

HERE ARE A FEW OF THE MAJOR ISSUES FROM THIS PAST 4th QUARTER 2023

MAJOR THEMES FROM THE 4TH QUARTER OF 2023 INCLUDE THE FALLOUT FROM GOVERNOR SARAH HUCKABEE-SANDERS'S PURCHASE OF AN EXPENSIVE LECTURN USING STATE TAX MONEY, AND HER SUBSEQUENT ATTEMPT TO CHANGE THE STATE FOIA LAW. 2 MAJOR ISSUES HAPPENEING AT THE SAME TIME THAT CAUSED A LOT OF DISCUSSION AND DEBATE IN THE STATE.

OTHER LITIGATION AND RULINGS THAT CAME DOWN THROUGHOUT THE QUARTER INCLUDED AN OPIOID SETTLEMENT, THE FARM BILL, AND A REVISING OF THE LEARNS ACT.

ARKANSAS TOURISM WAS ALSO FEATURED DURING THE QUARTER. THE PLAN FOR A SET OF BIKE AND WALKING TRAILS TO CONNECT ALL OF THE CITIES IN CENTRAL ARKANSAS, AS WELL AS HOW THE STATE IS PLANNING FOR THE ECLIPSE OF APRIL 2024 AND THE RUSH OF TOURISTS WHO WILL FLOOD THE STATE THAT WEEKEND.

Arkansas Week
4th QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT
OCTOBER 1, 2023 – DECEMBER 31, 2023

Date	Time	Show #	Topic
10/07/2023	26:57	Season: 41 Episode: 36	A first-of-its-kind facility for the state now offers cancer patients: Proton Center of Arkansas. We spoke with Dr. Zhong Su, Director of Physics, Informatics, and Engineering and Dr. Sanjay Maraboyina, a Radiation Oncologist. And, a new report provides recommendations for how the state can improve its foster care system. We're joined by Mischa Martin of DHS, Tiffany Wright of DHS and Derek Brown
10/14/2023	25:55	S: 41 E: 37	Steve Barnes host a journalist roundtable discussion on the issues of the week - audit investigation into the purchase of Governor Sander's lectern, proposal for FOIA amendment, 427,000 people cut from Medicaid, and the LEARNS Act ruling reversed.
10/21/2023	27:10	S: 41 E: 38	Opioid addiction. Guests: State Drug Director Tom Fisher; Jason Vangoor, Acting Special Agent in charge of the FBI in Arkansas; Jared Harper, Assistant Special Agent in charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration in Arkansas; Staci James, Executive Director of the Hope Movement Coalition; former drug abuser, Jimmy McGill; Dr. Buster Lackey, NLRPD; Dr. Srinivasa Gokarakonda, psychiatry - UAMS
10/28/2023	26:40	S: 41 E: 39	We talk about the increase in tourism, a plan for Little Rock's downtown area, and bike and walking trails connecting Central Arkansas cities. To talk about what our state has to offer are Katie Beck, CEO for the Arkansas Hospitality Association; Casey Covington, Executive Director for Metroplan; and Gabe Holmstrom, Executive Director for Downtown Little Rock Partnership.
11/03/2023	25:54	S: 41 E: 40	Arkansas's economic outlook with Dr. Jeremy Horpedahl of UCA's Center for Economic Research. Then, the economy as it relates to agriculture with state agriculture Secretary Wes Ward. Finally, an early assessment of the farm bill with Harrison Pittman of the University of Arkansas's Cooperative Extension Service. He is the director of the National Agricultural Law Center.
11/11/2023	27:06	S: 41 E: 41	This episode addresses veteran benefits, including those in the PACT Act and the COMPACT Act. Guests include Dr. Robert King – Associate Chief of Staff, Primary Care, Central Arkansas Veterans Health Systems (CAVHS); Laura Watlington, LCSW - Suicide Prevention Program Manager, CAVHS; and Crystal Pearson, BSN, RN - Special Operations, Public Health & Safety Clinic (SOPHS), CAVHS.
11/18/2023	26:38	S: 41 E: 42	We're joined by Rep. French Hill, who recently traveled with other members of Congress to both the Mideast and Ukraine; and who voted with the House majority for the Speaker's compromise budget proposal. Then, the tickets closed for partisan primaries as well as judicial seats. We get some thoughts on the outlook from Michael Cook on the Democratic side, Bill Vickery from the Republican.
11/25/2023	25:40	S: 41 E: 43	A new report from the USDA finds Arkansas ranks worst in the nation for food insecurity. To talk about this: Arkansas Foodbank CEO Brian Burton, Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families Executive Director Keesa Smith, and Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance Development Director Jennifer Owens Buie. Then, a discussion on opioids and children with Dr. Rick Barr of Arkansas Children's Hospital.
12/02/2023	25:40	S: 41 E: 43	No new episode recorded. Re-air of 11/25/23 show.
12/09/2023	27:36	S: 41 E: 44	AG Tim Griffin talks opioid settlement, FOIA, and ballot initiatives. Then, "Good Roots" focuses on farmer mental health.
12/16/2023	27:51	S: 41 E: 45	Senator Boozman discusses foreign affairs, the Farm Bill, the Appropriations Bill and veterans.
12/23/2023	27:51	S: 41 E: 45	No new episode recorded. Re-air of 12/16/2023 show.
12/30/2023	27:51	S: 41 E: 45	No new episode recorded. Re-air of 12/16/2023 show.

