

WERU Issues & Programs Q2 2022

Conversations from the Pointed Firs 4/1/22: A talk with author Gretchen Legler

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Host: Peter Neill

Producer: Trisha Badger

Host Peter Neill's guest this month is Gretchen Legler, author of *Woodsqueer: Crafting a Sustainable Rural Life* published by Trinity University Press, an evocative examination of the back-to-the-land experience in Maine with her partner, Ruth Hill. She is a professor of creative writing at the University of Maine Farmington where she lives. She and Peter discuss her most recent book, an intimate portrait of life in Maine, as well as the power of observation for creative writers, and her Master's of Divinity from Harvard Divinity School, where her interests focused on exploring human connections to the sacred in the natural world.

Key Discussion Points:

- Maine Writing
- Back to the land
- LGBTQ
- Creative writing
- Personal memoir

Guest:

Gretchen Legler is a farmer, gardener, teacher, writer, lover of the natural world and the author of three book-length works of nonfiction. Her writing has garnered two Pushcart Prizes, a Notable Essay designation in *Best American Essays*, the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment creative writing award, a starred review in *Kirkus Reviews*, and was a finalist for the Steinberg Essay Prize, and the Publishing Triangle Judy Grahn Award for Lesbian Nonfiction. She teaches creative writing and English at the University of Maine Farmington, where she is also the Director of the Campus and Community Garden. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Journalism from Macalester College, a Master's degree in Creative Writing and Ph.D. in English and Feminist Studies from the University of Minnesota, and a Master's of Divinity from Harvard Divinity School, where her interests focused on exploring human connections to the sacred in the natural world.

Maine: The Way Life Could Be 4/5/22: Climate Change in Our Lifetime, Part 2 of 2

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producers/Hosts: Jim Campbell and Amy Browne

With assistance from Ann Luther and Matt Murphy

This series is made possible in part by a grant from the Maine Arts Commission:

Maine is the oldest state in the country, both in median age and in percentage of those over 55, but the people who are going to be dealing with the effects of Climate Change the longest are younger people. And climate change seems to be affecting many of them already.

On today's program, we talk with several younger people in Maine about their attitudes and expectations of the effects of climate change on their future. We spoke with two pairs of high school students. We will hear first from Joey and Edge, who are from two different schools in Washington County. We'll follow that conversation with one with Grace and Sophia, who are from the Mount Desert Island area of Hancock County.

Finally, we hear from Hazel Stark, a Millennial, Registered Maine Guide, naturalist educator and cofounder of the Maine Outdoor School. She also hosts the Saturday morning short feature, The Nature of Phenology, here on WERU, co-produced with Joe Horn.

Healthy Options 4/6/22: The serious problems of PFAS “forever chemicals” with Patrick MacRoy

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Host/Producer: Rhonda Feiman

Co-Producer: Petra Hall

Technical assistance: Joel Mann & Amy Browne

The serious problems of PFAS: The “forever chemicals” in our food, water, land & everywhere...

Key discussion points:

1. What are PFAS & “forever chemicals”?
2. Why are we so concerned about them?
3. What products contain PFAS?
4. Are PFAS in our water, soil & products, and how did they get there?
5. What food packaging contains PFAS?
6. Is there a way to minimize your exposure to PFAS?
7. What are the long-term health ramifications of exposure to PFAS?
8. Is there any acceptable level for PFAS exposure?
9. Is it possible to filter out these chemicals if they are in your water?
10. What can we do about toxic levels of PFAS in our bodies?
11. Is there anything to be done to remedy toxic levels of PFAS in the soil?
12. How is this issue handled in the USA vs. how they deal with it in Europe?

Guest:

Patrick MacRoy, Deputy Director of DEFEND OUR HEALTH, a public health organization based in Portland, Maine, which advocates for safe water, safe food, safe products, & a toxic-free environment. DEFEND OUR HEALTH is actively engaged in exposing the dangers of PFAS- the “forever chemicals” contaminating our food, water, soil, and products.

