

## **WPKZ PROGRAMS LIST Q1 2021**

WPKZ Radio has over 25 hours of live local programming per non-holiday week addressing significant local and communities issues. In the past quarter that has included Covid-19 Impacts, Community Leaders, elected and non-elected, Business and financial New, Education related Community information, Tips and Updates on the local real estate market, non-Profit Initiatives. Mental and Personal Health. State and Federal Legislative Updates, Local and Regional Sports Stories and Updates. Most of our community program interviews and topics are also uploaded to our SoundCloud on-demand site for on demand listening at [www.kzonereplay.com](http://www.kzonereplay.com) Submitted by John Morrison and Sherman Whitman.

### **MORNING SHOW PROGRAMS AND ISSUES REPORT**

The following is a summary issues and guests during the K-Zone Morning Kommute which airs weekdays between 6:00 am and 9:00 am. The program is hosted during this period by Sherman Whitman.

WPKZ First Quarter Issues January 1 through March 31, 2021

PUBLIC SAFETY, January 5th, 7:40 to 8:00 am

Fitchburg Fire Chief Anthony Marrama looked back at how the city fared during the holiday season, the challenges they faced as compared to other times of the year, the importance of Mutual Aid provided by neighboring cities and towns, how residents can help firefighters by keeping storm drains cleared and making sure firefighters can reach hydrants to contain fires, proper disposal of Christmas trees and making sure smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are working properly

PUBLIC SAFETY, January 6th, 7:20 to 8:00 am

Fitchburg Police Ernie Martineau looked back at 2020 and its challenges and talked about his hopes for 2021. He talked about how the Coronavirus pandemic has changed policing, the challenges facing those in public service, efforts to vaccinate first responders and his reaction to changes in the police reform legislation with changes to the package that were sought by Governor Baker. He felt Police Officers in Massachusetts have the lead way when it comes to changes in how officers serve the public.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, January 6th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Congresswoman Lori Trahan looked ahead to her Colleagues on Capitol Hill meeting to certify the results of the 2020 November election that saw Democrats Joe Biden and Kamala Harris become President-elect and Vice President-elect, her thoughts about this session of Congress that will soon be ending, and her hopes for the beginning of new session as President-elect Biden takes office on January 20th.

POLITICS, January 7th, 7:10 to 8:00 am

Mary Lotze and Kathy Goguen of the Fitchburg Republican City Committee shared their thoughts about the people who stormed the US Capitol as lawmakers were preparing to certify the results of the November Presidential election, they questioned the results of the election stating that over 75-million Americans voted for President Donald Trump, expressed their frustration over the courts rejecting their arguments that the election was stolen and the efforts to continue those challenges.

BUSINESS, January 7th, 8:40 to 9:00 am

Rot Nascimento, President and CEO of the North Central Chamber of Commerce; and Jeff Roberge, Executive the MassHire North Central Workforce Board; talked to our listeners about the board, their goal of providing job-driven employment and educational services that expand opportunities for young people and adults in North Central Massachusetts and provide employers with the competitive workforces they need to succeed.

IL CAMINO RESTAURANT, January 8th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Rick and Louis Daigneault told our listeners about the Leominster-based restaurant which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. They shared how the family began the restaurant with an idea, the challenges they faced in the those early days, the contributions family members made to help them succeed, what they've done to remain competitive over the years, the struggles to maintain an independent restaurant, the challenges they've faced during the Coronavirus, the changes in their business model to help them succeed, how word of mouth has enabled them to survive and their hopes for the next 50 years.

PRELUDE TO POLAR, January 12th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Bill Wanless, Senior Vice President of the Worcester Red Sox; talked about the plans of Major League Baseball to have a full season, Spring Training beginning in February, the players who will be invited to JetBlue Park, who goes to Fenway to start the season, who goes to Polar Park in Worcester to prepare for the Minor League season, he updated the construction of Polar Park, his gratitude for how Central Massachusetts has welcomed the team from Rhode Island, and their next checkpoints in getting ready for Opening Day.

