

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

This station teamed with payaway.org in August and September to solicit teachers from the listening area to submit how they would spend \$1,000 for their class in the 2023 school year to enhance and enrich the learning experience. Teachers emailed their wish lists and The Wolf Wake-up Crew read submissions through the week. Payaway selected weekly recipients from the submissions over 4 weeks (week of 9/4 – 9/29) and donated \$1000 per teacher. This was a new program for both The Wolf and Payaway and made a huge impact on area teachers at a time when school budgets and programs are being cut.

This station ran a campaign of announcements to promote and support the Dempsey Challenge throughout the third quarter. The Dempsey Challenge, in its 15th year, is a running/bicycling event held in Lewiston and surrounding towns, in which participants raise money to support the Dempsey Center, which provides much needed services for cancer patients and their families at no cost to the patient. This year's event raised a total of \$1,780,848. This station also supported the event with a two-hour live broadcast on September 23 from the event finish line.

The following topics/issues were addressed via the weekly “Community Connections” program in the third quarter of 2023.

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

Show: Community Connections

Airdate 7/2/2023

Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jenn McAdoo, Executive Director, Furniture Friends

Topic: We discuss the work of Furniture Friends, who helps financially disadvantaged people furnish their living spaces with furniture. Many of the organization's beneficiaries are folks with intellectual disabilities, people escaping domestic violence situations, people coming out of homelessness, and persons seeking asylum in the United States. We discuss how to look

for help, and the strong need for volunteers to continue the mission. We also discuss how individuals, businesses and institutions can donate furniture.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 7/9/2023 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Ashley Barker, Executive Director, The Progress Center

Topic: The Progress Center has been serving members of the community with intellectual and emotional disabilities in the greater Oxford County area and beyond since 1980. We discuss some of the programs the center offers, some of the challenges of staffing and finding volunteers for certain programs, and a number of residential options for citizens who qualify.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 7/16/2023 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jean Sideris, Executive Director, Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Topic: We discuss the work of Bicycle Coalition of Maine, an organization that promotes bicycling via educational programs, advocacy and through special community events. We discuss how the organization brings community members together to advocate for safer bicycle infrastructure, and how infrastructure has improved in recent years. We also discuss programs that help people of all ages learn to ride bicycles, especially in an urban commuting setting, and resources for acquiring equipment at low cost.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 7/23/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jenn McAdoo, Executive Director, Furniture Friends

Topic: We discuss the work of Furniture Friends, who helps financially disadvantaged people furnish their living spaces with furniture. Many of the organization's beneficiaries are folks with intellectual disabilities, people escaping domestic violence situations, people coming out of homelessness, and persons seeking asylum in the United States. We discuss how to look for help, and the strong need for volunteers to continue the mission. We also discuss how individuals, businesses and institutions can donate furniture.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 7/30/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Tom Judge, Executive Director, Life Flight of Maine

Topic: We get to know the inner workings of Maine's medical flight organization, Life Flight of Maine. We discuss basic operations, how operations are funded, how Life Flight has adapted in the COVID years, and how landowners play a key role in Life Flight response ability in some of Maine's most rural sections.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 8/7/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Ashley Barker, Executive Director, The Progress Center

Topic: The Progress Center has been serving members of the community with intellectual and emotional disabilities in the greater Oxford County area and beyond since 1980. We discuss some of the programs the center offers, some of the challenges of staffing and finding volunteers for certain programs, and a number of residential options for citizens who qualify.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 8/14/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jean Sideris, Executive Director, Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Topic: We discuss the work of Bicycle Coalition of Maine, an organization that promotes bicycling via educational programs, advocacy and through special community events. We discuss how the organization brings community members together to advocate for safer bicycle infrastructure, and how infrastructure has improved in recent years. We also discuss programs that help people of all ages learn to ride bicycles, especially in an urban commuting setting, and resources for acquiring equipment at low cost.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 8/21/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jenn McAdoo, Executive Director, Furniture Friends

Topic: We discuss the work of Furniture Friends, who helps financially disadvantaged people furnish their living spaces with furniture. Many of the organization's beneficiaries are folks with intellectual disabilities, people escaping domestic violence situations, people coming out of homelessness, and persons seeking asylum in the United States. We discuss how to look for help, and the strong need for volunteers to continue the mission. We also discuss how individuals, businesses and institutions can donate furniture.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 8/28/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Ashley Barker, Executive Director, The Progress Center

Topic: The Progress Center has been serving members of the community with intellectual and emotional disabilities in the greater Oxford County area and beyond since 1980. We discuss some of the programs the center offers, some of the challenges of staffing and finding volunteers for certain programs, and a number of residential options for citizens who qualify.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 9/3/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Whitney Wildes, Alex Woodhouse, STRIVE

Topic: We discuss the work of STRIVE based in South Portland, an organization that supports Maine citizens with developmental and emotional disabilities through after-school programs, structures social gatherings, online learning and life skills education. We also mention some upcoming fundraising opportunities including the annual “Kevin on the Roof” event, the annual auction, and the annual Strive for 5 5K.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 9/10/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Whitney Wildes, Alex Woodhouse, STRIVE

Topic: We discuss the work of STRIVE based in South Portland, an organization that supports Maine citizens with developmental and emotional disabilities through after-school programs, structures social gatherings, online learning and life skills education. We also mention some upcoming fundraising opportunities including the annual “Kevin on the Roof” event, the annual auction, and the annual Strive for 5 5K.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 9/17/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jennifer Costa, American Red Cross

Topic: Our guest discusses the recently-declared national blood emergency, the Red Cross’ first such declaration in 18 months. Weather events across the nation disrupted regular blood drive events at a time when regular blood donation usually resumes after a summer lull. We also discuss a multi-million dollar improvement project to modernize their Blood Donor Center in Portland, as well as the Red Cross’ disaster response efforts, locally and nationally.

Show: Community Connections Airdate 9/24/23 Airtime: 5:30 am

Guest(s): Jaime Parker, Portland Trails

Topic: We explored the work of Portland Trails, who maintains an 80-mile trail network in Portland and the Greater Portland area. These trails exist on easements, granted land and some land owned by the Portland Trails land trust. We discuss the importance of the trails not only for recreational purposes but also as part of a larger transportation network for the Portland area.

Respectfully submitted,

Leif Erickson
Chief Operator