Change Agents 4/7/22: The Work of the Maine People's Alliance

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Steve Wessler

Change Agents: Conversations with Human Rights Activists

Steve Wessler's guests are Jesse Graham, co-Executive Director of the Maine People's Alliance and Ben Chin, the Deputy Director

They discussed the current and future work of the Maine People's Alliance. We also asked when and why they decided to work on human rights and social justice work. We also discussed the following issues:

-Jesse Graham discussed the 20 years of advocacy to reduce mercury in the Penobscot River

-Ben Chin discussed the campaign to continue same day voting

-Both Jesse and Ben discussed possible advocacy efforts in the future.

Jesse Graham is co-director of Maine People's Alliance & Maine People's Resource Center. He has been with the organizations for more than 20 years.

Ben Chin is the Deputy Director of Maine People's Alliance, where he has worked for grassroots social change since 2005.

Let's Talk About It 4/8/22: They Don't Change

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Patrisha McLean

Technical assistance: Tammy Oropesa

Music: Jackie Lee McLean/Roan Yellowthorn

-Multi-generational abuse

-How they don't change

-Family enablers

Guest: Christie/survivor from southern Maine talks about how her mother-in-law enabled her husband's violence and control, based on what she endured by her own husband and Christie's father-in-law.

Talk of the Towns 4/13/22: Maine Climate Action Groups

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Ron Beard

Local groups throughout Maine are bringing climate work from individual to local action. A Climate to Thrive, based on Mount Desert Island, Maine has recently convened community-

based climate groups across the state to learn from one another, focusing on strategic planning and how to engage local citizens, young and old, and elected leaders. This program highlights the work of A Climate to Thrive, Green Ellsworth, Freeport Climate Action Now and Blue Hill Peninsula Tomorrow Climate Coalition.

- Each guest highlights what they feel is one or two significant outcomes, so far, of their organization's work
- Each guest shares what their organization is working on currently
- A Climate To Thrive's statewide work to bring community groups together to focus on strategic planning at the local level
- What is climate justice? What does climate justice "look" like on the ground?
- What does it take to organize for climate action at the community level—what have you learned

Johanna Blackman, Executive Director, A Climate to Thrive
Mary Blackstone, Community Liaison, Green Ellsworth
Kathleen Sullivan, Acting Lead, Freeport Climate Action Now
Allen Kratz, Blue Hill Peninsula Tomorrow Climate Coalition

Common Ground Radio 4/14/22: Eating local foods in season in Maine

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Holli Cederholm

The April 2022 episode of Common Ground Radio celebrates spring, and all the delicious foods of spring. Host Holli Cederholm spoke with local food enthusiasts about what seasonal foods they're cooking up in their kitchens. Roberta Bailey of Seven Tree Farm in Vassalboro, Frank Giglio, kitchen production manager at Ararat Farms in Lincolnville, and Wendy Watson, kitchen manager at the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) in Unity, shared their favorite spring foods and recipes, from nettle tea to salt-cured goose eggs. They also dished on their favorite methods for food preservation, with tips for those new to putting by the harvest.

- Seasonal eating
- Spring foods
- Native and invasive wild edible plants
- Cooking and recipes
- Food preservation methods (fermenting, drying, salting, vinegar)
- Gardening

Guests:

Roberta Bailey, Seven Tree Farm in Vassalboro, Maine; recipe columnist for The Maine Organic Farmer & Gardener, the quarterly publication of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA)

Frank Giglio, kitchen production manager at Ararat Farms in Lincolnville, Maine

Wendy Watson, MOFGA kitchen manager and food liaison for the Common Ground Country Fair

Democracy Forum 4/15/22: Libraries: Defenders of Democracy

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Host: Ann Luther, League of Women Voters of Maine

Key Discussion Points:

libraries and democracy

privacy protection

intellectual freedom and censorship

informed citizenry,

challenges and threats from book bans to funding

Guests:

Rich Boulet, Director, Blue Hill Public Library

Alexandra Hinrichs, Children's Author and Middle School Librarian at Leonard Middle School in Old Town

Alison Macrina, Founder and Director of the Library Freedom Project

Jamie Ritter, Maine State Librarian

Relationship Rewind 4/19/22: "Power & Control in Relationships - Breaking Down the Behaviors in the film "The Kissing Booth."

4:30- 5pm, 28 mins, pre-recorded

Host: Alli Williamson (she, hers) Youth Educator and Advocate at NextStep Domestic Violence Project

Helpline: 1(800) 315-5579

Music credit: Brandon Nelson (he, him) local musician donated theme music for the show.