LEUKEMIA AND LYMPHOMA SOCIETY, January 12th 8:40 to 8:50 am

Nikki Yuill told our listeners about the services they provide the public, how their Listener Resource Center has provided information to help patients and their families, how these blood cancers strike the human body, how they develop when blood cells over-produce, how their programs and services can help patients and their loved ones ask doctors the questions that could improve their loved one's chances of surviving, make them aware of clinical trials and ways of connecting them to resources that could help cover the cost of their medical procedures.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, January 13th, 7:15 to 8:00 am

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale's monthly visit to our airwaves focused on North Central Massachusetts vaccinating those in public service for the Coronavirus. He also talked about the numbers of residents who have tested positive for the virus and how the virus has affected them, the upgrades to Fitchburg City Hall, when it will open to the public, and how the Coronavirus has affected public transportation -- including in the commuter rail service to Boston where there are fewer trains running on a daily basis and the potential for the end of rail service on weekends.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, January 14th, 7:10 to 8:00 am

State Representative Natalie Higgins shared her thoughts on the people who stormed the US Capitol back on January 6th, the second impeachment proceedings against former President Donald Trump, looked back at the legislative session that ended in December on Beacon Hill -- including the work that went into making the budget for year 2021 possible, looked ahead to the new session that is now underway, the amount of time lawmakers will be given to file their pieces of legislation, her changing role as a member of the delegation that represents North Central Massachusetts and the challenges her colleagues will face in the next two years.

BUSINESS, January 14th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Nick Thornton of the Heart of New England Council BSA (Boy Scouts of America) joined Meliss Fetterhoff of the Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce to tell our listeners about the organization that represents the Boy Scouts in North Central Massachusetts, talked about the mission statement of the Scouts, the lifelong skills that Scouts will learn beginning at an early age, the confidence that comes from learning these skills, the challenges to Scouting caused by the Coronavirus and the many ways the Scouts have served their communities.

GOVERNMENT, January 15th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

State Representative Danilo Sena talked about what he has learned since filling an open seat in the Massachusetts House, preparing to serve his first term in the Legislature, the changes to come including a new Speaker of the House and what the new Speaker will bring to the table, how the Economic Development Bill signed by Governor Baker could bring more jobs to the Commonwealth, his concerns about the reduction of Commuter Rail between Boston and Fitchburg and what needs to be done to maintain service.

NEWS/COMMUNITY, January 18th, 8:20 to 8:30 am

As the nation celebrated the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., H. Beecher Hicks, President and CEO of The National Museum of African American Music; talked to us about the years of work and preparation to enable the museum to open its doors, explained what listeners would witness as they went on virtual tour, the contributions of African Americans in every genre of American music and the importance of those contributions.

GOVERNMENT, January 19th, 7:40 to 8:00 am

Jeff Murawski, Deputy Wastewater Commissioner for the City of Fitchburg; talked to our listeners about the essential services provided by their department, the 140 miles of sewer pipes within the city that they monitor, the amount of waste they treat on a daily basis, how weather conditions could affect the work that is done and he looked ahead to projects that will begin once weather conditions improve.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, January 20th, 7:15 to 8:00 am

Leominster Mayor Dean Maazarella spent part of his monthly visit recalling his times in Washington, DC to witness the inauguration of a new President, the importance of the nation witnessing the transition of government from one President to another, the loss of weekend commuter rail service and its impact on North Central Massachusetts, concern about Leominster as a high-risk zone for Coronavirus and the hope that Congress will approve a new stimulus package that would help the nation's cities and towns.

INAUGURATION DAY, January 20th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Former Massachusetts resident Dante Comparetto talked to us about his move to Washington, DC, being there to witness the Inauguration of a new President, how the presence of the National Guard and others have affected life for DC residents, what made him decide to call Washington DC home, the beauty of the Capital Region, what it means to be there to witness American History with the beginning of a new President and new administration and what he would ask the new President if he were given the opportunity.

CLEAR PATH FOR VETERANS NEW ENGLAND, January 21st, 7:40 to 8:00 am

Dan Purcell told our listeners about the organization, what led to its founding two years, their mission to serve veterans, the structure they provide that veterans may be missing in civilian life, the programs and services that are designed to support veterans make the transition to civilian life, the skills veterans need to learn as they begin the next chapter in their lives and helping veterans get through the red tape that can get in the way of obtaining the support and services they need.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, January 27th, 7:15 to 8:00 am

Gardner Mayor Mike Nicholson shared his thoughts about Governor Baker's State of the Message, how his city and the state have been dealing with the Coronavirus pandemic, new grant opportunities that will help Gardner, his thoughts about the 2022 state budget and what Gardner could expect in the form of Local Aid, how poorly Massachusetts has handled the Coronavirus and lessons to be learned, locations where people can be tested and vaccinated for the Coronavirus in his city, his State of The City Message to residents and the lessons they're learning from the Coronavirus that will make Gardner a stronger city.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, January 28th, 7:10 to 7:30

Congressman Jim McGovern looked back at the events leading to the inauguration, he described the people that broke into the Capitol building and his leaving moments before they entered the House chamber, the lives that were lost, his anger at former President Trump for encouraging people to breach the Capitol, the need to end these conspiracy theories that are being promoted, their return to the House to complete the process of certifying the election results and his hope that President Biden can help to bring the nation together.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, January 28th, 8:30 to 9:00 am

