something will pass the Senate.

8:10-8:30AM

Congresswoman Lori Trahan talked about the United States reaching 100,000 COVID-19 deaths. Trahan talked about the need for more resources for 3rd district communities and aid for first responders and healthcare facilities that are going to require another stimulus package. Trahan went into some more details about the Heroes Act passed by the House. Trahan also spent time talking about the Save Minor League Baseball Task Force and the COVID-19 impact on minor league sports this year. She talked about the ongoing work of the task force and the feasibility of these teams continuing after a summer without play.

JUNE 2020 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

MONDAY JUNE 1ST

7:20-7:30AM

Chuck Scott, an area resident and amateur photographer called in to talk about attending the Black Lives Matter protest in Worcester over the weekend. Scott took the time to talk about the issues brought up by leaders and speakers at the event, the tone of the event, and the events that transpired while he was present. Scott talked about the need to continue having tough

conversations about race and the importance of those with white privilege to listen to the struggles and experiences of black and other minority individuals.

8:20-8:30AM

Rich Gerlach, an area resident talked about attending multiple Black Lives Matter protests over the weekend in Boston. Gerlach talked about the difference in tone and messaging over the two days. He talked about the marches and speakers that were present and how he left with the peaceful crowds before things turned to looting and violence later in the night. Gerlach spoke about realizing privilege and listening and learning about the struggles of others.

TUESDAY JUNE 2ND

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg Fire Chief Kevin Roy began his segment talking about several new promotions in the department and having to do a social distanced ceremony outside the station. Chief Roy talked about the new shift commander vehicle delivered to the station and the special equipment needed for it. He also talked about the second set of turnout gear through a FEMA grant awarded to the department. He talked about the grant allowing for a new washer extractor machine. Chief Ropy talked about a brush fire last night on Rollstone Hill and concerns about brush fires with the dry weather. Chief Roy also talked about safety risks with bark mulch and careless disposal of cigarettes and ashes and grill safety following a mutual aid call to a residence in Lunenburg involving a grill. Chief Roy talked about the ongoing changes to the way they respond to calls with COVID-19 and precautions that are remaining in place.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 3rd

7:50-8:00AM

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau condemned the Minneapolis officers for their handling of the arrest and death of George Floyd. Martineau talked about a need to grieve as a community, a need to look at their own police profession. He also spoke about the need to allow people to peacefully demonstrate and the need to protect those who are looking to peacefully demonstrate. He talked about the upcoming demonstration in the afternoon and his communications with the Three Pyramids and Minority Coalition and his plans to walk alongside demonstrators.

THURSDAY JUNE 4TH

7:20-7:30AM

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale called in to talk about yesterday's march and demonstration from Crocker Field to City Hall. DiNatale reflected on the event and his relationship with the Three Pyramids and Minority Coalition. He spoke about the diverse makeup of the city and the

need for people to get involved on commissions and run for committees, city council, mayor and other offices. He also talked about the police and public's handling of the peaceful demonstration.

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg Republican City Committee members Mary and Kathy called in for their monthly segment. They began by addressing the President's decision to call up the National Guard in response to the recent protests and demonstrations. They also addressed the President's comments regarding designating Antifa as a terrorist organization and they said that neo-Nazis and extremists on both sides of the spectrum are a threat. They also talked about the protestors being forced to disperse for President Trump's photo op in front of the church. They also talked about the ongoing COVID-19 response and whether anger about that response is playing into the current demonstrations. They finished by talking about the latest episode of "Your Right To Know" on FATV.

FRIDAY JUNE 5TH

7:40-8:00AM

Fitchburg Municipal Airport manager Peter Kettle called in to talk about recent upgrades and changes to the airport. Kettle talked about the federal partnership and loan that allowed for the expansion of their runway and elimination of an old runway. Kettle talked about how the expansion will comply with more insurance requirements allowing for more corporate air travel. He also talked about the 24 hour self serve fueling station and the economic advantage it brings to the airport. Kettle also talked about future upgrades planned at the airport.