Join us the third Tuesday of each month from 4:30-5 for Relationship Rewind. A show about rewinding relationships in popular media and breaking down behaviors that are often normalized but are actually based in power, control, and abuse. This Tuesday, we'll be talking about power and control in relationships and breaking down the behaviors in the 2018 film "The Kissing Booth."

-Discussing power and control in relationships

-Discussing unhealthy behaviors normalized by media

-Impacts of these messages about relationships on young people

Guests:

Dorathy Martel (she, hers), Executive Director of NextStep Domestic Violence

Project Helpline: 1(800) 315-5579

Emma Weiss (they, them) Former Producer of Community Wellness Watch on WERU-FM

Dawnland Signals 4/21/22: Clean, Safe Drinking Water for the People of Sipayik

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producers/Hosts: Maria Girouard, Esther Anne
Jeffrey Hotchkiss, Zoom recording technician

Join co-hosts Maria Girouard and Esther Anne as they engage in critical conversations of truth, healing, and change in the Dawnland with special guests Passamaquoddy Tribal Representative Rena Newell, and Holly Cleaves, Sipayik school board member about the effort to provide clean, safe drinking water to the people of Sipayik.

Coastal Conversations 4/22/22: Earth Day and Seaweed

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Natalie Springuel

Today, April 22, 2022, is Earth Day! And what better way to celebrate Earth Day than to explore the realm of one of the earth's most interesting group of species: Seaweed.

Seaweed has seen a surge in interest in Maine in the last few years, with a growing number of people paying attention to seaweed – from consumers to nutrition experts, from harvesters to farmers, from restoration ecologists to beauticians. And Maine finds itself at the center of it all.

This week, just in time for Earth Day, Maine is celebrating Maine Seaweed Week – multiple days full of activities and opportunities to taste and learn about this incredible seafood. Maine Seaweed Week was founded four years ago by one of our interviewees on today's show, Josh Rogers of Heritage Seaweed and Cup of Sea teas. Our second interviewee, Jaclyn Robidoux of Maine Sea Grant, has also been very involved with organizing this week's special seaweed events. We turn to both of them to learn about the various seaweeds found on the Maine coast, how it can be used, and how you, our listeners, can join in on the seaweed celebrations happening up and down our shores through May 1st 2022.

- Earth Day
- Maine Seaweed Week 2022
- Maine seaweed species and products

Wabanaki Windows 4/26/22: Sovereignty and its Meaning: A 2-part series.

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Donna Loring

Other credits: Technical assistance for the show was provided by Joel Mann WERU Orland Maine and Jessica Lockhart of WMPG Portland Portland Maine.

Music for the show was from the CD Dream Walk by Rolfe Richter

Wabanaki Windows is a monthly show featuring topics of interest from a Wabanaki perspective. The issue this month is: Sovereignty and its meaning: A 2-part series.

This show is the first show of the part 2 series.

In this episode Professors Harald Prins, Darren Ranco and Host Donna Loring discuss the on going historical develops between the Wabanaki Tribes of Maine and the State. The meaning of Sovereignty from the Tribal perspective and from the State's perspective. Two very different views resulting in years of conflict and litigation. This show details the time period in the early 1970's leading up to the Land Claims Settlement Act and Act that has been used as a club to subjugate the Wabanaki Tribes.

Key Discussion Points:

- Economic environment in the early 1970's
- State Court cases that shaped the relationship between the State and the Tribes
- State of Maine Civil Rights Commission Report of 1974 tells the true state of the Tribes at the time.

Guests:

Professor Harald Prins is a distinguished professor of Anthropology and an Emeritis at Kansas State University. He an expert in Wabanaki History.

Professor Darren Ranco is a Penobscot Tribal Member and an Associate Professor of Anthropology and Chair of Native American Studies at the University of Maine Orono.

Let's Talk Animals 4/28/22: Mason Bees

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Dr. John Hunt

Key Discussion Points

- a) what are solitary, Mason Bees
- b) Life cycle
- c) Belly flopping pollination technique
- d) their importance to the environment
- e) How to make your yard Mason Bee friendly

Guest:

Thyra McKelvie, from Rent Mason Bees

Maine: The Way Life Could Be 5/3/22: "Forever Chemicals", Climate Change, and Maine Farmers & Gardeners

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producers/Hosts: Jim Campbell and Amy Browne

This series is made possible in part by a grant from the Maine Arts Commission

Welcome to this edition of Maine: The Way Life Could Be, a series in which we look at challenges and opportunities facing Maine in the lifetimes of people alive today.