State Representative Michael Kushmerek shared his thoughts about the lives we have lost in Massachusetts to the Coronavirus, the difficulty in the state getting people registered for the vaccines, what is needed to accelerate the process of getting people vaccinated, the beginning of his first two-year term on Beacon Hill, the amount of time lawmakers will be given to present the legislation they will sponsor and what he hopes to accomplish during this term.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, February 1st, 8:10 to 8:30 am

State Senator John Cronin talked about the state's handling of the Coronavirus pandemic, the improvements in the process made by the Baker administration, the need for more vaccine and the hope it symbolizes, the need for communities like Fitchburg to be a location where people can be vaccinated, the hope that a new administration in Washington will improve the distribution of the vaccines and the Legislature passing what he called landmark climate change legislation that he says will help to improve the quality of life in Massachusetts.

PUBLIC SAFETY, February 2nd, 7:40 to 8:00 am

Fitchburg Fire Chief Anthony Maramma talked to our listeners about a multiple-alarm fire in our listening area, the process of Mutual Aid where departments from neighboring communities are called in to help in battling fires, how weather conditions can affect dealing with fires, the number of lives lost

this year in Massachusetts to fires and what residents can do help firefighters during the winter months, including the clearing of air vents around their home and the clearing of fire hydrants.

PUBLIC SAFETY, February 3rd, 7:15 to 8:00 am

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau talked about the challenges faced by the bitter cold and snow, residents feeling trapped by their homes during with the Coronavirus, struggles faced by families during the holidays, the challenges in keeping his officers safe during the winter months, the opportunity for his department to be vaccinated for the Coronavirus, the loss of life during the pandemic and how the role of the Police Officer has changed so they could be focusing on law enforcement and the next moment serving as a crisis counselor.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, February 5th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

State Representative Meghan Kilcoyne talked about the district she represents, how her work with former Representative Harold Naughton prepared her for her first term, the new faces that are representing North Central Massachusetts and the challenges they'll face as freshman Representatives, their work in advocating for the people within their district, the dedication that will be needed to serve the district and what will determine whether her first term on Beacon Hill will be successful.

PRELUDE TO POLAR, February 9th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Worcester Red Sox Senior Vice President Bill Wanless updated our listeners on the construction of Polar Park which will be the home of the Worcester Red Sox when they begin their 2021 Minor League Baseball season. He talked about plans for selling tickets for their inaugural season, the new additions to Polar Park, how it will look when the work is completed and the start of a new tradition as the truck that leaves Fenway Park with its equipment to begin Spring Training in Florida will make a detour to Worcester before the journey to JetBlue Park in Fort Myers, Florida.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, February 10th, 7:15 am to 8:00 am

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale talked about the State of the City, how the city has handled the Coronavirus pandemic up to this point, the projects that are set to begin in the spring, the importance of economic development, the steps being taken to re-open Fitchburg City Hall, the work in restoring the building, the goal of making it people-focused, plans for changing the traffic patterns in the Downtown area from one-way to two-way, Governor Baker's plans to begin the process of re-opening businesses in the state and how this will help Fitchburg and the challenges of getting messages about Coronavirus vaccination to the city's elder population.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, February 11th, 7:15 to 8:00 am

State Representative Natalie Higgins told our listeners about the extension of deadlines for lawmakers to file their legislation as the new session begins, the importance of her being named to the Ways and Means Committee and the potential role she could have in working on the 2022 state budget, prospects of approving legislation dealing with climate change, how the clock is ticking on lawmakers to deal with these concerns, why the public at large is usually one or two steps ahead on these issues and whether lawmakers are starting to listen and the possible changes to come in the Massachusetts House with a new Speaker of the lawmaking body.

FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY, February 15th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Head Librarian Sharon Bernard told our listeners about how things have changed with the Coronavirus pandemic, how residents can check out books and other materials while the building is closed to residents, how residents can apply for a Library card for E-Books and other materials, how to pick up those materials, their plans for School Vacation Week and online presentations and programs for kids of all ages.

GOVERNMENT, February 16th, 7:40 to 8:00 am

Jeff Murawski, Deputy Wastewater Commissioner for Fitchburg Public Works, told our listeners about their latest sewer separation projects and the locations where the work will take place, how the work will be different as compared to other projects, the difference between wastewater and other types of water in the system, is there a concern that the cold temperatures could affect the wastewater system, their hopes of re-opening their facilities to students for tours to witness the work they're doing in the hopes of attracting young people to look at their work as a possible career choice and their plans for beginning the fourth year of their rain barrel program.

