

**Date** 4/17/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Student journalism in the age of COVID-19  
**Guests** Alisha Tarver and Rosemary Martinelli of Penn State Greater Allegheny

**Description** Penn State alumna Alisha Tarver is the first recipient of the new Diverse Student Journalist Award from the Pennsylvania News Media Association (PNA) Foundation. What attracted Tarver to storytelling? How did she find student journalism a challenge during the COVID-19 era? Tarver's award-winning stories recounted how Black women in the Pittsburgh area face worse health care outcomes than other groups of people — how did writing those stories affect her? How do college students consume news and what role does media literacy play?

**Date** 5/8/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Keeping residents of Pittsburgh, McKeesport, Clairton and Duquesne in their  
**Guests** Alan Sisco, CEO of Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh

**Description** Pittsburgh has a reputation for being a highly affordable community for housing. How has gentrification affected the ability of older and lower-income homeowners to remain safe in their houses? What are some of the common issues with housing stock in Western Pennsylvania? What are some of the ways Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh can help make older homes safer and more energy efficient? Why has the group partnered with communities such as McKeesport, Clairton and Duquesne? How can the public get involved in helping provide safer housing?

**Date** 5/15/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Making sure the Mon Valley's "affordable" housing remains affordable to  
**Guests** Jonathan Weaver and Dana Hodge of Mon Valley Initiative

**Description** Homebuyer Counseling: How important is it to prepare for homeownership? Why has it become even more important with increasing interest rates and sales prices? Homeowner Counseling: MVI also helps homeowners stay in their homes. How does MVI help them manage their finances or look for programs to assist with making home improvements? What is MVI doing to help homeowners who lost income due to COVID-19 stay in their homes? How does the state's PAHAF foreclosure prevention program work?

**Date** 5/29/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** How are local businesses recovering from COVID-19?  
**Guests** Maury Burgwin of the Mon Yough Area Chamber of Commerce

**Description** How are local businesses still struggling with the effects of the pandemic? What changes have business owners reported? What percentage of Mon Valley area businesses have 5 or fewer employees? What particular challenges are they facing? What are some mechanisms by which small businesses can obtain help in the wake of the pandemic?

**Date** 6/5/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Lead safety in older Western Pennsylvania homes  
**Guests** Jennifer Saks, manager of the Allegheny County Lead Safe Homes Program

**Description** What types of financial assistance is available for Allegheny County homeowners and renters whose home may contain lead paint or other lead-based hazards? What does the work entail? How many people can be helped each year? What sorts of health problems have lead paint been linked to in children? Why are homes in the Mon Valley at particularly high risk? Who may qualify to have work done on their home? What types of properties are eligible and how does the process work?

**Date** 6/12/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item**  
**Topic:** Searching for the lost trolley parks of Western Pennsylvania  
**Guests** Historian and author Jennifer Sopko

**Description** What was a "trolley park" and why were there so many in the Pittsburgh area in the late 19th and early 20th century? How were they significant to the social life and economic development of cities like McKeesport, Jeannette and Duquesne? What were the economic pressures that faced these parks? Why do they remain interesting and important to study? What lessons can we learn by studying the "trolley park" era? How can residents help preserve the historic legacy of these facilities?

**Date** 6/26/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Planning transit improvements in the Mon Valley corridor  
**Guests** Amy Silbermann and Craig Toocheck of Pittsburgh Regional Transit

**Description** How many people per day depend on buses in the Route 837-Route 148 corridor between Homestead and McKeesport? What has PRT been doing to identify areas of improvement in that corridor? What safety and performance needs does PRT want to address? How will it accomplish goals such as providing safer bus stops and pedestrian access routes, and better on-time performance? How can the public provide input into the process?

**Date** 7/3/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** The history of women in the U.S. Marine Corps  
**Guests** Marine Col. Nancy Anderson (retired)

**Description** Why has gender equality been important in the U.S. armed services? When did women begin serving in the U.S. military, and what roles did they fill throughout history? When did the modern era of women Marines begin? What obstacles have women faced to serving alongside men? Originally aired:

**Date** 7/31/2022

Station WZUM & WZUM-FM

**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes

**Topic:** How the decline of local newspapers is hurting communities and democracy

**Guests** Patch.com managing editor and former Pittsburgh journalist Dave Copeland

**Description** What function do community newspapers --- local dailies and weeklies --- serve in American democracy? What is lost when those newspapers close? Why are those newspapers closing? How has media literacy suffered with the decline in local news coverage? What steps can citizens take to ensure they remain informed? Where can people learn more about the "ghosting" of American news sources?