WAMC National Productions
4th QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT
October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023
Contact: Tina Renick trenick@wamc.org
The Media Project

DATE	TIME	SHOW #	TOPIC
10/1/2023	30:00	1687	With former Times Union Associate Editor Mike Spain, Rosemary Armao, Investigative Journalist and Adjunct Professor at the University at Albany, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association, and Daily Freeman Publisher Emeritus Ira Fusfeld. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Rosemary, Judy and Ira talk about whether this week's Republican debate was worth media coverage, Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce, how local newspapers balance critical coverage of the community with boosterism, and much more.
10/8/2023	30:00	1688	With former Times Union Associate Editor Mike Spain, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association, Barbara Lombardo, former Editor of the Saratogian and Adjunct Professor at the University at Albany, and WAMC News Director Ian Pickus. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy, Barbara and Ira talk about using a kidnapping victims name and photo, trying to take stories out of circulation when news changes them, and much more.
10/15/2023	30:00	1689	With former Times Union Associate Editor Mike Spain, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association, Daily Freeman Publisher Emeritus Ira Fusfeld and WAMC News Director Ian Pickus. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy, Ira and Ian talk about what it's like to be a reporter covering a war, whether the social media platform Threads will replace X as a source for breaking news, and much more.
10/22/2023	30:00	1690	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association, Barbara Lombardo, former Editor of the Saratogian and Adjunct Professor at the University at Albany, and WAMC News Director Ian Pickus. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy, Barbara and Ian talk about the power of puzzles and games for the media, a local media company in a controversy over transphobic remarks, sports coverage and what's on or off the record in the locker room, and much more.
10/29/2023	30:00	1691	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association, Barbara Lombardo, former Editor of the Saratogian and Adjunct Professor at the University at Albany, and Daily Freeman Publisher Emeritus Ira Fusfeld. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy, Barbara and Ira talk about the misinformation coming out of the Israel, Hamas war, the importance of local coverage of the mass shooting in Maine, media consumption a trust both being down, and much more.
11/5/2023	30:00	1692	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Barbara Lombardo, former Editor of the Saratogian and Adjunct Professor at the University at Albany, and WAMC News Director Ian Pickus. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Barbara and Ian talk about journalists arrested for telling the truth, covering a politician on a book tour, the financial challenge facing local media, and much more.
11/12/2023	30:00	1693	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Barbara Lombardo, former Editor of the Saratogian and Adjunct Professor at the University at Albany, and WAMC News Director Ian Pickus. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy Ian and Ira talk about journalists refusing to reveal a source, whether to televise court trials, New York's "toothless" Freedom of Information Law (FOIL), and much more.
11/19/2023	30:00	1694	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association, WAMC News Director Ian Pickus, and Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Anna Wolfe from Mississippi Today. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy, Ian and Anna talk about covering poverty and how a young reporter can go about investigating the most powerful people in her state, coverage that looks at the stakes not the odds of the presidential race, and much more.
11/26/2023	30:00	1695	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association, Barbara Lombardo, former Editor of the Saratogian and Adjunct Professor at the University, and Daily Freeman Publisher Emeritus Ira Fusfeld On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy, Barbara and Ira talk about an NFL sideline reporter who says she made up some of her reports, how much google and meta may owe publishers, whether two newspapers a week are really dying, and much more.
12/3/2023	30:00	1696	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association, WAMC News Director Ian Pickus, and former Times Union Associate Editor Mike Spain. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy, Ian and Mike talk about fake AI generated content in Sports Illustrated, whether the main stream media is helping Donald Trump and his Republican allies, a reporter who was charged with a crime for asking too many questions, and much more.
12/10/2023	30:00	1697	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Barbara Lombardo, former Editor of the Saratogian and Adjunct Professor at the University, Daily Freeman Publisher Emeritus Ira Fusfeld, and WAMC News Director Ian Pickus. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Barbara, Ian and Ira talk about covering Donald Trump's run for a second term, Time magazine's person of the year, and much more.
12/17/2023	30:00	1698	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association. Barbara Lombardo, former Editor of the Saratogian and Adjunct Professor at the University, and former Times Union Associate Editor Mike Spain. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy Barbara, and Mike talk about whether a meteorologist is a journalist responsible for reporting on climate change, a U.S. Senator threatens public broadcasting, Tucker Carlson's new network, and much more.
12/24/2023	30:00	1699	With former Times Union Editor, current Upstate American, Substack columnist Rex Smith, Judy Patrick, former Editor of the Daily Gazette and Vice President for Editorial Development for the New York Press Association. Barbara Lombardo, former Editor of the Saratogian and Adjunct Professor at the University, and Daily Freeman Publisher Emeritus Ira Fusfeld. On this week's Media Project, Rex, Judy, Barbara, and Ira talk about how the media has changed dramatically in the last 30 years, some of the key stories in 2023, and much more.