GINNY'S HELPING HAND, February 16th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Executive Director Sue Chalifoux-Zephir told our listeners about how the thrift store and food pantry first opened its doors, their mission for helping those in need, how the Coronavirus has limited their operations, their appreciation of individuals and businesses who helped them keep the food pantry operating and what is needed so they can continue their work.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, February 17th, 7:15 to 8:00 am

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazarella talked about how the city prepared for the ice storm that reached the area, the streets that are being treated and storm drains that were cleared, how utility companies were better prepared to handle the conditions, the difficulty in dealing with an ice storm, why clearing city streets is a necessity for businesses, how the Coronavirus has changed School Vacation Week for

students in Massachusetts, how Leominster made the list of communities receiving funding to help deal with the pandemic and how it will be used and updated the city's efforts to vaccinate residents.

BUSINESS, February 18th, 8:40 to 9:00 am

Diane Burnette of the North Central Mass Chamber of Commerce told our listeners about the Johnny Appleseed Visitors Center, how it has become a great resource for learning about things people need to know about North Central Mass, the products to be found, information about local businesses, events and attractions year-round, places to travel, to ski, for entertainment and what makes this area a place where a new business would want to start.

GOVERNMENT, February 19th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Tom Skwierawski, Executive Director of Planning and Community Development for the City of Fitchburg; told our listeners about the work by his department. He explained the how Planning Division approves development projects in the city, how the Economic Development Division helps small and large businesses get the technical and financial resources to enable to open in the city, and how the city obtains Community Development Block Grants and Federal Home Grants which help in the development of housing projects in the city.

GOVERNMENT, February 24th, 7:15 to 8:00 am

Gardner Mayor Mike Nicholson shared his thoughts about Governor Charlie Baker getting students back in the classrooms by April 5th, discussed the option for parents to continue remote learning if necessary in the future, how students need to be kept accountable for their actions and their school work, what does he need to see happen for students to be back in the school buildings, how parent-teacher conferences have been working, providing meals for students during school days and vacation days and their success in bringing new businesses in the city.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, February 25th, 7:10 to 7:30 am

Congressman Jim McGovern discussed his role as the Chairman of the House Rules Committee and how he has the ability to set the tone for issues that are taken up by the chamber, he shared his thoughts about the first 30 days of the Biden administration, frustration with some of his colleagues showing an unwillingness to confront the nation's problems, the lack of a national strategy for handling the Coronavirus, the struggles of Massachusetts in dealing with the pandemic and the prospects of a bi-partisan effort for a constitutional amendment to overturn the "Citizens United" decision.



POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, February 26th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

State Representative Michael Kushmerek shared his thoughts on the lifting of Coronavirus restrictions to where businesses can expand their operations and sporting venues and concert halls can re-open their doors to the public, his thoughts on the state improving its vaccination process, what the state needs to do in order to bring students back to the classrooms in April and what is needed from all of us to reduce the spread of the virus.

GARDNER EMERGENCY HOUSING MISSION, March 1st, 7:20 to 7:30 am

Comedian Jerry Caruso; and Sabrina Kublbeck, President of the Gardner Emergency Housing Mission; told our listeners about the non-profit organization that provides short-term assistance to families with children in the Gardner Public Schools, discussed factors that could lead families into homelessness, their efforts to raise funds to enable them to support people in need, the need to establish a network to help people between Gardner and Devens and to tell our listeners about a fundraiser to support families in need.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, March 1st, 8:10 to 8:30 am

State Senator John Cronin talked about the opening and expanding of businesses and other venues as Massachusetts continues to regroup from the Coronavirus, hope that a third vaccine from Johnson and Johnson can be a game-changer and keep us ahead of new strains of the virus, what the expansion and re-opening of businesses means for the state's economy, frustration of local communities needing doses of the vaccines while the state continues sending the medicine to mass vaccination sites and the importance of moving forward with the vaccination process.

THE ADRIAN L. FORD CENTER FOR CHANGE, March 1st, 8:40 TO 9:00 am

Leona Whetzel, President of Three Pyramids and the North Central Mass Minority Coalition; told our listeners about the organization, their goal of seeking economic justice for people of color within North Central Massachusetts, their plans for opening a new center named for the man who was the founder of the coalition, their goals of nurturing young people, the teaching of new skills, the progress being made in the construction of the new facility and their hopes for opening of the facility this summer. Adrian Ford hosted Freedom Means on WPKZ Radio for more than 40 years. Adrian Ford passed away in January.