In previous programs in this series, we looked at some of the possible effects of climate change on the way life could be in Maine in the not too distant future. Today, we look at some forces already at work today – climate change as well as the recent rediscovery of so-called “forever chemicals” in Maine soil and water – and what these forces may mean for people who grow food, both as professional farmers and as backyard gardeners.

We asked Sarah Alexander, the Executive Director of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) and John Jemison Professor of Soil and Water Quality with the Cooperative Extension at the University of Maine what impacts Maine farmers and gardeners might expect to see in their lifetimes from “forever chemicals” and climate change.

Healthy Options 5/4/22: Yearly Update on TICKS, Lyme, and Tick-borne Illnesses

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Host/Producer: Rhonda Feiman

Co-Producer: Petra Hall

Technical assistance: Joel Mann & Amy Browne

Healthy Options: For Well-being & Being Well

Ticks ARE out- and biting (ugh!), so it's time for our yearly update on TICKS, Lyme, and tick-borne illness, with tick specialist, Dr. Beatrice Szantyr.

Key Discussion Points:

1. What is a tickborne illness?
2. What tickborne infections are viruses and which are bacterial, and how can they be treated?
3. What is the prevalence of Lyme disease, and other infections in Maine?
5. What percentage of people get a rash with Lyme infections and what does that rash look like?
6. Besides deer ticks, what other kinds of ticks are here now in Maine? What kind of diseases/infections can we get from them?
7. What is anaplasmosis and Powassan virus and why are we so concerned about these infections?
8. What can we do to protect ourselves from tick bites?
9. What do I do if I've been bitten? Where can I send the tick to analyze what it may carry, and will this help in my possible treatment?

Guest: Dr. Beatrice Szantyr, an Internist and Pediatrician who lectures on Lyme disease and related tick-borne disorders in Maine and nationally, to both professional and community groups. She is an active member of the Maine CDC Vector Borne Disease Work Group, and a member of the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society. Dr. Szantyr most

recently served on the 2022 Federal Tick-Borne Disease Working Group, the Access to Care and Education Subcommittee.

Change Agents 5/5/22: Mental Health Risks and Help for Trans and Non-binary Youth

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Steve Wessler

Change Agents, human right and social justice advocates on WERU FM

Guest, Emma Wynne Hill, a queer and non-binary psychotherapist currently working in Waterville for UCP of Maine, specializes in serving LGBTQIA+ young people.

Emma discusses the mental health risk for trans and non-binary youth and the work they do in helping youth navigate a sometimes hostile climate.

Discussed the emotional and physical harms that Trans and Non Binary youth navigate
Discussed the impact on Trans and Non Binary youth from new laws around the nation relating to transgender youth

Discussed Emma's work that can provide help for transgender and non-binary youth.

Conversations from the Pointed Firs 5/6/22: Julia Bouwsma- Poet Laureate of Maine and author of "Midden"

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Host: Peter Neill

Producer: Trisha Badger

Music by Casey Neill

Conversations from the Pointed Firs: A monthly series with Maine-connected authors and artists about new books and creative projects that invoke the spirit of Maine, its history, its ecology, its culture, and its contribution to community and quality of life.

The guest for this month is Julia Bouwsma, poet laureate of Maine and author of "*Midden*", an award-winning collection of poems published by Fordham University Press in 2018, an intimate and raw set of poems addressing a dark and important piece of Maine history that transpired on Malaga Island in Casco Bay in 1912.

Key Discussion Points:

- racism
- forcible eviction
- Maine islands
- Casco Bay
- Maine poetry
- poet laureate
- collection of poems

Talk of the Towns 5/11/22: The Changing Media Landscape in Maine and Elsewhere

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Ron Beard

Talk of the Towns: Local Community concerns and opportunities

We know the media landscape is changing, here in Maine, as elsewhere. Where do we get our news and information, and how do we test it for accuracy? And how does today's media intersect with making decisions in a democracy?