WAMC National Productions
4th QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT
October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023
Contact: Tina Renick trenick@wamc.org
The Book Show

DATE	TIME	SHOW #	TOPIC
10/3/2023	30:00	1825	John Irving has written some of the most acclaimed books of our time, among them: "The World According to Garp," "A Widow for One Year," "A Prayer for Owen Meany" and "The Cider House Rules." He now returns with his first novel in seven years "The Last Chairlift."
10/10/2023	30:00	1826	The Times calls Booker Prize winning writer Anne Enright one of our greatest living novelists. Her latest, "The Wren, The Wren" is about a dead poet's daughter and granddaughter coming to terms with his troubling legacy. Enright's novel about language and connection explores the inheritance of trauma, wonder, and love across three generations of women.
10/17/2023	30:00	1827	George Saunders is an American great, a writer who continues to astound, evolve and get deeper. His new book, "Liberation Day," is his first collection of stories since his National Book Award finalist "Tenth of December" was published eight years ago.
10/24/2023	30:00	1828	Nathan Hill's new novel "Wellness" is a poignant and witty novel about marriage, the often-baffling pursuit of health and happiness, and the stories that bind us together. The book brings us from the gritty '90s Chicago art scene to a suburbia of detox diets and home-renovation hysteria.
10/31/2023	30:00	1829	Joe Nesbø is an internationally best-selling author best known for his mystery series featuring his protagonist, Harry Hole. His latest is a twisted, multi-layered, mind-bending spin on the classic horror novel, "The Night House." By page 8 – a phone has eaten a guy and things get stranger along the way.
11/7/2023	30:00	1830	Ayana Mathis's new novel, "The Unsettled," is set in the 1980s and follows three generations of a family divided by a painful past. Ava lives in racially and politically turbulent Philadelphia, struggling to care for her son, Toussaint. Her mother, Dutchess, remains in her historically Black hometown of Bonaparte, Alabama, fighting to save her land.
11/14/2023	30:00	1831	Jonathan Lethem is the bestselling author of twelve novels, including "The Fortress of Solitude" and "Motherless Brooklyn," and winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award. His newest is "Brooklyn Crime Novel," a sweeping story of community, crime, and gentrification, tracing more than fifty years of life in one Brooklyn neighborhood.
11/21/2023	30:00	1832	Jane Smiley is the author of numerous novels including "A Thousand Acres," which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize, and the "Last Hundred Years Trilogy." Her latest, "A Dangerous Business," tells the remarkable story of the California gold rush and a pair of sex-worker sleuths who track down the culprit behind a series of disappearances.
11/28/2023	30:00	1833	National Book Award-winning author Alice McDermott's latest, "Absolution," is the riveting account of women's lives on the margins of the Vietnam War. American women and wives have been mostly minor characters in the literature of the Vietnam War, but in "Absolution" they take center stage.
12/5/2023	30:00	1834	"Elegy plus comedy is the only way to express how we live in the world today," says a character in "The Vulnerables," the ninth novel by National Book Award winner Sigrid Nunez. "The Vulnerables" offers a meditation on our contemporary era, asking how present reality affects the way a person looks back on their past.
12/12/2023	30:00	1835	CNN anchor and chief Washington correspondent and New York Times best-selling author Jake Tapper's third thriller, "All the Demons Are Here," brings readers to the 1970s underground world of cults, celebrities, tabloid journalism, serial killers, disco, and UFOs.
12/19/2023	30:00	1836	"Day" is the first novel in a decade from Pulitzer Prize winner Michael Cunningham. It's a family saga set in New York City before and during the COVID-19 pandemic and takes place on three separate days in April, one each in the years 2019-2021.
12/26/2023	30:00	1837	Bestselling author Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah is the author of the debut novel, "Chain-Gang All-Stars," the story of two top women gladiators fighting for their freedom within a depraved private prison system.