PUBLIC SAFETY, March 2nd, 7:40 to 8:00 am

Fitchburg Fire Chief Anthony Maramma discussed the challenges of responding to fires which are caused in part by winds gusting up to 50 miles an hour, wind chill readings around zero, the challenges of keeping the winds from driving flames from one structure to another, the importance of Mutual Aid,

how power outages can affect their efforts to contain the flames, how the size of the street can affect their arriving at the scene of a fire and how weather conditions can lead to other challenges like brush fires.

PUBLIC SAFETY, March 3rd, 7:15 to 8:00 am

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau discussed the challenges they faced from the weather conditions that affected our listening area, the challenges they face with a new month -- a new season and the change to Daylight Time, the biggest challenges they've faced as we continue living with the Coronavirus, protecting members of the department while protecting the public, what they've learned through the process, changes his department by police reform and his pride in work done by one officer who serves as the basketball coach at a local high school.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, March 3rd, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Congresswoman Lori Trahan recalled the morning of January 6th when people stormed the US Capitol as lawmakers were certifying the results of the presidential election, how the events of that day have changed Washington DC, the increased security in fear of more complications in the days ahead, her recovery from the Coronavirus, her thoughts on the American Rescue Plan -- the \$1.9-trillion plan that is aimed at helping the nation recover from the virus and help to re-generate the nation's economy and her support for legislation that she says will protect the electoral process in these United States.

PRELUDE TO POLAR, March, 9th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Worcester Red Sox Senior Vice President Bill Wanless updated the preparations for the 2021 season, expressed his disappointment in the start of the Minor League season being delayed by Major League Baseball for one month, how the delay could help the construction of the park, the facilities that the players will have, anticipation of the players arriving to Worcester from JetBlue Park to begin their workouts, their pleasure in knowing there will be fans in the seats come May 11th and their that North Central Massachusetts will welcome the team to Worcester with open arms.

WORLD SLEEP DAY, March 16h, 8:40 to 8:50 am

Dr. Carlos Nunez talked to us about the importance of getting a good night sleep, what has kept Americans from getting that rest, how stress over the Coronavirus has been a factor, explained what is Sleep Apnea and what it does to us as we try to sleep, how this affects our breathing to the tune up to 50 times an hour and mild cognitive disfunction, how it can lead to other complications like High Blood Pressure, Type-2 Diabetes and other concerns, the testing that determines Sleep Apnea and the available options for people who are dealing with Sleep Apnea.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, March 17th, 7:15 to 8:00 am

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzeo talked to us about the frustration residents have been having in trying to get vaccinated for the Coronavirus, the establishment of a site at The Mall at Whitney Field once a week, what is fact and what is fiction about getting vaccinated in North Central Massachusetts, the challenges of getting elder residents vaccinated and his thoughts on expanding Voting By Mail in Massachusetts.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, March 24th, 7:15 to 8:00 am

Gardner Mayor Mike Nicholson updated our listeners on the numbers of people in his city who have been vaccinated for the Coronavirus, how the establishment of a vaccination center in his city has made a difference, discussed the growing numbers of residents who are now eligible to be vaccinated, the numbers of people they're vaccinating now and people they hope to reach beginning in April, plus he talked about additions to the city budget for fiscal year 2022 and updated road projects that will begin in his city.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, March 25th, 7:10 to 7:30 am

Congressman Jim McGovern talked to us about the \$1.9-trillion relief package that was approved by the Congress and signed by President Biden. He shared his thoughts on what the package contains, how it would help the US Economy, the financial assistance for citizens and businesses and he also discussed work that still needs to be done to improve the nation's infrastructure.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, March 26th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

State Representative Meghan Kilcoyne discussed the progress Massachusetts has been making in dealing with the Coronavirus, discussed the growing numbers of people who will be eligible to be vaccinated, her appreciation that both Democrats and Republicans have shown a willingness to work together to hear people's concerns and work through the pandemic, her thoughts on the state allowing more businesses to open their doors like sporting events and entertainment venues and shared her thoughts on efforts to get kids back in the classrooms beginning next month.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL, March 26th, 7:40 to 8:00 am

Todd Robbins, the voice of High School Football on WPKZ Radio; shared his thoughts about the beginning of football in the Spring of 2021, the requirements schools have had to meet in order to play, the changes within the game for this season, the cancellations of games because of the Coronavirus, how schools have bent the rules in order to play outside of their region or "pod," how some

communities have accepted the reality of playing their games on the road, and the hope that when the games are played the athletes will be safe.

