

QUARTERLY ISSUES & PROGRAM LISTS

STATION: WMVY-FM

PERIOD: January 1 – March 31, 2024

The following is a list of some of the significant issues covered by WMVY-FM, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period listed above. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

ISSUES:

HEALTH
ENVIRONMENT
TRANSPORTATION
CRIME
BENEFITS
PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY

PROGRAM LISTS:

HEALTH

Some health issues that WMVY covered this quarter:

- Island Health Care will open a new dental center later this summer in an effort to make it easier for Vineyarders to access dental care. The four-chair clinic, currently under construction, will be located at Mariners Landing in Edgartown, and is part of a larger expansion of the health care facility. The clinic was established in part with a \$500,000 expansion grant by MV Youth.

ENVIRONMENT

Issues regarding the environment are always of paramount concern. MVY made its listeners aware of many of them, including the following:

- Federal officials approved Sunrise Wind, the seventh commercial-scale wind energy project. The new project will bring up to 84 new wind turbines south of the Vineyard. All the generated power will be directed to New York State. The

approval was contingent upon a mitigation payment to the town of Aquinnah, as the nearly 800-foot tall turbines will be visible from Moshup Beach in Aquinnah.

- A 10-knot speed limit was extended to vessels 35 feet and longer from November through May to protect whales in the region. The Steamship Authority is among those contesting the limits, saying they are unnecessary and could significantly hinder service to the Vineyard and Nantucket.
- Three pounding winter storms that took a toll on the Island's south shore also have scientists who study the area pondering retreat.. The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution had tens of thousands of dollars of ocean and meteorological monitoring equipment along Edgartown's South Beach damaged in the storms. Other sensors that have been up for more than 20 years have been removed because of the eroding shoreline prompting WHOI to reconsider where it can safely place its equipment. Some of the equipment has been temporarily put up at Katama Airfield. They are in conversation with the town about potential solutions.
- A new courtesy dock will be available in Oak Bluffs harbor this summer. Shellfish constable Donovan McElligatt said he found a dock that can also double as an incubator for baby shellfish.
- Sixty-eight megawatts of power are now streaming into the regional grid thanks to five offshore wind turbines operated by the Vineyard Wind project in the waters south of the Island. This is the first time such a project has ever delivered a steady flow of electricity in Massachusetts. Hundreds of more turbines are expected to join Vineyard Wind in the near future with a deadline for companies to put in bids.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has determined that rope embedded in the tail of a dead young right whale that washed up on the Vineyard last month is consistent with that used by trap fishermen in Maine. Preliminary findings show the slate suffered from chronic entanglement. Fewer than 360 right whales are expected to remain.
- Tisbury's aquaculture regulations will now allow oyster farmers in Lagoon Pond to grow their crops closer to the water's surface. The policy change was recommended by the natural resources advisory committee. Farmers found the water quality closer to the bottom was not giving them the product they needed.
- Island walkers looking for new destinations can now enjoy two properties overseen by the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank. James Pond Preserve, a parcel next to Lambert's Cove Beach in West Tisbury and a short trail at Caleb's Pond Preserve on Chappaquiddick recently opened.
- Martha's Vineyard Commission has been trying to raise awareness among Islanders about the dangers of wildfires as climate change brings drier conditions to the area. Of particular concern is the Vineyard's fragmented development pattern, where homes are often spread out and distributed among vast woodlands.
- Sheriff's Meadow Foundation received a \$75,000 grant last week to help combat an invasive beetle infestation in Tisbury. The state funding will allow Sheriff's Meadow to continue removing beetle-infested trees from the forest, as well as thinning out tree-growth to prevent further spread of the pest.
- Vineyard Wind sent five megawatts of power to the New England regional grid in Barnstable, the first electricity from an offshore wind turbine in Massachusetts.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is a constant concern, as both Islanders and commuters rely on the Steamship Authority, among other transportation, for their everyday necessities.