Ron Beard, host of Talk of the Towns, talks with guests Kate Cough, reporter for the Maine Monitor, Faith DeAmbrose, editor of the Mount Desert Islander newspaper, Michael Socolow, Journalism Professor from University of Maine and WERU's News and Public Affairs Manager, Amy Browne. They share perceptions about Maine's changing media landscape and what it means for democracy and citizen discourse.

Guests:

Kate Cough, Reporter, The Maine Monitor

Faith DeAmbrose, Managing Editor, The Mount Desert Islander

Michael Socolow, Media historian and Associate Professor of Communication and Journalism, University of Maine

Amy Browne, News and Public Affairs Manager, WERU Community Radio

Common Ground Radio 5/12/22: Homesteading in Maine

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producers/Hosts: Caitlyn Barker, Holli Cederholm

Editing: Clare Boland

Common Ground Radio: A monthly hour-long discussion of local food and organic agriculture with people here in the state of Maine and beyond.

The May 2022 episode of Common Ground Radio explores homesteading in Maine in conversation with homesteaders of varying levels and lengths of experience. Host Caitlyn Barker spoke with Sikwani and Nathan Dana of The Dana Homestead about living off the land in Solon, Maine, and how they use social media to share their homesteading journey. Later in the show, Barker is joined by Angela DeRosa who has been homesteading for decades in Wellington, Maine.

-Homesteading in Maine

-TikTok

-Beginning homesteading experiences

Guests:

Sikwani Dana, The Dana Homestead, Solon, ME

Nathan Dana, The Dana Homestead, Solon, ME

The Dana Homestead TikTok

Angela DeRosa, homesteader, Wellington, ME

Relationship Rewind 5/17/22: Power & Control in Relationships in the Film “Scott Pilgrim vs the World”

4:30- 5pm, 28 mins, pre-recorded

Host: Alli Williamson (she, hers) Youth Educator and Advocate at NextStep Domestic Violence Project

Helpline: 1(800) 315-5579

Music credit: Brandon Nelson (he, him) local musician donated theme music for the show.

Relationship Rewind: Rewinding relationships in popular media and breaking down behaviors based in power, control, and abuse.

In this episode, we talk about power and control in relationships and breaking down the behaviors in the 2010 film Scott Pilgrim VS the World.

Key Discussion Points:

1. Unhealthy behaviors in relationships
2. How media normalizes these behaviors
3. The impacts of these messages about relationships on young people

Guest: Kim (she, hers): Local High School Student

Dawnland Signals 5/19/22: Indigenous Birthworkers

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producers/Hosts: Maria Girouard, Esther Anne

Jeffrey Hotchkiss, Zoom recording technician

Dawnland Signals highlights indigenous topics not immediately represented in mainstream media and is meant to share, inspire, and inform. Join co-hosts Maria Girouard and Esther Anne as they engage in critical conversations of truth, healing, and change in the Dawnland.

Indigenous Birthworkers from the Northeast gathered recently for the first time since colonization to connect, learn, and share. On this episode of Dawnland Signals, we talk with two of the organizers of this ground breaking effort to reclaim birthwork here in Wabanakik ~ Dr. Jus Crea Giammarino and Taraè Ramos.

You can support this effort to reclaim indigenous birthwork by donating to the Eastern Woodlands Rematriation Collective [here](#)

Key Discussion Points:

1. What is indigenous birthwork and what does it include?
2. How did you become a birthworker?
3. What are the next steps for reclaiming indigenous birthwork?

Guests: Dr. Jus Crea Giammarino and Taraè Ramos

Democracy Forum 5/20/22: The Demise of Local News: What Are We Losing?

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Host: Ann Luther, League of Women Voters of Maine

Democracy Forum: Participatory Democracy, encouraging citizens to take an active role in government and politics

Key Discussion Points:

Local news and local democracy.

What is a “news desert”? Does Maine have them?

What happens in towns that have no institutional news coverage? Does it affect self-governance at the local level?

Can citizen or grass-roots journalism fill the gap?

Even if we have plenty of citizen journalists, do we lose cohesion without an institutional resource that provides a collective understanding?

Guests:

Penelope Abernathy, visiting professor at the Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University

Dan MacLeod, Managing Editor, Bangor Daily News

Lincoln Millstein, blogs local news at The Quietside Journal

Wabanaki Windows 5/24/22: Tribal Sovereignty in Maine

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Donna Loring

Other credits: Technical assistance for the show was provided by Joel Mann WERU Orland Maine and Jessica Lockhart of WMPG Portland Portland Maine.