THE SPORTS MUSEUM, Match 28th, 8:10 to 8:30 am

Executive Director Rusty Sullivan talked about all the things we missed during the 2020 baseball season, what it means to see April approaching, and the start of a new season with fans in the seats at Fenway Park, how the return of fans in attendance has brought new life to the businesses and neighborhoods around the sporting venues, what the arrival of Minor League Baseball means to Worcester, the storied history of baseball in Worcester which includes a National League team many years ago and the many items one can expect to see when they visit the Museum, including the original home plate from Braves Field when the Boston Braves played at Nickerson Field.

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WPKZ First Quarter Issues Report 2021, Sherman Monday Lunchbox

January 1 through March 31, 2021

The issues in this report were covered during the K-Zone Lunch Box. The program airs on Mondays from 12 noon to 1:00 pm. All interviews are 20 minutes in length unless otherwise noted, and the Monday program is hosted by Sherman Whitman.

THE US ECONOMY, January 4th, 12 noon

John Brown, Professor of Economics at Clark University; joined us for the most of the hour to talk about the various things that make up what is referred to as the US Economy. He talked about the resources that exist within the economy, the limits of those resources, how matters like supply and demand play a role, why people mistake Wall Street for being the real indicator of what makes the economy work, how small businesses or Main Street have played a role in the economy, how the Coronavirus has taken a toll on the economy, the goods and services that make this economy function and what it will take for workplaces to function. He also discussed the role of technology in the workplace, the value of in-person interaction and what have people learned about themselves. He also stressed that while the economy is facing challenges it has never seen, it has shown flexibility and a room to grow.

FINDING COMMON GROUND, January 11th, 12 noon

Wil Darcangelo, Pastor of the First Parish Church in Fitchburg; joined us to discuss ways of finding things in common with people we disagree with politically, spiritually and socially. He talked about why it has become hard for people to reach out to one another, his thoughts about people who stormed the US Capitol on January 3rd, why it is difficult for people to admit if and when they're wrong, the defense

mechanisms that keep us from listening to one another, and whether we can have conversations where people can talk to one another and listen to one another.

#### INAUGURATION DAY, January 18th, 12 noon

Robert Boatright, Professor of Political Science at Clark University; looked ahead to the beginning of the administration of President Joe Biden. He looked back at the results of the elections, his surprise that there are millions who insist that results were not legitimate, the inability or unwillingness of Republicans to recognize the American people have spoken, wondered aloud what direction the party will take, whether they want to become a coalition that wants to govern or simply oppose every bit of legislation that comes along. He also wondered how Democrats lost seats in the House while gaining the majority in the Senate and while President Biden may have the ability to work with Republicans, how can and how will he lead a nation that is a house divided.

#### "COMING BACK," January 18th, 12:30 pm

Fawn Germer says her book discusses surviving in the workplace during the Coronavirus pandemic. She shared her thoughts on how people can stay relevant and valuable on the job, how learning new skills can help, why employers don't look at your experience or "track record" as an asset, the reasons older or "experienced" employees are let go, how to re-brand yourself as a "change driver" and tell a potential employer what you will do when that new opportunity comes along.

#### FITCHBURG HISTORY, January 25th, 12 noon

Susan Navarre, Executive Director of the Fitchburg Historical Society, told our listeners about how they began after the days of the Civil War and the need for people record the moments from those days. She also talked about contributions of John Fitch and George Wallace in the city we call Fitchburg, the city's reputation for manufacturing during the 19th century, the importance of learning the history and the uniqueness of our communities, and important moments in the city's history...including President John Kennedy's visit to the city in 1961, and when this station first went on the air as WEIM in October of 1941.

#### DOLLARS AND CENTS -- DOLLARS AND SENSE, January 25th 12:30 pm

Christina Lashua of Edward Jones in Leominster talked to our listeners about our savings, how to save money, why it's difficult for people to save their hard-earned dollars, ways of saving money through a retirement plan at work, or developing a savings plan, the differences between plans like the 401K and the Roth IRA, the process of investing, the goal of your financial plan, your toleration of risk in coming up with the plan, how your age will affect your type of plan, the amount of time before your retirement and the importance of asking questions and stating that plan.

#### CORONAVIRUS IN MASSACHUSETTS: AN UPDATE, February 1st, 12 noon

Dr. Katherine Gergen Barnett of Boston Medical Center talked to us about the number of locations where people can be tested and vaccinated for the Coronavirus, she discussed the vaccines that are available, how her body reacted to the vaccines and whether there were any side effects, her pleasure with the new developments, disappointment over the growing number of variants of the virus, the number of people who are testing positive, the growing numbers of people who are dying from Coronavirus, how those who have been vaccinated could still test positive for the virus and whether there may be a need for people to re-vaccinated in the future.