- High winds and a crew shortage caused the Steamship Authority to cancel several ferries. The ongoing construction in Vineyard Haven on one of the slips is also presenting additional challenges.
- Seastreak, the 4.5-hour ferry from Manhattan to Oak Bluffs will return this summer, kicking off eight weeks of service starting Memorial Weekend. The ferry will also offer satellite internet.
- The North Bluff roundabout and revamped parking area is nearing completion in Oak Bluffs. The broad redesign of the area, with a roundabout and larger pedestrian walkways is aimed at revamping the congested parking area. Construction began in October as part of Phase 2 of Oak Bluffs' streetscape master plan. Phase 1 focused on Circuit Avenue and the area around Healey Square.
- The Steamship Authority Board of Governors approved a \$32 million contract with Colantonio, Inc. of Holliston to build the new ticket building in Woods Hole, with construction to begin this fall. A new terminal has been discussed for about 10 years, and plans for the controversial building were initially approved by the board in 2019. One major change is its relocation a few feet further east.
- Edgartown expects to have the storm-battered Atlantic Drive reopened soon. The road along South Beach initially closed in December, when a sinkhole opened up during a storm. A culvert in the area railed during the next storm, causing further damage. The work to bolster the pavement will be done soon, making it easier for the public to get onto the popular beach.
- After a series of sometimes-contentious public discussions that involved several attorneys, a divided Tisbury select board voted 2-1 last week to license a new cab company for the first time in years. The condition was that the company's two vehicles would be parked off-street when not in use.
- A new appropriations bill before Congress includes \$350 million for repairs to the Cape Cod bridges. The influx of funding is part of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act. If the proposed bill is passed, the bridge replacement project will have a total of \$722 million, with the rest coming from the \$372 million grant awarded by the US Department of Transportation.
- A crew shortage caused the cancellations of the Sankaty ferry for an entire day. The US Coast Guard has certain manning requirements for boats, and one crew member who called out of work could not be replaced to make the sailing possible. The cancellations came the day before schools went back into session after a week-long break, causing some to leave their cars on the mainland, and travel as foot passengers.
- Repairs to the pier at the Vineyard Haven Steamship Authority have forced a temporary halt to the 5:30am trip from Vineyard Haven to Woods Hole. In the

meantime, the Sankaty ferry that normally makes the first departure from the Island will be berthed in Woods Hole.

- Members of the Oak Bluffs select board strongly objected to a state plan to overhaul the busy intersection of Lake and Seaview avenues.
- Opening day for the Steamship Authority's summer vehicle reservations went off without a hitch this week, racking up bookings that equate to about \$6 million in revenue, slightly down from years past.
- Snowfall along with strong winds forced the closure of schools, town offices and businesses around the Island, as people were asked to stay off the roads to allow plow drivers to do their jobs.
- Tisbury's select board voted to oppose a barging company's proposal to ship large freight between New Bedford and the Steamship Authority terminal in Vineyard Haven. The company currently carries freight to Nantucket, under a contract with the Steamship Authority. Tisbury officials say their town already has a well-established, locally-owned barge company that takes freight that the Steamship Authority cannot accommodate.
- Cyber-security training and policies around free ferry rides for employees and their families will be revamped following a recent audit of the Steamship Authority. The general manager agreed with the findings and said that corrective action has been begun, based on the recommendations.
- Citing low numbers, Jet Blue will no longer operate its Vineyard to White Plains route this year. This year's flights are expected to mirror 2023.
- Starting this year, boaters at the Oak Bluffs harbor will be charged summer rates a week later into the fall. The select board voted to extend the harbor's slip and mooring summer prices, which are higher than the off-season, until the Sunday after Indigenous People's Day – one week after its normal end day. The change is meant to accommodate the harbor's increasing autumn traffic.
- 2023 ranked as the busiest year ever for commercial flights at Martha's Vineyard Airport. About 78,000 people flew in and out of the airport last year, 4,000 more than the year before.
- A new safety auxiliary class, Suddenly In Command, was held to offer boating basics, emergency communications, man overboard training and safe anchoring.