Music for the show was from the CD Dream Walk by Rolfe Richter

Wabanaki Windows is a monthly show featuring topics of interest from a Wabanaki perspective. The issue this month is: Sovereignty and its meaning: A 2-part series.

We discuss the Maine Land Claims Settlement Act and its effect on Maine Tribal Sovereignty.

We look at Act from a different perspective not just who got what but what was happening on a Federal level at the time of the Maine Land Claims Settlement Act.

Key Discussion Points:

1. National Events in Indian Country in the 1940's -1980
2. Maine State Court Case Opinions prior to 1980 ACT
3. Micmac Settlement Act how its different

Guests:

Profs Harald Prins and Darren Ranco.

Prof Prins is a native of the Netherlands he is a Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and an Emeritus at Kansas State Univ.. Professor Darren Ranco is a member of the Penobscot Nation and an Associate Professor of Anthropology and Chair of Native American Studies at the University of Maine.

Power for the People: 5/25/22: Sprawl and Climate Change

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Steve Kahl

Key Discussion Points:

- a) new housing legislation in Maine
- b) climate change
- c) Smart growth

Guest:

Nancy Smith, Executive Director of GrowSmart Maine

Coastal Conversations 5/27/22: Rainbow Smelt

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Natalie Springuel

Coastal Conversations: Conversations with people who live, work, and play on the Maine coast, hosted by the University of Maine Sea Grant Program.

This episode:

Many people in Maine have heard of Atlantic Salmon and Alewives, but do you know about Rainbow Smelt? These migratory sea-run fish may be swimming up your backyard streams right now! And historically, these fish have all featured in the lives of Maine residents for sustenance, income, and recreation.

Smelt and tomcod populations are believed to have declined in recent decades. That's the bad news. The good news is that the restoration of salmon and alewife habitat benefits all members of the sea-run fish family.

Our show today features a compendium of smelt stories plus a few about tomcod and other sea-run fish, from interviews conducted over the course of the last year in an effort to document the traditional ecological knowledge of people who harvest, interact with, and observe sea-run fish.

So make a note to tune in Friday afternoon, May 27, 2022, from 4-5 PM, when this month's Coastal Conversation features stories and voices talking about seasons of change for Maine's sea-run fish. Only on WERU community radio, 89.9 FM in Blue Hill and online at WERU.org.

Key Discussion Points:

- The seasonality of migrating fish
- Stories and memories from people who have fished and observed smelt, tom cod and other searun fish since the 1970's.
- The ecology and biology of changing fisheries in Maine's rivers, streams and estuaries

Guests:

Chris Johnson, ecology manager with the Passamaquoddy Tribe Sipayak Environmental Department

Danielle Frechette, a marine resource scientist with Maine Department of Marine Resource's bureau of sea-run fisheries and habitat

Sean Beauregard, a student at the University of Maine and Smelt interview project intern

John Melquist Sr., smelt fisherman, South Thomaston

Kurt Soneson, a retired Marine Patrol Officer

Sharon Morrill, wildlife watcher from Damariscotta Mills

Dick and Max Grimm, a father and son fishermen from Yarmouth

Lawrence Moffet, retired commercial lobsterman and recreational tomcod fisherman

Change Agents 6/2/22: Reducing Anti-immigrant Bias and Harassment

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Steve Wessler

Change Agents, human right and social justice advocates on WERU FM

I interviewed Denise Wright who has been working on reducing anti-immigrant bias and harassment in Belfast, Northern Ireland for over 20 years. She has changed the hearts and minds of many people who were had negative views of immigrants. We discussed some of the work we have done together in Belfast.

Key Discussion Points:

1. Changing the minds and hearts of Catholics and Protestants
2. Protecting immigrants from harm
3. Conducting dialogues

Conversations from the Pointed Firs 6/3/22: Kerri Arsenault, author of “Milltown: Reckoning with What Remains”

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Host: Peter Neill

Producer: Trisha Badger

Music by Casey Neill

Conversations from the Pointed Firs: A monthly series with Maine-connected authors and artists about new books and creative projects that invoke the spirit of Maine, its history, its ecology, its culture, and its contribution to community and quality of life.

