

The Public's Radio-Issues and Programs Lists

Q1: Jan. 1-Mar. 31, 2023

Here follows a listing of some of the significant issues responded to by The Public's Radio in Providence, Rhode Island, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of 01/01/23 thru 03/31/23. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

1. Environment: January 23, 2023

Legal battle mounts over public access issues at Rhode Island barrier beach: The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council Rights-of-way Subcommittee will meet Tuesday about a contested path to the shore in Westerly that's become emblematic of the debate over shoreline access in the Ocean State. If designated public, the path would open a long-closed gateway to one of the most inaccessible, undeveloped beaches in the state. Alex Nunes reports.

Length: 6:56

2. Politics: January 24, 2023

The enduring challenge of closing New Bedford's 135-year-old jail: Less than a month into his first term, Bristol County Sheriff Paul Heroux announced his intention to close the Ash Street Jail. It's one of the oldest carceral facilities in America, but the project of closing it has proven to be more difficult than expected. Ben Berke reports.

Length: 6:01

3. Health: February 2, 2023

Homeless Rhode Islanders facing frigid cold with shortage of shelter beds: With temperatures expected to drop below zero this weekend, people who are homeless and living outside are at risk of frostbite and even death. Health Reporter Lynn Arditì talked with Eric Hirsch, a Providence College sociology professor who co-chairs the state's Homeless Management Information System Steering Committee.

Length: 6:28

4. Politics: February 3, 2023

Political Roundtable: Rhode Island Attorney General Peter Neronha joins The Public's Radio host Ian Donniss this week on Political Roundtable. They're discussing police violence, the local health care landscape, a new proposal to restrict guns in the state and the threat posed by opioid addiction and other issues.

Length: 14:00

5. Culture: February 3, 2023

The Weekly Catch: It's been a mild winter in Rhode Island, up until this weekend. We'll talk about how our region is preparing for the extreme cold. Also, it's Black History Month and we'll hear from a psychologist about how the field has damaged the Black and Indigenous communities. Then, we'll share highlights of this week's Political Roundtable with Rhode Island Attorney General Peter Neronha, as well as a conversation with the new president of RISD. And just how noisy is Providence? All that and more on The Weekly Catch, hosted by Luis Hernandez.

Length: 27:15

6. Arts and Culture-February 9, 2023

Musician Jake Blount's Afrofuturist vision of a post-climate change world: The Providence local imagines what traditional Black American folk music will sound like in a world where rising seas, desertification and natural disasters have rendered much of the world uninhabitable. James Baumgartner and Luis Hernandez report on his work in our weekly Artscape program on The Public's Radio.

Length : 12:00

7. Arts and Culture-February 23, 2023

Oral history project shares the stories of Latino communities in Rhode Island:

Nuestras Raíces, meaning "our roots," has been documenting the stories of the state's many Latino populations since 1991. Luis Hernandez reports in this edition of Artscape, our weekly arts and culture program.

Length: 7:46

8. Health: March 2, 2023

Why was Mack Blackie held for 31 days for someone else's crime?

Civil rights advocates are calling for an investigation into how Woonsocket police wound up arresting and incarcerating a 35-year-old homeless Liberian immigrant for another man's crime. The Public's Radio health reporter Lynn Arditi has the story.

Length: 4:26

9. Business and the Economy: March 6, 2023

A historically Black union looks for a way into the burgeoning offshore wind

industry: Ships carrying turbines for the nation's first major offshore wind farm are scheduled to arrive in New Bedford this spring, where a shrinking longshoremen's union is hoping to rebuild itself unloading a new type of cargo. Our South Coast Bureau reporter Ben Berke reports.

Length: 6:15

10. Politics: March 7, 2023

Chariho School Committee seat hangs in the balance as contested appointment

advances conservative agenda: The Rhode Island Supreme Court is expected to hear arguments soon in a case that could influence the direction of the Chariho Regional School District. At issue is the contested appointment of a far right activist to the school committee that underscores the continued influence of conservative politics in some school districts. Alex Nunes reports.

Length: 8:05

11. Arts and Culture-March 16, 2023

Afghan refugees bring their handicrafts to New Bedford Library: If you go up to the third floor of the New Bedford free library this month, you'll find a display of handmade dresses, pillows, wall hangings, necklaces and more in a glass display case. It's all part of the Afghan Women's Art Project, a collaborative effort to support newly arrived refugees from Afghanistan. Artscape producer James Baumgartner spoke with the organizers of the exhibit.

Length: 4:00