MONDAY JUNE 8TH

7:40-8:00AM

State Representative-elect Danilo Sena, talked about how his working with former Representative Jen Benson helped to prepare for his new role. He said constituents talked to him about a number of concerns including having universal pre-kindergarten in Massachusetts as a way off-setting the cost of Childcare in Massachusetts. He talked about how residents have been struggling to make ends meet with the Coronavirus, and their concerns as the state enters the Second Phase of getting back to work. He also talked about the impact of the Coronavirus on our Mental Health. He also discussed the work he'll need to do to get caught up to speed on matters like the state budget and other matters before the legislative sessions on July 31st.

8:20-8:30AM

Tom Skwierawski Executive Director of Planning and Community Development for the City of Fitchburg, told our listeners about the forming of the Fitchburg Reopen Task Force, their goal of helping to restart the local economy, what could be the factors that hamper those efforts, the

importance of having a team to help the city move forward, what they learned when Massachusetts was in Phase 1 of re-opening for business and what needs to be done to help business as Phase 2 begins.

TUESDAY JUNE 9TH

7:40-7:50AM

A conversation with Westwood One News Correspondent Clayton Neville in Houston, Texas about the death of George Floyd, questions about past actions by Minneapolis Police and the lack of actions taken by law enforcement in Minneapolis. How the public has responded to police actions in Minneapolis and other cities, including the arrests of Reporters and Correspondents, has this become the moment where the nation as a whole says "something isn't right here and needs to change," and where do we go from here after the funeral services of George Floyd.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 10TH

7:10-8:00AM

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale called in for his monthly segment and began by talking about the march last week, the turnout, the conversation, and the messages from those involved. He also talked about the need to get involved in local politics and to run for office and committees to try and affect change. Mayor DiNatale gave an update on the case count of COVID-19 in the city and talked about the ongoing response in the city. DiNatale talked about the Reopening Fitchburg Task Force. He also talked about nixing fees for outdoor dining permits to help restaurants to open up. He also talked about other resources aimed at helping businesses to reopen. He also talked about municipal operations. He talked about the flowers recently planted in the downtown area thanks to Monty Tech and several area volunteers. DiNatale wrapped up talking about the potential changes and cancellations to Fitchburg Civic Days Events.

THURSDAY JUNE 11TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Natalie Higgins spoke about being involved in the first Pride Month flag raising event at Monument Square in Leominster and the significance of the gesture. Higgins talked about Northern Worcester County Pride who was instrumental to the flag raising. She also touched on the march to downtown Leominster followed by the SURJ stand-in at Carter Park with signs last week for the Black Lives Matter movement. Higgins talked about discussions happening with caucuses at the state level to address systemic racism, reforms to policing, and reforms to what is used against protestors. Higgins also touched on the reopening of the state and the early talks about reopening the schools for the Fall, and what they may look like for the school system. She also talked about potential revenue losses for the state and the need for

federal dollars to fill the gap. She also talked about the push toward vote by mail legislation for the November election.

TUESDAY JUNE 16TH

7:40-8:00AM

Jeff Murawski, the Deputy Wastewater Commissioner in Fitchburg, talked about the extension of the rain barrel project in the city. He talked about benefits for residents and benefits for the city's wastewater and sewer system. He talked about returning to a normal operation as opposed to the shift in operation schedules that they had to make to deal with COVID-19. Murawski also talked about what is allowed to be flushed and what is not flushable. He talked about concerns about disinfectant wipes, medicines, and other things entering the wastewater system that should not. He also spent time talking about upcoming project the department is planning in the area of Water Street and South Street. He wrapped up with the details regarding the rain barrel distribution.