Our guest for this month is Kerri Arsenault, author of *“Milltown: Reckoning with What Remains”*, published in 2020 by St. Martins Press. Kerri is winner of many distinguished literary prizes such as the 2021 Rachel Carson Environmental Book Award and the Maine Literary Award for Non-Fiction. “Milltown” is a book of narrative non-fiction, investigative memoir and cultural criticism that illuminates the rise and collapse of the working class, the hazards of loving and leaving home, and the ambiguous nature of toxins and disease with the central question, “Who or what are we willing to sacrifice for our own survival?”

#MaineRivers

#PointSourcePollution

#PaperMills

#Rumford

#CancerClusters

#Dioxins

#Forever Chemicals

Maine: The Way Life Could Be 6/7/22: The “Water, Water Everywhere, But...” edition

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producers/Hosts: Jim Campbell and Amy Browne

This series is made possible in part by a grant from the Maine Arts Commission

Welcome to this edition of Maine: The Way Life Could Be, a series in which we look at challenges and opportunities facing Maine in the lifetimes of people alive today.

Today, we focus on water. Water is a very big topic, especially for a coastal state like Maine. As we look ahead, we need to take into account possible changes to seawater, surface freshwater, and groundwater and their effects on life in the state. That is a lot to cover and we can't go into great detail but we can provide an overview of things we may all need to think about as we look forward to our lives here in Maine.

We do that by reporting on existing research about water issues that are already becoming visible – and that will certainly be even bigger issues in our future. Later in the program, we

will also be talking with people who are, in different ways, on the front lines of some major current water issues that may be even bigger in our common future.

Guests:

Nickie Sekera lives in Fryeburg, Maine and hears tractor trailers loaded with water extracted from wells in her town passing her house as they haul that water out of state. That experience has motivated her to become knowledgeable about Maine's laws and about corporate large scale extraction from Maine's groundwater. She is the cofounder of Community Water Justice She also works with the Sunlight Media Collective, reporting on related topics, especially those that impact indigenous communities.

Former State Representative Ralph Chapman is a materials scientist who has studied the effects of mineral mining in Maine historically, and some of the mineral mining activities being proposed today and tomorrow here in Maine. He worked on legislation that would have to address some of the shortcomings he identifies in Maine's mining rules revision while he was in the legislature.

Common Ground Radio 6/9/22: PFAS Contamination of Farmland in Maine

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producers/Hosts: Caitlyn Barker, Holli Cederholm

Editing: Clare Boland

Common Ground Radio: A monthly hour-long discussion of local food and organic agriculture with people here in the state of Maine and beyond.

This episode of Common Ground Radio digs into PFAS contamination of farmland in Maine. Host Holli Cederholm talked with Sarah Alexander, executive director of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA); Ryan Dennett, MOFGA's farmer programs director; and Caleb Goossen, crop specialist with MOFGA. The discussion covered the impact of PFAS contamination on Maine's farmers as well as PFAS legislation enacted in Maine and how it can serve as a roadmap for other states also dealing with contamination from so-called "forever" and "everywhere" chemicals.

Key Discussion Points:

1. Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
2. PFAS contamination of farmland
3. PFAS contamination pathways
4. PFAS legislation in Maine
5. Farms impacted by PFAS
6. PFAS mitigation
7. PFAS testing for farms

Guests:

Sarah Alexander, executive director of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA);
Ryan Dennett, MOFGA's farmer programs director; and
Caleb Goossen, crop specialist with MOFGA.

Let's Talk About It 6/10/22: Conversations with Survivors of Domestic Abuse

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Patrisha McLean

Production assistance: Tammy Oropesa

Music by Roan Yellowthorn AKA the host's daughter Jackie McLean Strack

Let's Talk About It: Conversations with Survivors of Domestic Abuse

This episode: A two-parter with guests who surmounted the trauma of domestic violence to graduate from college.

Key Discussion Points:

Emotional abuse

Post-separation abuse

Wanting to kill yourself because of the abuse

Guests:

Denisse, Fullbright Scholar and Harvard Kennedy School graduate

Lian, law school graduate

BoatTalk 6/14/22

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producers/Hosts: Mike Joyce, Alan Sprague

This episode: Begins with a boatyard report from Jon Johansen. Then an interview with author Eric Jay Dolin about his new book "Rebels at Sea, Privateering in the Revolutionary War. Plus an update on books two and three by the sailing cat Chowder.