CRIME

This is a small community out here on the Cape and Islands and the impact of one small crime can send ripples to every corner. WMVY covers crime in a manner that is considerate and respectful of both the accused and the victims. Here are some of the incidents that MVY reported:

- The District Court Judge reset the jury trial for two men who were arrested for robbing the Rockland Trust Bank in November 2022. Their attorneys asked for the delay so they could continue to review evidence and prepare for the trial. They also said that federal prosecutors have talked about a potential resolution of the case before the new trial date of October 7, 2024.

BENEFITS

Those who live on the Cape and Islands participated in many public service-oriented events that WMVY publicized through PSAs and newscasts.

- The Oak Bluffs Library hosted a healing event called Spring Into Self-Care on the first day of spring. It included sessions on gentle movement, meditation, journaling, chair yoga and vision boards. It was free and open to all.
- A new exhibition at Featherstone Center for the Arts, MVC@50, answers questions about the Martha's Vineyard Commission: what it is and what it does. Unlike other exhibits that bring together diverse viewpoints of visual artists, this exhibit aims a focused lens at the commission's 50 years of planning authority over developments affecting the Vineyard as a whole.
- The Martha's Vineyard Branch of the NAACP held a panel, Subtle Acts of Microaggression, with small-group discussion afterward about how to identify and prevent microaggressions.
- Friends of Family Planning held their annual Lip Sync contest, as a benefit for the organization.
- The West Tisbury Library offered a free lunch program this winter that attracted up to 50 people a day.
- The Martha's Vineyard Bank Charitable Foundation opened up nominations for their annual Community Impact Grants. Two Vineyard-based non-profits will be among a total of four that are chosen, and each recipient will be awarded \$5,000.
- Many activities were available for February vacation week, including the Full Moon Owl Prowl at Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, a trash pick-up at the shoreline by the Beach Befrienders, and films at the Film Center.
- A paper, titled The Historical Demography of the Martha's Vineyard Signing Community, was recently released as a follow-up on anthropologist Nora Ellen Groce's landmark study years ago, Everyone Here Spoke Sign Language. The paper emphasizes the agency of the deaf people who lived on the Vineyard.
- Superintendent Richie Smith announced that Island schools will conduct an equity audit and climate survey this spring, hoping to improve safety, inclusivity and morale, amid parent complaints.
- Thirty grants, ranging from a few hundred dollars to \$5,000, were recently awarded to local independent artists, collectives, and non-profits by the Martha's Vineyard Cultural Council. The funds are designed to support projects that improve the quality of life for Island residents by promoting excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences.
- The Island has seen a growing demand for food support programs, as local community supper programs have seen an increase in residents looking for relief.
- Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation launched its 20th annual Scholarship Program, offering 16 renewable scholarships of \$3,000 to students enrolling in part-time or full-time post-secondary studies for the first time at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school for the full academic year of 2024-25.

PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY

The Cape and Islands are full of interesting people who are making a valuable contribution through their work. People in the community are spotlighted every week in a segment called “WMVY’s PERSON OF THE WEEK”. In this segment, the station recognizes individuals across the Cape and Islands who are involved in various pursuits. Guests were chosen for their contribution to people on the Cape and Islands.

PERSON OF THE WEEK, a 3-minute segment highlighting the work, stories and people who make a difference in the community, airs on Thursdays at 8am and 12pm after the newscast. The following is a list of the guests for this quarter:

March 28 – Ron Hoffman
March 21 – Dawn Porter
March 14 – Julie Wake
March 7 – Sarah Kingston
February 29 – Tamora Israel
February 22 – Tara Vargas Wallace
February 15 – Erica Tso Haidas
February 8 – Ted Lowrie
February 1 – Dan Silverman
January 25 – Kathy Ohman
January 18 – Kevin Fitzgerald
January 11 – Eli Sobel
January 4 – Cherie Mittenthal

VINEYARD CURRENT is a public affairs program that spotlights people and topics relevant to residents of Martha’s Vineyard. The following is a list of VINEYARD CURRENT guests for this quarter, which airs weekly on Sundays at 10:00AM:

March 31 (31:10)

- Dick Cohen & Cindy Trish of The Beach Within Reach
 - Nat Benjamin of Gannon & Benjamin
-

