

Issues Programs List
Quarterly Issues Programs List
Stations: WYRK, WBUF, WBLK
April 1 – June 31, 2023

Section I. Issues

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

- A. **Education.** According to the Buffalo News and its sources, the Buffalo Public School graduation rate is up from 78.5% to 79%, still below the national average of 87%. This quarter had a big focus on Education and the programs available to help students as well as teachers leading into summer and the next school year.
- B. **Crime.** Buffalo more than doubles the national average in Violent Crimes and Property Crime in 2023 according to bestplaces.net. The programs this month focused on organizations like “To Our Legacys and Legends” and the PAL organization to help those have been affected by crime and also help educate youth in the hopes of that number dropping in the future.
- C. **Nutrition.** According to nih.gov, since Covid, snacking rate has increased while fast food and ordered food consumption has decreased. This shows that consumers are shopping more and consuming the food they have at home rather than dining elsewhere. However, are they eating the right foods? Feed More WNY and Patti Green focus this quarter on healthy eating habits and where to go if you need help with food education or where to get healthy, nutritious food.
- D. **Community.** This May marked one year of the mass shooting that happened right here in Buffalo. Melissa Archer from the Buffalo Urban League and Rev. Mark Blue from the NACCP discussed how that event impacted this community and well as resources to help those that are struggling.
- E. **Tourism.** Niagara Falls is right in Buffalo’s back yard and is a big generator of revenue for many local businesses with how many tourists come through that area year after year. Unfortunately, Niagara Falls is also an area that could use some renovations and beautifying. Multiple programs this quarter focused on how Niagara Falls is working towards renovating.

Section II. Responsive Programs

Issues and Views is a 60 minute locally produced public affairs program that airs every Sunday on all four stations at the following times:

WYRK and WBLK at 6:30 a.m.
WBUF at 6:00 a.m.

Date(s) Aired	Guests	Related Issues	Description of Program
4/9/23	Chelsea White – VP Chief of Education for the CAO of WNY	Education/Community	Chelsea gave a brief history of the Community Action Organization of WNY (established in 1965), its purpose and

			services and the need for teachers and educators and the benefits offered. Also discussed were the programs including Head Start/Early Head Start, Community Engagement, Housing Development, Emergency and Family Service and Senior Services and how they benefit the Buffalo community.
4/16/23	Rob Restaino -Mayor of Niagara Falls	Tourism, Local Economy, Cannabis, Crime, Gun Violence, Bail Reform	Niagara Falls is one of the Western New York staples that draws thousands of tourists. Unfortunately, it is also a city that is in desperate need of renovation. Rob discussed issues within the city and their plans to rejuvenate Niagara Falls. Also discussed were Seneca Nations Marijuana Dispensary, Gun Violence and Bail Reform.
4/23/23	Gina Lattucca- Chief Communications Officer Erie Co SPCA	Animal Welfare	The SPCA service Erie Co is introducing three new programs to help to provide homes to animals in need and to address overcrowding at the animal shelter. Gina talked about Trial Adoptions, Doggie Entourage and Ferrell Cat Focus. We also discussed the SPCA's current incentive for volunteers.
4/30/23	Dr. Geraldine Bard- Buffalo State College	Literacy, Diversity and Education	Dr. Bard discussed the Books for Kids Campaign. 2023 marks the 27 th year of this community literacy campaign founded by Dr. Geraldine Bard and Dr. Elizabeth Cappella. Books for kids has distributed over three million books to children and agencies since 1995. Townsquare Media is a co-sponsor of the event.
5/7/23	Catherine Schick- Feed More WNY	Food Insecurities, Hunger, Poverty, Public Resources	Catherine discussed the mission of FeedMore WNY in support of Food Insecurity in Western New York, as well as their fundraiser Sweet Expectations. The event is being held 5/18/23 and Townsquare Buffalo is a media partner. Sweet Expectations will feature drinks, savory dishes and desserts from premier WNY establishments, as well as entertainment.
5/14/23	LaShelle Roberson Founder To Our Legacys and Legends Inc	Crime and Diversity, Public Resources, Poverty, Community Needs, Youth	<i>"To Our Legacys and Legends"</i> is a local organization that provides help to victims of violence in our community. Especially children that are left without a parent or guardian. The Organization started after a tragic Buffalo event where she now cares for a pair of twins that lost their mother who was killed. Their organization helps with "anything" in her words. It's anything from food, sanitary needs, financial planning and life lessons.

5/21/23	Nekia Kemp, Exec. - Director of Buffalo PAL	Diversity, Youth, Crime, Police	The Buffalo Police Athletic League (PAL) is a non-profit that provides the youth of Buffalo and surrounding locales with recreational, educational, cultural, environmental, programs and activities at little or low-cost to families. Nekia discussed PAL's recently announced roster of free or low-cost Summer Youth Athletic Programs which will have a huge impact on the Buffalo community.
5/28/23	Patti Green- Certified Holistic Health Coach	Health and Nutrition	Patti has discovered a disconnect between people and their knowledge of food's origins. Patti works to introduce families to fruits, vegetables, and foods available in Western New York. Having people eat FRESH for better nutrition and to support local farmers.
6/4/23	Melissa Archer, Buffalo Urban League and Rev. Mark Blue, NAACP	Diversity, Mental Health, Social Issues	Discussed 5/14 Event and the social and racial issues facing the Buffalo/WNY Community, The NAACP Gala on 6/24 at the Buffalo Convention Center. Melissa and Rev. Blue also discussed the impact of social media on the health of our community.
6/11/23	Rebecca Vincheski, CEO Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club	Education/Youth	Becky Vincheski, after 10 years at the helm talks about the ongoing mission of the Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club, including socializing, youth challenges, fundraising and the vision for the future.
6/18/23	Mark Laurrie Supt. Of Niagara Falls Schools	Education	Supt. Laurrie reviewed the 22-23 School year focusing on; safety/security, COVID recovery and new practices, issue of lack of bus drivers, home schooling and attendance.
6/25/23	Mark Zirnheld, CEO St Vincent De Paul Buffalo	Faith Based Initiatives	Mark discussed the background and mission of the Society of St Vincent De Paul, person-to-person assistance to the poor, suffering and forgotten. He also talked about drop-off locations for clothing and household and business items, the St Vincent De Paul Discount Store on Main Street and the Dining Room that serves lunches to the WNY Community.