

*Issues Programs List
WECI 91.5 Radio Station
April 1- June 30, 2023
Placed in Public File July 7, 2023*

Section I: Issues

WECI has identified the following issues as significant and relevant to the local communities and listening audience:

COVID-19 Pandemic/Public Health

Climate/Environmental Issues

Economics

Education

Politics

Social Justice

Ukrainian War

Section II: Responsive Programming

COVID-19 Pandemic/Public Health

Thursday, June 15th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 28 minutes

Democracy Now! Sudan's Healthcare on Brink Amid Fighting & Targeted Attacks on Medical Workers, Hospitals Worldwide

Fighting between rival military factions in Sudan targeting medical facilities has left the country's healthcare system on the verge of collapse. With a limited amount of power, water and medical supplies, and doctors fleeing the country for safety, less than a third of hospitals in the country's conflict zones remain open. Calling this situation a calamity, Dr. Khidir Dalouk, advocacy director of the Sudanese American Physicians Association, joins the show to share the perspective of healthcare workers in the country. "We, as physicians, have sworn an oath to treat and take care of civilians and military, whether it's in peace or it's in war."

May, 6th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

Faster Cures and The Future of Health with Michael Milken

Michael Milken Co Founder, The Milken Family Foundation; Chairman, The Milken Institute; Author, Faster Cures: Accelerating the Future of Health. In Conversation with Lanhee Chen David and Diane Steffy Fellow in American Public Policy Studies, Hoover Institution.

Climate/Environmental Issues

Thursday, June 29th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 43 minutes

Democracy Now! Canadian Climate Activist: Big Oil Is Fueling Fires. We Must Stop Funding New Fossil Fuel Pipelines

As wildfire smoke fills the skies and record heat waves cook much of North America, Canadian climate activist Tzeporah Berman says governments need to be pushed to phase out fossil fuels more rapidly. “We need people to stand up to this industry. We need activism to protest in the streets, to demand our governments stand up to this industry. And we also need international cooperation,” says Berman. She also discusses Canada’s investment in the Trans Mountain Pipeline and how governments around the world are propping up the fossil fuel industry rather than embracing a transition to clean energy. Her recent article for *The Guardian* is headlined “Canada is on fire, and big oil is the arsonist.”

Sunday, April 23rd, 2023, 11am. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

White House National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi

Ali Zaidi White House National Climate Advisor. Greg Dalton Founder and Host, Climate One.

Economics

Monday, June 5th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 30 minutes

Democracy Now! David Sirota: Florida Lawmakers Help Ron DeSantis Shovel More Cash to Wall Street

David Sirota of *The Lever* talks about how Florida Governor Ron DeSantis’s fundraising for his 2024 presidential bid could be hindered by a federal pay-to-play rule that restricts campaign contributions from financial executives to state officials who control pension investment decisions.

Education

Monday, June 19th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 50 minutes

Democracy Now! “Sing Your Song”: Remembering Harry Belafonte, Who Used His Stardom to Help MLK & Civil Rights Movement

Democracy Now dedicates part of their Juneteenth special to remembering the life and legacy of the legendary actor, singer and civil rights activist Harry Belafonte, who died in April at the age of 96. Belafonte appeared on *Democracy Now!* numerous times, and Democracy Now features two interviews. Democracy Now begins with their 2011 interview at the Sundance Film Festival, where a documentary about his life, titled *Sing Your Song*, premiered, and discuss his political awakening and activism in detail. “Going into the South of the United States, listening to the voices of rural Black America, listening to the voices of those who sang out against the Ku Klux Klan and out against segregation, and women, who were the most oppressed of all, rising to the

occasion to protest against their conditions, became the arena where my first songs were to emerge,” Belafonte recalled.

Saturday, June 3rd, 2023, 3pm. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

Kevin Kelly: The Wisdom I Wish I'd Known Earlier

Kevin Kelly Senior Maverick, Wired Magazine, Author, Excellent Advice for Living: The Wisdom I Wish I'd Known Earlier. In Conversation with DJ Patil Former U.S. Chief Data Scientist; General Partner, GreatPoint Ventures; Member, The Commonwealth Club Board of Governors.

Politics

Thursday, July 6th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! Rep. Ro Khanna on Term-Limiting SCOTUS Justices, Sole “No” Vote on Pentagon Budget & Modi’s State Visit

Democracy now speaks with Democratic Congressman Ro Khanna of California about several topics. He has reintroduced a bill in the House to limit Supreme Court justices to 18-year terms, which he says would help rebalance the high court, now dominated by a 6-3 conservative majority, and is especially needed after several controversial Supreme Court rulings striking down President Biden’s student debt relief plan, giving businesses the right to discriminate against LGBTQ people on religious grounds, rolling back environmental protections and more. “Most Americans have seen that the Supreme Court is just wildly out of touch with the facts of modern life,” he says. Khanna also talks about his lone vote against the Pentagon budget, and he responds to critics of the key role he played in welcoming Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a state visit at the White House, which was roundly condemned by human rights advocates, given Modi’s track record of violence and bigotry.

Sunday, June 25th, 2023, 11am. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

Two Heroes Challenging the Powerful

Nalleli Cobo, Cofounder, People Not Pozos. Marjan Minnesma Founder, Urgenda Foundation. Greg Dalton Founder and Host, Climate One.