8:10-8:30AM

Leah Burns, President of the Leominster Education Association, called in to talk about the over 100 pink slips recently issued throughout the district. She talked about the expected loss of revenue in the state and how that may trickle down to the district and how they had to prepare for a worst case scenario. Burns talked about the challenges those reductions may lead to, especially if there needs to be a smaller student to teacher ratio to be compliant with COVID-19 restrictions. Burns talked about possible COVID-19 requirements and difficulties Leominster and all districts across the state may be facing. She urged residents to reach out to their state and congressional leaders.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 17TH

7:10-8:00AM

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella talked about the recent march to city hall and the stand in event at Carter Park. He talked about the turnout and concerns of those at the demonstrations. Mazzarella talked about an early mandate to recruit more diverse police officers years ago early into his tenure, and continued efforts to have the police department reflect the diversity of the population. Mazzarella talked about efforts and initiatives to provide technology and internet to students who didn't have the appropriate resources for at home learning. He also addressed the pink slip situation in the school system and the finance committee meeting looking at the proposed school budget tonight. He talked about the stabilization and free cash being used for one time payments and not being a solution. He also talked about what the requirements for reopening the school may look like. He dismissed the idea of raising taxes, and wrapped up talking about the Bargain Shopping Days event to help retailers.

8:10-8:30AM

Attorney Mike DeGrandis from the New Civil Liberties Alliance talked about the lawsuit his firm is filing on behalf of several Massachusetts business in response to the Governor's closure. DeGrandis talked about how it appears Governor Baker has taken on legislative powers and how their lawsuit is seeking to stop this. He talked about the fact that the situation is unique because Governor Baker seems to have used the civil defense act to enact the closures. DeGrandis talked about the precedent this may set and why it creates a constitutional concern. He talked about the fact that the plaintiffs are not seeking money, but that the lawsuit is seeking to create more clarity and a process to appeal where businesses fall in the reopening process.

THURSDAY JUNE 18TH

7:40-7:50AM

State Representative Natalie Higgins talked about the pandemic EBT card being issued to families that qualify for free and reduced lunch. She talked about the card being used as a supplement to help families purchase meals in addition to meals being provided by schools. She talked about the dispersal of the funds for families that already qualify for SNAP benefits. She talked about the setup process for those who are new to the EBT system.

FRIDAY JUNE 20TH

7:40-8:00AM

Chris Knuth from the Leominster Health Department called in and talked about the COVID-19 response. He talked about the cancellation of the hazardous waste collection during the pandemic closures and upcoming hazardous waste collection event. Knuth talked about what is and isn't allowed to be brought to the event. He talked about the proper disposal of latex paint and the need to dry it out before putting it in your regular trash.

8:10-8:30AM

Tom Skwierawski talked about the decision to push back the Main Street and Boulder Drive 2 way projects until next year. He talked about the initial delay and how it transformed into being pushed back until next year due to COVID-19. Skwierawski talked about feedback given regarding the project and he also talked about some of the improvements that the project is bringing to the two roads in addition to the lane changes. He also spent time talking about the Reopen Task Force and continuing to help businesses reopen as we progress through the phases laid out by the Governor..

MONDAY JUNE 22ND

7:40-8:00AM

Attorney and Gardner City Councilor, Scott J. Graves, called in to talk about his campaign for mayor. Graves talked about his background being raised in Gardner and his years on the city

council and time spent in the past as council president. Graves talked about COVID-19 and its economic impact as being the biggest issues facing Gardner. Graves talked about the need for more economic revitalization in the city. He also talked about his opposition to the potential expansion to the sludge landfill. Graves talked about his desire for transparency and openness if he is elected.

TUESDAY JUNE 24TH

7:10-8:00AM

State Representative Stephan Hay talked about most bills being COVID-19 driven and the push and need for a vote from home option for the upcoming election. Hay talked about the vote by mail and safeguards against fraud that will be put in place. Hay talked about the need to continue to support small businesses as the reopening phases continue. Hay talked about the upcoming supplemental budget bill aimed at COVID-19 relief funding. He also talked about that lack of a budget as they approach July 31st and whether or not it will get done, and the possibility of a joint budget from the house and senate. He also talked about the potential for a 1/12 budget and the difficulties associated with it.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 24TH

8:10-8:30AM

Congresswoman Lori Trahan talked to us about the Columbia Gas ruling from the explosion and fires that erupted in Lawrence, Andover and North Andover. She also discussed the work that is still being done to support those affected by the explosions. She talked about her online Town Hall discussions with her constituents about the Coronavirus, her concerns about the growing number of cases across the nation, and the need to follow CDC guidelines on social distancing, washing hands and other ways of helping to prevent its spread. She also talked about a measure she is sponsoring, The Pandemic Protection Act, and how it can help bring jobs back to the United States and Massachusetts. She also updated the efforts to save the Lowell Spinners.