-Latest boatyard news and launchings

-Very interesting talk with Eric Jay Dolin about his new book "Rebels at Sea, Privateering in the Revolutionary War"

-Update on books two and three by Chowder the Cat who sailed around the world and experienced many adventures. Far Away Islands of Paradise is book two and Westward Beyond the Horizon is book three

Democracy Forum 6/17/22: The Supreme Court and Democracy

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Host: Ann Luther, League of Women Voters of Maine

Democracy Forum: Participatory Democracy, encouraging citizens to take an active role in government and politics

Issue: Participatory Democracy, encouraging citizens to take an active role in government and politics

Key Discussion Points:

The courts as protectors of democracy

Judicial philosophy and constitutional interpretation

The authority and power of the court

The peril of the court being political or even perceived as such

Guests:

Richard H. Pildes, Sudler Family Professor of Constitutional Law, New York University School of Law

Maron Sorenson, Assistant Professor of Government, Dept. Government and Legal Studies, Bowdoin College

Relationship Rewind 6/21/22: The Simpsons

4:30-5pm, 28 mins, pre-recorded

Host: Alli Williamson (she, hers) Youth Educator and Advocate at NextStep Domestic Violence Project

Helpline: 1(800) 315-5579

Music credit: Brandon Nelson (he, him) local musician donated theme music for the show.

Relationship Rewind: Rewinding relationships in popular media and breaking down behaviors based in power, control, and abuse.

On this episode: We talk about power and control in relationships and breaking down the behaviors in the long running show The Simpsons.

-Discussing unhealthy behaviors in relationships

-Discussing how media normalizes these behaviors

-Discussing the impacts of these messages about relationships on young people

Guest: Rowan; Local Middle School Student

Let's Talk Animals (Finale) 6/23/22: Veterinarian's Perspective

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Dr. John Hunt

Lets Talk Animals From Aardvarks to Zebras, Farewell show

Veterinarian's Perspective- 4 veterinarians discuss different aspects of private practice

- Being a Vet in a small town
- Being a women in the veterinary profession
- The future of alternative veterinary medicine
- Aspects of vet hospitals becoming part of corporations

Guests: Dr Greg Thibodeau, Dr Yevette Lahaye, Dr Tom Cameron, Dr Mark Hank

Coastal Conversations 6/24/22: Pogies (Atlantic menhaden)

58 mins, 4-5pm, pre-recorded

Producer/Host: Natalie Springuel

Coastal Conversations: Conversations with people who live, work, and play on the Maine coast, hosted by the University of Maine Sea Grant Program.

This episode:

Most fishermen will tell you that the presence of Atlantic menhaden on the coast of Maine is cyclical. In the last few years, menhaden, or pogies as the small schooling fish are known locally, have returned in high enough numbers to trigger a commercial fishery that holds promise for many fishermen. Their presence is fortuitous. Pogies have filled a lobster bait void left behind by declining Atlantic herring stocks. Many lobstermen, scrambling for bait to feed their lobster traps, have settled on pogies.

There are many others in the Gulf of Maine who are happy to see the pogies return in great numbers – chief among them: the predators like tuna, striped bass, bald eagles and even humpback whales.

On our show today, we explore the world of pogies, the fishermen who harvest them and the species like tuna who eat them. We talk with two fishermen who describe how the fish are caught and why the fishery is increasingly important to Maine fishermen. And we'll hear from a scientist about how his research on Atlantic Blue-fin tuna also reveals the increasing presence of pogies in Maine waters.

- Return of Pogies (AKA Menhaden) to Maine
- Fishermen's stories about rigging up to purse seining for pogies.
- Pogies as lobster bait
- Pogies role in the Gulf of Maine food web

Guests:

Devyn Campbell, Boothbay Harbor fisherman (fishes for groundfish and in recent years pogies)

Dave Horner, Southwest Harbor fisherman (has fished for lobster, scallop, shrimp, groundfish and in recent years pogies)

Walt Golet, Assistant Professor at the University of Maine's School of Marine Sciences and lead of the Pelagic Fisheries lab at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute.