

Issues Programs List

Q3

Townsquare Media Bangor

WBZN, WDEA, WQCB, WWMJ, WEZQ

July 1st – September 30th, 2023

Section I. Issues

The stations have identified the following topics as significant issues facing our community in this quarter:

- **Crime:** The FBI's Elder Fraud Report of 2022 says that over \$12 million dollars was lost due to scams during the year with 459 senior victims (60+) from Maine alone. There is a new phone scam targeting the elderly population in Maine.
- **Public Safety:** Many people are not aware that you can get carbon monoxide poisoning in the summer months. There are many situations where people can be exposed to high levels of CO during the summer. Boats, as an example, produce carbon monoxide. Maine's coast is a haven for vacationers and boating enthusiasts. Being safe while out on the water is a priority.
- **Power Outages:** Falling trees or branches are the number one cause of power outages in Maine, but squirrels are a close second, even on a sunny day.
- **Suicide:** The CDC reports 251 deaths caused by suicide in 2022. The Northern Light Acadia Hospital says there has been a recent increase in those numbers and offers warning signs to watch out for.
- **Education:** Education is always an area of concern – from school budgets to school safety initiatives, educational resources to financial aid.

Section II. Responsive Programs

Our community issues program, **Maine Concerns**, airs each Sunday on WBZN and WQCB at 6:00 a.m., WEZQ at 6:12 a.m., WWMJ at 6:20 a.m., and on WDEA at 11:10 a.m.

7-2-2023 No show due to vacation

7-9-2023 Health, Environment (Length 24:51)

Bangor Police Animal Control – Cindy Campbell talks with Bangor's Animal Control Officer Trisha Bruen about when it is okay to leave your pet in the car and when it is too hot. She discusses the symptoms of heat stroke, how quickly a vehicle can heat up, and the fact that a person can face charges if they break into a vehicle to save a pet. Bruen also encourages people traveling to leave their dogs with a kennel or friends instead of in a hotel room or vehicle. **Pet Safety, Animal Cruelty**

Summer CO Poisoning – Cindy Campbell talks with State Toxicologist Andrew Smith about the ways people can get carbon monoxide poisoning in the summer. He discusses swimming behind a boat, grills used in enclosed areas, and leaking gas lines in camps that have been shut up for the winter. Smith discusses the symptoms of CO poisoning, as well. *Public Safety, Health*

7-16-2023 Health, Public Safety (Length 24:39)

The Importance of Life Jackets – Cindy Campbell talks with Jason Luce of the Maine Warden Service about staying safe in the water. Luce talks about everything from keeping a fire extinguisher on board to always wearing a life jacket, because emergencies happen too fast to put it on after the fact. He also reminds boaters that it is their responsibility to keep track of their wakes, to ensure that they do not put others in peril. *Water Safety, Summer Activities*

Beth C. Wright Cancer Center – Cindy Campbell talks with Angela Fochesato about Volunteer opportunities in the organization that offers support to people with cancer. She explains that Patient Navigation Coordinators reach out via phone or in person to cancer patients, to ask how they are doing and if there is anything they need. They follow-up with people receiving services at the center to offer support and connect them to resources. *Health, Health Services, Cancer*

7-23-2023 Health (Length – 24:15)

The Risks of Not Enough Sleep – Dr. Thomas Rajan of Northern Light Health joins Cindy Campbell to discuss the importance of getting a good night's sleep and how lack of sleep can affect our everyday lives. Dr. Rajan talks about creating an appealing sleep environment and shutting off electronics at least an hour before bed. He encourages people who think sleep may be an issue to schedule a sleep study and find out whether they need medication or appliances to help them get a better night's rest. *Sleep, Mental Health, Wellness*

8-6-2023 Health (Length - 24:38)

Champion the Cure Challenge - Cindy Campbell talks with Brenda Farnham of Northern Light Cancer Care about the Champion the Cure Challenge, which includes a variety of ways to raise money for the Lafayette Family Cancer Institute in Brewer. She runs through all the options, from the 5K to the horseback trail ride and explains how the money will directly benefit cancer patients in Maine. *Cancer, Health, Community, Charities*

8-13-2023 Public Safety, Crime (Length - 24:43)

Bangor Community Action Team - Cindy Campbell talked with Hollie Butera, member of the BCAT team, which works with the Bangor Police for non-criminal calls. Butera describes the role of the agency and how its work is often focused on the city's homeless population. She discusses the challenges they face and the way local resources are used to find help for those in need. *Public Resources, Homeless Population, Police Services*