THURSDAY JUNE 25TH

7:10-7:30AM

Congressman Jim McGovern began his conversation talking about the decline of COVID-19 cases in the state but the need to remain vigilant, especially with the rise in cases in other states. McGovern talked about his frustration with the President's dismissals of masks and insistence on gathering for rallies despite advice from medical experts. Congressman McGovern talked about the recently passed Heroes Act. He expressed his frustration with the senate and president to take action. He also talked about the need to address healthcare reform in the long term and talked about how COVID-19 has further illustrated this. McGovern also talked about the need for police reform and the need to provide more resources for mental health. He also talked about the President's response to the protests.

FRIDAY JUNE 26TH

7:40-8:00AM

Rutland town administrator, Mike J Nicholson, called in to talk about his campaign for mayor of Gardner in next Tuesday's election. Nicholson talked about his background growing up in Gardner. He talked about his previous role as mayoral aide to former mayor Mark Hawke, and how it has prepared him for his run and for the role. He talked about his current responsibilities as Rutland town administrator and how that would prepare him to take over as mayor.

8:10-9:00AM

State Senator Dean Tran started off talking about participating in the Black Lives Matter march and demonstration in Fitchburg. Tran talked about the push to make Juneteenth a holiday and said he believes it will be a unanimous vote in favor. Tran talked about funds that were recently secured for the Restoration Recovery Center in Fitchburg. He talked about the 10,000 dollars secured for the Westminster Fire Department for the purchase of a new extractor washer. He also spent time talking about his choice for the Commonwealth Heroine Award. Senator Tran also talked about the putting patients first bill and chapter 90 funding bill. He wrapped up talking about Voting by mail.

WPKZ RADIO 2ND QUARTER 2020 ISSUES REPORT, MONDAY K-ZONE LUNCHBOX

This report covers April 1 through June 30, 2020

The program airs Mondays 12 noon to 1:00 pm. All interviews are 20 minutes in length unless otherwise noted. The Monday program is hosted by Sherman Whitman.

THE CORONAVIRUS -- THE VIEW FROM A DOCTOR, April 6th, 12 noon

Dr. Katherine Gergen Barnett, Vice Chair of Primary Care Innovation and Transformation and the Program Director in the Department of Family Medicine at Boston Medical Center; talked to us about how life has changed for the staff at Boston Medical during the Coronavirus outbreak. She talked about the need to close their pediatric unit to meet the need for treating those with COVID-19, are there enough ventilators to help patients, discussing potential end of life decisions with patients, decisions that could determine which patients live or die and how the Coronavirus is affecting the oath Doctors take which says "Do no harm."

THE CORONAVIRUS -- MAKING ENDS MEET, April 6th, 12:30 pm

Shawn McGee, Vice President of Financial Services for AAA Northeast; suggested refinancing your car loan as one possible option of helping people make ends meet. He discussed how the process of re-financing works, how it can help to reduce the interest which reduces their monthly payment and/or extend the time needed to pay the loan to help get through these times. He suggested that buying cars should be a two-step process, doing your homework on the car, and doing the homework to get the best possible for financing for your vehicle.

THE CORONAVIRUS -- ITS IMPACT ON BUSINESS, April 13th, 12 noon

Chris Moschovitis, Chairman and CEO of tmg-emedial; talked about how New York City residents have struggled to handle the Coronavirus, and how businesses have struggled to maintain operations. He also discussed how the virus will lead to changes in how business does business, the importance of Information Technology and Cybersecurity in keeping businesses in operation, IT and Cybersecurity as growth industries and learning how much business can be done at home. He also suggested the Coronavirus will have a lasting impact on how we relate with one another until a vaccine is created to treat the virus, that technology can help keep us connecting to one another and help to make for a safer environment.