#### "BIOHACK YOUR BRAIN," February 1st, 12:30 pm

Dr. Kristen Willemuir says her book is about how to nourish, revitalize and rejuvenate your brain. She called our brain the most essential organ in our bodies, discussed how changes in our lifestyles can improve our cognitive performance, how we can better take care our brain, lose excess weight, learn techniques that prevent memory loss and neurodegenerative disorders like Alzheimer's disease—and even how to overcome negative thoughts and stress.

#### REMEMBERING ADRIAN FORD, February 8th, 12 noon

Leona Whetzel, Yolanda Lewis and Barbara Nealon of Three Pyramids and the North Central Mass Minority Coalition joined us to remember Adrian Ford who passed away in January. They shared memories of his arriving in Massachusetts in the 1970's, his work as a civil rights and human rights advocate, his efforts to improve the quality of life for all people in the region, they discussed organizations he founded, how he built relationships with people, his work as host of the award-winning Freedom Means program which aired on this radio station for more than 40 years, how he should be remembered and how to enable his contributions to live on in the years to come.

#### "THE PRICE YOU PAY FOR COLLEGE," February 8th, 12:30 pm

Ron Lieber, the "Your Money" columnist for The New York Times; discusses how families can begin the process of paying for the college education of their children. He talked about the confusion and emotion about the cost of college, how it has changed over the years, whether to look at a private or state-run college, learning how the financial aid system works and how it varies from one school to another, how schools set prices on their programs and what if your family has more than one child at college in their future.

#### REMEMBERING JACKIE ROBINSON, February 15th, 12 noon

For this program we looked back at the man who broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball. We aired a conversation with his wife Rachel Isum Robinson, the author of "Jackie Robinson: An Intimate Portrait." She discussed why it was important to share her story about Jack as Major League Baseball was preparing to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his playing with the Brooklyn Dodgers. She told us what attracted her to this man, she talked about his confidence and his spirit, his athletic accomplishments at UCLA, how his fight for respect led to his discharge from the military, his move from the Negro League to the Majors and conversations with Branch Rickey, the challenges of playing at Minor League ballparks in the South, struggles when he arrived in the Majors and the doors he opened for other players.

"WHAT, AND GIVE UP SHOWBIZ?" February 15th, 12:30 pm

Sue Auclair remembered Fred Taylor and the book that talks about his life as a music promoter in Boston for nearly 60 years. She shared stories about how Fred first began as a musician, but then found success promoting others, described Boston's music scene when she arrived in Massachusetts back in the 1970's, how Copley Square changed with the opening of clubs like Paul's Mall and The Jazz Workshop, how they attracted entertainers from Miles Davis and Dave Brubeck to Billy Joel and Bruce Springsteen to Rodney Dangerfield and George Carlin and why they would come back to work with Fred.

PRESIDENT BIDEN: THE FIRST 30 DAYS, February 22nd, 12 noon

Robert Boatright, Professor of Political Science at Clark University; returned to our airwaves to look back at the first 30 days in office for President Joe Biden. He noted the differences in his work as compared to former President Donald Trump, the challenges his administration is facing as he began his term in office, the potential opportunities presented, the executive orders that called for changing policies of his predecessor, the inability of Congress to work with one another to resolve issues, why it seems to be more important for elected officials to win re-election than to serve their constituents and prospects for pieces of legislation being approved, including President Biden's stimulus plan.

"A RENDEZVOUS TO REMEMBER," February 22nd, 12:30 pm

Ann Garretson Marshall and Terry Marshall shared their stories about life in the 1960's. The challenges the nation was facing like civil rights and Vietnam, their lives as friends and the story of a soldier who competed with Terry for Ann's love. They talked about Terry's working at a newspaper, and then joining the Peace Corps, Ann's travels to Europe to be with a Lieutenant Jack Sigg who was serving on the German-Czech border, the how the world changing at that time, its potential impact in the choices they made, and then learning that Lieutenant Sigg was killed in Vietnam shortly after they married.

SPRING TRAINING, March 1st, 12 noon

As WPKZ began its coverage of Red Sox Baseball, Brian Blackwell, former President of the Fort Myers, Florida Chamber of Commerce; expressed his pleasure with the beginning of the 2021 season. He talked

about the struggles businesses were facing in Florida as a result of the Coronavirus, whether elected officials could have done more, how the return of baseball and its fans have meant for the local economy, their fortune in their community hosting two Major League teams, other sports that would attract visitors, how some people have relocated to Florida either permanently or just during Spring Training and his message to those who would consider visiting Fort Myers for Spring Training in 2022.