Saturday, July 8th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

Jennifer Pahlka: Why Government is Failing in the Digital Age

Jennifer Pahlka Former Deputy Chief Technology Officer of the United States; Founder, Code for America; Author, Recoding America: Why Government Is Failing in the Digital Age and How We Can Do Better. In Conversation with DJ Patil Former U.S. Chief Data Scientist; General Partner, GreatPoint Ventures; Member, The Commonwealth Club Board of Governors.

Social Justice

Monday, April 24th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 50 minutes

Democracy Now! What's Next in Legal Fight over Mifepristone? Supreme Court Protects Access to Abortion Pill for Now

The U.S. Supreme Court on Friday halted a ban and other restrictions on the abortion medication mifepristone, keeping the nation's most popular abortion method available for now as an appeal of the nationwide ban on the pill plays out. The ban was issued earlier this month by the Trump-appointed Texas Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk, who ruled the Food and Drug Administration's 23-year-old approval of the drug was invalid. The case is likely to end up before the Supreme Court again after making its way through a lower appeals court. Democracy Now speaks with Mary Ziegler, law professor at the University of California, Davis, whose new piece for *The Atlantic* is headlined "The Justices Pass on an Abortion-Pill Ban...Until they hear a better case."

Monday, April, 17th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 43 minutes

Democracy Now! Meet Frank Mugisha: A Ugandan Activist Daring to Speak Out Against Bill to Jail & Kill LGBTQ People

Democracy Now speaks with Ugandan LGBTQ activist Frank Mugisha about a draconian new anti-gay bill the country is on the verge of imposing, which makes it a crime to identify as queer, considers all same-sex conduct to be nonconsensual, and even allows for the death penalty in certain cases. Both the Biden administration and the U.N. secretary-general are urging Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni not to sign the bill into law. Mugisha says anti-LGBTQ measures in Uganda reflect the legacy of British colonialism, which introduced anti-sodomy laws across Africa, as well as the influence of the U.S. religious right.

Thursday, June 22nd, 2023, 3pm. Duration 60

Democracy Now! How AI Is Enabling Racism & Sexism: Algorithmic Justice League's Joy Buolamwini on Meeting with Biden

Democracy Now speaks with Dr. Joy Buolamwini, founder of the Algorithmic Justice League, who met this week with President Biden in a closed-door discussion with other artificial intelligence experts and critics about the need to explore the promise and risk of AI. The computer scientist and coding expert has long raised alarm about how AI and algorithms are enabling racist and sexist bias. Democracy Now discusses examples, and she lays out what should be included in the White House's "Vision for Protecting Our Civil Rights in the Algorithmic Age."

Monday, June 12th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! "Every Body": New Film Shines Spotlight on Intersex Community's Fight for Recognition, Bodily Autonomy

June is Pride Month, a time to celebrate the LGBTQIA community, and today DemocracyNow looks at those represented by the “I” which stands for “intersex.” In a broadcast exclusive, Democracy Now is joined by the filmmaker and three stars of a new documentary, *Every Body*, which follows their work as intersex activists who share childhoods marked by shame, secrecy and nonconsensual surgeries. Democracy Now speaks with actor and screenwriter River Gallo, political consultant Alicia Roth Weigel, scholar Sean Saifa Wall and Academy Award-nominated and Emmy-winning director Julie Cohen, who says she was able to document “a movement that’s in the midst of truly blossoming.” Weigel adds, “There is no one way to look intersex. There is no one way to be intersex,” emphasizing that the movement for informed consent and body autonomy is broad and intersectional. The film will be released in theaters on June 30.

Saturday, April 15th, 3pm. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

Princess Mabel van Oranje is on a Mission to End Child Marriage

Mabel van Oranje Lecturer, Stanford University’s Center for International Security and Cooperation; Former Reporter and Princess Mabel van Oranje of the Netherlands; Serial Entrepreneur for Social Change; Founder and Chair, VOW for Girls. Randy Newcomb Senior Advisor, The Omidyar Group—Moderator.

May, 28th, 2023, 11am. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

Why Farm Workers Suffer and How They Can Bring About Change

Teresa Romero President of the United Farm Workers Union in conversation with Irene de Barraicua Director of Operations and Communications, Líderes Campesinas— Moderator.

Ukrainian War

Thursday, April, 27th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! Medea Benjamin: Pentagon Leaks Show Ukraine War Is a Stalemate. Why Isn’t the U.S. Pushing for Peace?

Chinese President Xi Jinping spoke by phone with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky this week for the first time since Russia’s invasion last year. The call comes two months after China put forward a 12-point peace plan to end the war, and Xi reportedly said negotiations are “the only viable way out” of the conflict. The Chinese president also offered to send a special envoy to Ukraine to help resolve the crisis. To talk more about the war in Ukraine and growing calls for negotiations, Democracy Now is joined by Medea Benjamin, co-founder of CodePink and co-author of the new book *War in Ukraine: Making Sense of a Senseless Conflict*.

Thursday, May, 25th, 2023, 3pm. Duration 53

Democracy Now! Ukraine's Left Fights for a Future Free from Domination by Russian Tanks & Western Banks

As calls grow for an end to the war in Ukraine, a number of recent developments indicate the war could instead be expanding beyond Ukraine's borders. Russia has signed an agreement with Belarus to begin deploying tactical nuclear weapons there, and a group of pro-Ukrainian fighters from Russia has attacked sites in the Russian region of Belgorod using what appears to be U.S.-made armored vehicles and Humvees. This cross-border raid was carried out in part by the Russian Volunteer Corps, a group that includes self-avowed neo-Nazis.