"BABE RUTH: BASEBALL'S ALL-TIME BEST," April 20th, 12:30 pm

James Buckley, author of the book, talked about the "Show Me" series of books which are described as graphic novels, but remind you of comic books. He described these graphic novels as family friendly works that look back at American History and the people who made important contributions. He recalled how newspapers in Boston and New York City struggled to find ways of describing George Herman Ruth, and direct quotes from each person who was the subject of each story. Buckley says the "graphic novels" are made for parents and their children to share and the subjects of their series include Alexander Hamilton, Abraham Lincoln, Harriet Tubman, Albert Einstein, Martin Luther King Jr., Susan B. Anthony, Walt Disney and many others.

MASSACHUSETTS NATIONAL GUARD, April 27th, 12 noon

Brigadier General Retired Paul "Greg" Smith of the Guard came to our airwaves to ask non-active members of the Guard to help the commonwealth as it struggles with the Coronavirus. He talked about the work being done to help people who have been displaced when a natural gas explosion forced families to seek shelter in Lawrence, Andover and North Andover. He talked about Guard members providing assistance today in nursing homes, and their work in the medical profession too. He expressed pride over the fact that guard members from all walks of life are serving in Massachusetts. General Smith says they're also calling on retired Guard members to return to active duty to help Massachusetts.

THE 2020 US CENSUS, April 27th, 12:30 pm

Jeff Behler, Director of the New York Office of the US Census Bureau; updated our listeners on how Massachusetts and the nation are taking part in the 2020 Census. He talked about the Coronavirus has suspended their efforts to get their message to the nation and take part in local events that were scheduled. He discussed how well Fitchburg and Massachusetts have done in participating in the Census, the importance of every resident in the United States being counted, the programs that are at stake for every community, the funding for those programs and the importance of keeping the numbers of Congressmembers in the House of Representatives. He also discussed how residents need to fill out the forms online or by phone, the work that needs to be done, including going door-to-door to reach people and the need to hire Census Takers.

FOUR DEAD IN OHIO, May 4th, 12 noon

Mindy Farmer, Professor of History and Director of the May 4th Visitors Center at Kent State University, talked to our listeners about the day Ohio National Guardsmen opened fire on students on the campus 50 years ago killing four students and injuring nine others. She talked about the demonstrations events leading up to the day, including whether then Ohio Governor James Rhodes helped to raise the tensions on campus. She discussed what happened on the campus after the shooting, the lessons that have been and may still need to be learned, the investigations into the shooting at Kent State and Jackson State in Mississippi, how Governor Rhodes is remembered by the people of Ohio and what it means to be a student at Kent State in 2020.

SCHOOL DAYS IN THE DAYS OF COVID-19, May 4th, 12:30 pm

Michelle Boraccini, a 3rd Grade Teacher at the Elm Street School in Gardner, talked us about how life in the classroom has changed while facing the Coronavirus pandemic. How teaching has changed from being in the classroom to home, the guidelines teachers need to follow, how those challenges are met in an Elementary setting, the adjustments students and teachers have had to make, what they've done to make parents comfortable in the new setting while keeping students engaged, that platforms teachers have used to make the classroom setting work while kids are at home, providing technology for students, finding the right place for students to study and the importance of teachers establishing and maintaining contact with students and their parents -- including office hours for the parents.

MASSACHUSETTS TOBACCO LAWS, May 11th, 12 noon

Tina Grosowsky, Project Coordinator for the Central MassTobacco Free Community Partnership at the UMass Medical School, returned to our airwaves to update the new Tobacco Laws that went into effect in Massachusetts on June 1st. The new law explain limits where e-cigarette and nicotine vaping products and flavored tobacco products can be purchased. The law also says flavored e-cigarettes and nicotine vaping products can only be purchased for on-site consumption at licensed adult-only smoking bars in Massachusetts. She also talked about vaping and how it's become popular with young people, what is being done to prevent young people from getting started on these products, and the resources that are available to help them quit.