#### RETAILERS AND THE CORONAVIRUS, March 1st, 12:30 pm

Jon Hurst, President of the Retailers Association of Massachusetts; talked about the beginning of a new month and the lifting of restrictions that will allow retailers to re-open their doors. He expressed his pleasure with the fact that the conversation has changed from the glass being "half-empty" to "half-full," that there has become more of a "can-do" attitude with retailers, how consumers have been changing their buying habits, how people being vaccinated is making more people willing to go shopping, how retailers are excited about two baseball opening days in Massachusetts this spring, the hope that with every passing week more people will attend Red Sox games in Boston and Worcester, his witnessing construction of businesses and the importance of people supporting their local businesses as if their lives depended on them because they do.

#### MARCH MADNESS AND THE CORONAVIRUS, March 15th, 12 noon

Andy Challenger, Vice President of Challenger Gray and Christmas; told our listeners about the job placement firm, struggles faced by companies and their employees during the Coronavirus pandemic, how some sectors have survived, the opportunities that have been found during the pandemic, how they have helped to counsel employers and potential employees during this time, and he discussed their studies on how the cancellation of the tournament has affected businesses in 2020 and how businesses have welcomed the event back with open arms.

#### WORCESTER'S BASEBALL HISTORY, March 15h, 12:30 pm

Bill Ballou, Sportswriter for the Worcester Telegram and Gazette; talked the history of Baseball in Worcester. He discussed Worcester's presence as a professional team in the National League, the first perfect game that was thrown in baseball, The College of the Holy Cross as a powerhouse in college baseball, the story of Native American Louis Sockalexis who would play in Cleveland and how his presence may have lead Cleveland to change the name of their team from the "Spiders" to the "Indians," preparations for the inaugural season of the Worcester Red Sox at Polar Park and what it means for Central Massachusetts to have professional baseball.

#### CORONAVIRUS: AN UPDATE, March 22nd 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; joined us for the hour to update our listeners about what is being done to combat the Coronavirus in Massachusetts. She



talked about the types of vaccines that are available and the doses needed, the state's efforts to make sure people are being vaccinated, the process of the state re-opening for business and whether things were opening too quickly, the chances of testing positive for the virus after you have been vaccinated, the lack of a flu season in part because of the virus, and whether the next flu season could be much tougher, whether there could be another surge of cases in Massachusetts, the importance of staying the course (washing hands, wearing a mask, social distancing) and the day when this becomes a distant memory.

LISA WONG, March 29th, 12 noon

A conversation with the former Mayor of Fitchburg on a number of subjects...including the city's recovery from the ice storm in December of 2010, her thoughts on Fitchburg's development since her days as Mayor, her role as the Town Manager in Winchester, how being a Mayor prepared for her current role, the similarities and differences between serving as a Mayor and Manager, the coalition or coalitions you need to build to become an effective manager, and how she as an Asian-American was affected by the killings of six Asian American women in Atlanta, Georgia.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### GINNY'S HELPING HANDS

Ginny's Helping Hands and Food Pantry, located at 92 Mechanic Street in Leominster; continues to operate its food pantry during these hours. The hours are Tuesday through Saturday between the hours of 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. To learn more about the food pantry call 978-537-1387. (still in rotation)

##### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

2-1-1 is the number to call if you have questions or concerns about the Coronavirus outbreak in Massachusetts. Call this number for information about essential community services, where to find a food bank, government services and operators are there 24 hours a day to take your call. The number to call is 2-1-1  
(still in rotation)

##### COMMUNITY LEGAL AID OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN MASS

Community Legal Aid of Central and Western Mass provides free civil legal services to low-income and elder residents. They can help if you're dealing with matters related to COVID-19, government benefits, family and other concerns. They're located at 515 Main Street in Fitchburg, and their telephone number is 508-752-3218.  
(ended February 28th)

#### FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Fitchburg Public Library invites you to a virtual event. Healthy Eating is the first of three part series on Diabetes education. The first event is Wednesday January 20th at 7:00 pm. You can attend any or all three sessions, and this is free program. To find out more call the library at 978-829-1780. (ended January 19th)

#### COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

People ages 60 and older and certain categories of adult workers in Massachusetts are now eligible for a free COVID-19 vaccine. If you're among those awaiting your turn, you can pre-register at Mass-dot-gov. You can also dial 2-1-1 in Massachusetts for more information. Operators are there to take your call 24/7 in 13 different languages. That number to call again is 2-1-1. (began March 22nd, was still in rotation)

#### LEOMINSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Leominster United Methodist Church, located at 77 Main Street in Leominster; is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 3rd from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, and its free and open for kids up to the age of 12. in case of rain the event will be held on Sunday, April 4th. To register for the event, log on to [www.leominsterhuc.org](http://www.leominsterhuc.org). (began March 22nd, was still in rotation)