Phone Scam - Cindy Campbell is joined by East Millinocket Police Chief Cameron McDunnah, who talks about a phone scam that is targeting Maine's elderly population. McDunnah explains that the crooks find survivor's names in the obituaries and then call, demanding money for funeral services. Cameron gives advice to residents about what to

do if they receive one of these calls and the importance of never giving out personal information over the phone. **Crime, Elder Issues, Phone Scams, Privacy**

8-20-2023 Health, Environment (Length - 24:51)

The Together Place - New Executive Director for the Together Place in Bangor, Abby D'Alessio joins Cindy Campbell to talk about the many resources available at the peer support center. D'Alessio says the center will be offering more creative classes, like learning to write, to help people in recovery have a non-clinical outlet. **Education, Public Assistance, Community Resources**

Versant Fences - Cindy Campbell talks with Shelby Hartin of Versant Power about the new electric fences going up at substations in Maine. She explains that the fences will discourage squirrels, in a humane way, from entering the substation and causing power outages. Hartin goes on to give statistics on the number of animal-related outages in Maine and how the first electric fence installed has prevented it from being a problem. **Animal Nuisance, Power Outages**

8-27-2023 Health, Public Safety (Length - 24:48)

Maine Veteran's Project - Executive Director Doc Goodwin talks with Cindy Campbell about the organization's latest projects, designed to create a community for veterans and help them feel less isolated. The Maine Veterans Project aims to prevent veteran suicides and Goodwin says summer is the best time to plan fun activities and create those friendships, that will help sustain veterans through the isolation of winter. **Mental Health, Veterans, Suicide, Public Resources**

Apple Hill Stables - Cindy Campbell talks with Apple Hill Stables' owner, Larry Frost, about the upcoming rodeo, which benefits Shriner's Hospital. Frost also discusses the role their ranch is playing in the mental health of local law enforcement, who are finding peace from their challenging jobs through equine therapy. **Mental Health, Policing, Community Resources, Community Events**

8-3-2023 Education, Economy (Length - 24:29)

Finance Authority of Maine - Cindy Campbell talks with Mila Tappan of FAME Maine about financial aid for college and how students/parents apply for it. Tappan says the FAFSA, which is a required form when applying, has been delayed until December, but wants to reassure everyone that their eligibility will not be delayed because of it. She details several upcoming educational forums for people who want to learn more, and even get some one-on-one help with the process of applying. **Higher Education, Financial Aid, Education**

8-10-2023 Environment, Economy, Education (Length - 24:57)

Penquis HEAP - Cindy Campbell chats with Lynn Lugdon of Penquis about the Home Energy Assistance Program, also known as HEAP. She explains who is eligible for assistance, who is required to apply in order to maintain their SNAP benefits, and the importance of applying for anyone who believes they might qualify. Lugdon says appointments are backed up for months, but people in immediate need can get help through a supplemental emergency fund. **Public Assistance, Energy**

Literacy Volunteers - Executive Director for Literacy Volunteers of Bangor, Mary Taylor, talks with Cindy Campbell about upcoming tutor training and the great need for volunteers because they have a waiting list of people who are seeking help. Taylor

explains what is required in becoming a tutor and how much of a time commitment is involved. She also gives examples of some of their past students and the successes they have found since improving their reading comprehension. **Education, Resources**

8-17-2023 Health, Economy (Length - 24:14)

Suicide Awareness - Omm Stillwell, with Northern Light Acadia Hospital, talks about the recent increase in suicides in Maine and the warning signs people should watch for if they think a loved one might be considering suicide. She goes on to talk about the new three-digit phone number, 988, that is making it easier for people in crisis and their loved ones to access help. **Suicide, Mental Health**

Purple Iris Foundation - Cindy Campbell talks with Chris Parrish, Founder of the Purple Iris Foundation, about the organization that supports cancer patients in Maine by offering information about resources. PIF also grants money to patients who are struggling and helps them connect with clinical trials. Parrish says an upcoming fundraising walk is important to help them continue to fund their work. **Health, Cancer, Financial Assistance, Charities**

8-24-2023 Health, Education (Length 24:52)

Substance Use Disorder - Cindy Campbell talks with Robin Winslow and Jacinta Hunter of Hometown Health Centers about the services they provide to residents in rural Maine who are in recovery from substance use disorder. Winslow talks about the importance of education for a rural community that often does not know how to access those resources, and Hunter discusses her own recovery journey and how it has encouraged her to help others. Both women give details about an upcoming evening with former NBA player Chris Herron, who will explain how cocaine ruined his career and what it took to find his new life through recovery. **Substance Abuse, Community Resources, Education**