WORCESTER COUNTY FOOD BANK, May 18th, 12 noon

Executive Director Jean McMurray talked to our listeners about the program, and how the need for their program has grown with layoffs as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. She discussed how they supply food to pantries across Central Massachusetts, and how that process has changed to ensure that food is provided safely. She discussed how the state's plan for getting people back to work could help families that are struggling with their daily expenses. She also urged listeners to take advantage of the services they provide, saying pride can get in the way of a person's need to provide for their families.

THE SUMMER DRIVING SEASON, May 18th, 12:30 pm

John Paul of AAA Northeast looked ahead to the Summer of 2020 which he described as the road to nowhere. He said the Auto Club announced there would be no survey of how many people will be travelling during the Memorial Day Weekend. He said that because of the Coronavirus, more people will be spending the weekend working behind the computer instead of travelling. He talked about supply and demand and how that has affected the price of oil and gasoline, how different gasolines are used at different times of the year and their effect on prices. He also talked about how the travel industry and tourism will be affected by businesses that are forced to close their doors, and whether some businesses will survive the outbreak. He also urged motorists to keep driving in order to keep their vehicles working properly.

"SAY I'M DEAD: A FAMILY MEMOIR OF RACE, SECRETS AND LOVE," June 1st 12 noon

As the nation moves to the anniversary of the 1967 US Supreme Court decision that struck down laws that banned interracial marriages, Author E. Dolores Johnson calls her parents the grandparents of that decision. She said her book tells about her father who was black, and her mother who was white. Her parents lived in Indiana where they first met. She talked about their falling in love, and their fear of her father being lynched back in the 1940's. Her book tells about the family leaving Indianapolis to start a new life and a family in Buffalo, New York. The story tells of the family's struggles in relationships with both black and white families, and her journey back to Indiana to meet her mother's side of the family. She also said the nation still has a long way to go when it comes to matters of race, but she believes that love can conquer race.

RETAILERS AND THE CORONAVIRUS, June 1st, 12:30 pm

Jon Hurst, President of the Retailers Association of Massachusetts, talked to us about the state's 4-Phase plan to re-open Massachusetts for business from the Coronavirus. He discussed how difficult it has been for retailers to survive with many retailers forced to close their doors, and concern that 30 percent of their members may not re-open. He talked about the costs related to inventory, sanitation, and salaries, plus the competition from big stores like Wal-Mart and online retailers like Amazon. He talked about the need to help retailers re-open, and how efforts from groups like local Chambers of Commerce have helped. He added consumers need to be reminded or re-educated about the need to buy local, buy from area retailers like their businesses depend on it, because they do.

BLACK LIVES MATTER, June 8th, 12 noon

Adrian Ford, CEO of Three Pyramids and the North Central Massachusetts Minority Coalition; and Irene Hernandez, President of the North Central Massachusetts Minority Coalition; joined us for the hour to talk about the coalition and its early days, their work in helping communities of color in North Central Mass, the challenges they've faced over their 50 years of existence whether it be school desegregation, bringing newcomers in North Central Mass together and getting people of color involved in civic and professional organizations and government and how to do so. They discussed the need for changing policies to end racial and ethnic disparities in North Central Mass. They also expressed hope that the recent discussions about how Black Lives Matter will help to bring about changes to help improve the quality of life for all people in North Central Massachusetts.

"THE SLIPPERY SLOPE OF HEALTH CARE," June 15th, 12 noon

Dr. Steven K. Kuzzin says his book is about healthy patients run into medical complications when they see their doctor and things they can do to avoid them. He suggests problems with your health can start with how the High Blood Pressure tests are conducted and how accurate the results are. He suggested patients do their homework by going to websites for information that Doctors use, he questioned why studies like the Framingham Heart Study which are used to determine the risk of a Heart Attack or Stroke are rejected in favor of more unreliable findings, and he urged patients to question their Doctors and if necessary find a Doctor who will listen and work with you on maintaining your health.