**Date** 8/7/2022

Station WZUM & WZUM-FM

**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes

**Topic:** Penn State Greater Allegheny launches a new social work degree

**Guests** Dr. Christopher Robinson, Assistant Professor of Social Work and Bachelor of Social Work Program Director, and Kiera Mallett, Assistant Teaching Professor of Social Work and Director of Field Education

**Description** Penn State Greater Allegheny has created a new bachelor's degree in social work --- the first at any of Penn State's commonwealth campuses across Pennsylvania. What career paths can people pursue with a social work degree? Why did Penn State decide to base this program in the Mon Valley? How many students is this degree program expected to serve? What are the career prospects for people with social work degrees? How is Penn State developing a cooperative relationship with CCAC's South Campus? What standards do professional social workers uphold in their daily practice?

**Date** 8/21/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Re-entry to the workforce by ex-offenders  
**Guests** Author and entrepreneur Tracey D. Syphax

**Description** What is "re-entry" for someone who has been arrested or jailed? What are the challenges to re-entry? How did Syphax complete his own journey from drug dealer to successful real-estate developer and entrepreneur? Why does he now use his new position of prominence to advocate for reforming the process?

**Date** 8/28/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Reasons to Love Your Library during September  
**Guests** RVince D'Alesio and Mary Rose Bendel of the Carnegie Library of McKeesport  
Reasons to Love Your Library during September

**Description** How has the mission of local community libraries evolved in both the digital media age and post-COVID? What are some ways that local libraries are reaching out to the community to expand their services? What are some non-traditional library services that patrons come to the library seeking? How has the debate about controversial or sensitive topics impacted local libraries? What are some ways that patrons can help their local libraries during "love your library month" in September?

**Date** 9/4/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Remembering the Class of 1972  
**Guests** Kathy Flex Zagorac and John Keyes, McKeesport Area High School alumni

**Description** The Class of 1972 at McKeesport Area High School will be celebrating its 50th reunion Sept. 29 to Oct. 1. How has the community changed in the last half-century? What were the current trends and news stories for the teen-agers of 1972? How did the spirit of change in the late 1960s carry into the early 1970s? Where did members of the Class of 1972 end up? How have schools, learning and education changed since the Class of '72 graduated?

**Date** 9/11/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Fall tourism in Western Pennsylvania  
**Guests** Michael Chapaloney, executive director of tourism for Pennsylvania

**Description** How important is tourism to the state's economy? How did the COVID-19 pandemic hurt the state's tourism industry? What are some signs that tourism is bouncing back? What are the state's most popular tourism destinations? Where do Pennsylvania visitors come from? What opportunities are they looking for? What are some low-cost tourism ideas that are a day trip for residents of the Mon Valley?

**Date** 10/2/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** How the Democratic Party lost its way and what it means in Western  
**Guests** Ed Burmila, author of the new book "Chaotic Neutral"

**Description** Why did the Democratic Party attempt to co-opt Republican positions, and how did it hurt the party's chances electorally? In what ways did Democratic politicians alienate traditional voters for its own candidates? How has a generational divide emerged in the party and what does it say about the current electoral climate? In Pennsylvania, a hotly contested race for Senate is being fought between Republican Mehmet Oz and Democrat John Fetterman — what lessons could other Democrats learn from Fetterman's campaign style?

**Date** 10/9/2022 **Station** WZUM & WZUM-FM  
**Item** Two Rivers 30 Minutes  
**Topic:** Untangling the mysteries of the Pittsburgh road network  
**Guests** Vince Guerrieri

**Description** Vince Guerrieri has published an article for Citylab about the Allegheny County belt route system. Who devised this scheme, and why? How does it benefit motorists? How is the belt route plan tied to the history of early 20th century transportation? Why is the plan more or less unique to the Pittsburgh area? What does it tell us about the Pittsburgh region at mid-century?