March 24 (31:52)

- Quinn Savard of the Island Children's School
 - Dawn Porter, Filmmaker in the MV Film Festival
-

March 17 (30:18)

- Ann Baird of the Center for Living Respite Innovations
- Owen Kiernan of the MVRHS music program
- Amy Nelson, the Oak Bluffs Library Program Coordinator

March 10 (33:58)

- Anne Evasick, Curator of the MV Film Festival
- Larry Jones of the African American Heritage Trail

March 3 (same show that aired on 3/10)

February 25 (32:29)

- Melissa Bradley and Alessandra Bradley Burns of Black Joy MV

February 18 (33:48)

- George Davis-Clerk of Courts for Dukes County
- Marzell Reubin Sampson-Vocalist/Comic Writer

February 11 (29:13)

- Miguel Samuel and Bailey May Gardner of Wolftrap

February 4 (30:45)

- Samantha Look of the Vineyard Conservation Society

January 28 (28:28)

- Alex Elvin - Artist
- Arielle Faria of the MV Housing Bank (Pt. 2)

January 21 (29:40)

- Arielle Faria of the MV Housing Bank (Pt 1)
 - Kim Angell - MV Housing Coalition Pt 2
 - Paul Lazes - Artist Pathways Artist Reception
-

January 14 (32:24)

- Alexandra Pratt of the West Tisbury Library
 - Eric Johnson - Pathways Arts Jazz Performance
 - Kim Angell-Coalition to Create MV Housing Bank
-

January 7 (32:14)

- Ebba Hierta of the Chilmark Library
- David Bouck Great Ponds Foundation (Pt 2)

CAPE COD CURRENT is a public affairs program that spotlights people and topics relevant to the residents of Cape Cod. The following is a list of CAPE COD CURRENT guests for this quarter, which airs monthly on the last Sunday of each month, directly following the Vineyard Current:

March 31 (32:24)

- Mike O'Connor, Owner Of Bird Watcher's General Store
 - Dr Damian Archer, CEO Of Outer Cape Health Services
-

March 24 (28:50)

- Julia Cumes, Photographer/Arts Foundation Artist Of The Year
- Nicole Mitchell, Founder Kind Hearts For Kids Inc.

March 17 (27:21)

- Francie Randolph, Founding Director Of Sustainable Cape
- Dr. Bill Agel, Chief Medical Officer Of Cape Cod Healthcare

March 10 (33:53)

- Dorothy Bassett of Pleasant Bay Community Boating
- Stephanie Briody of Behavioral Health Innovators Inc.

March 3 (29:14)

- Ron Hoffman, Founder of Compassionate Care ALS
 - Stephen Albright, President Of Cape Cod Brite Lights Inc.
-

February 25 (31:13)

- Julia Monteiro Johnson of Zion Union Heritage Museum
- Julie Wake of the Arts Foundation Of Cape Cod

February 18 (27:32)

- Tara Vargas Wallace of Amplify POC Cape Cod
- Tamora Israel of Communi-T Productions

February 11 (28:59)

- Sarah Kingston, Asst. Professor Of Oceanography at S.E.A
 - Jenn Werner of the Yarmouth Chamber Of Commerce
-

February 4 (28:20)

- Ted Lowrie, Co-Founder Of Barnstable Neighbor To Neighbor
 - Erica Tso Haidas, Founder And Owner Of Belonging Books
-

January 28 (27:50)

- Kathy Ohman & David Kaplan of FORWARD
 - Dan Silverman, Vice President of The Fleet Fund
-

January 21 (30:08)

- Bethany Gay, Grant Coordinator for the Coalition for Children
- Connor O'Reilly and Dr. Raja Sinjab of Real Eyes Truth

January 14 (31:34)

- Zee Crocker, Director of Barnstable Clean Water Coalition
- Kevin Fitzgerald, Cape Symphony Guest Conductor

January 7 (35:58)

- Sharon Polli, Executive Director Of Fine Arts Work Center
- Demetrius & Katherine Bearelis of Steeple Street Music