AVATARS INC., June 15th, 12:30 pm

Ann Vandermeer, editor of a new anthology of science fiction, says the work feature stories all about a future where people can inhabit robotic bodies to explore the Earth and other planets. She also told our listeners about a XPRIZE, a four-year global competition focused on the development of an avatar system that could transport a human's senses, actions, and presence to a remote location in real time. She suggests that the relationship between Art and Science has become stronger, and we have witnessed the ways and means where Science Fiction has become Science Fact.

REMEMBERING MOLLY BISH, June 22th, 12 noon

Dr. Ann Marie Mires, Director of the Molly Bish Center for the Protection of Children and the Elderly at Anna Maria College, recalled when the 16 year-old disappeared from her lifeguard post at Comins Pond in Warren back on June 27th, 2000. Molly's remains were found in Palmer in 2003. She said Molly's parents helped establish the center to help residents and hundreds of organizations and agencies protect children and the elderly community with the help of based child identification programs, school-based safety and prevention initiatives to name a few. She said that as a result of Molly's disappearance the AMBER Alert System is in place, parents have their children photographed and fingerprinted to help investigators find them and the establishment of programs to provide mentoring services counselling and emotional support to the family members of missing persons.

FITCHBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY, June 22nd, 12:30 pm

Executive Director Susan Navarre looked back at the 1918 Influenza Epidemic and its similarities to living during the Coronavirus pandemic. She also discussed other events and what was happening in the city over the last 100 years, including when Women won the right to vote in 1920. She also discussed when Fitchburg Mayor Bill Flynn was the youngest Mayor in America back in 1970, and Astronauts came to the city and brought Moonrocks to the Wallace Planetarium at what would be known today as Fitchburg State University. She also discussed the challenges of operating during the Coronavirus, and the hope for having events that will be open to the public in the future.

SUMMER DRIVING -- AN UPDATE, June 29th, 12 noon

John Paul of AAA Northeast updated what is happening as we look ahead to the 4th of July. He told our listeners that they're project that summer travel for the third quarter of 2020 will decline by 15 percent, but more than 600-million people will be travelling. He said that while there is frustration over living with the Coronavirus, people have made up their mind to travel and the primary choice is by car. He said people are going to their favorite places as we head to the 4th of July, but the numbers of people travelling by airplanes and trains will see a dramatic decline. He also talked about how the growing number of Coronavirus cases could have an impact on where people travel on their vacation.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Johnny Appleseed Visitors Center on Route 2 West in needs volunteers. They're looking for volunteers to greet people from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, and from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. You'll provide information on regional attractions, services and of course all things Apple!!! To find out more call this number...978-534-2829.

(back in rotation)

The Spanish American Center of Leominster invites you to a hot breakfast and community cafe. They're serving a free breakfast every Tuesday and Friday morning from 8:00 to 9:30 at the Center. The Center is located at 112 Spruce Street in Leominster. For more information call 978-534-3145.

(expired April 10th)

Ginny's Helping Hand and Food Pantry, located at 52 Mechanic Street in Leominster, says that because of the outbreak of COVID-19 the Thrift Store is closed for the present time. But the Food Pantry is open. The Pantry is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Saturdays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. For information about the Food Pantry call 978-537-1387.

(still in rotation)

The Fitchburg Public Library has announced it is postponing events that would attract large audiences through April 25th. They're also asking that anyone with a fever or exhibiting flu-like symptoms, or anyone who has been asked to self-quarantine to not enter the building. if you any questions about Library Services, call the Library at this number...978-829-1780

(expired April 25th)

(The City of Fitchburg) The Fitchburg Substance Abuse Prevention and its Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative will be having NARCAN Training and Distribution on the Third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm at Community Health Connections in Conference Room 1, located at 326 Nichols Road in Fitchburg. You'll be instructed in how to recognize an opioid overdose, and what to do when it occurs. For more information call 978-829-1854.

(still in rotation)