

Issues/Programs Report
Q3'23
Radio 1300 WKQK
Cocoa Beach, FL

ISSUES:

WKQK has identified the following as significant issues of interest to our community during this quarter; as noted below, some issues listed were addressed by more than one special weekly feature:

1. Repairing the Indian River Lagoon: The challenges facing the ecology of the Indian River lagoon and what is being done to address it is of great concern to our citizens.
2. Wildlife Conservation: Resources that help ensure that wildlife in Brevard County survive and thrive.
3. Health and Therapeutic Services: The availability and importance of health and therapeutic services to our community.
4. Supporting Technology in Education: Important ways students and teachers in Brevard County can acquire critical high technology equipment.
5. Community Economic Development: Important progress in the development of Brevard's largest planned community, Viera.
6. Support for Seniors: County-wide services in support of senior citizens.
7. Veterans Support Organizations: Brevard organizations that provide support and services to armed forces veterans.
8. Emergency Preparations: Important information during the midst of the hurricane season, plus other ways citizens can prepare for emergencies.

ISSUES DISCUSSION AND PROGRAMMING:

WKQK specifically addressed the issues listed above and delineated below via its weekly *Brevard at Large* community affairs program.

1. Repairing the Indian River Lagoon

Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition. Marilyn Waters, Chair

Brevard Zoo. Jake Zehnder, Conservation Manager.

Broadcast July 2, 2023

Broadcast September 24, 2023

In the heart of Brevard County, our guests spoke in detail about the ecological issues facing the lagoon and efforts being taken to restore it to its former splendor and vitality.

2. Wildlife Conservation

Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. Kimberly King-Wrenn, Visitor Services Manager

Broadcast July 9, 2023

A positive byproduct of NASA's development of the Kennedy Space Center in our county is the 140,000-acre Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, part of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Ms. King-Wrenn said that the refuge provides a wide variety of habitats including freshwater impoundments, coastal dunes, saltwater marshes, scrub, pine flatwoods, and hardwood hammocks that provide habitat for more than 1,500 species of plants and animals and 15 federally listed species.

Save the Manatee Club: Patrick Rose, Executive Director

Broadcast August 20, 2023

A large population of manatees makes its home in Brevard County waters, and the smaller size of the mammals and their death rate were discussed by Mr. Rose. He described ways that citizens can help ensure a healthy manatee population.

Space Coast Audobon Society: Jim Stahl, President

Broadcast August 13, 2023

Birding is a popular pastime in Brevard County, largely because of the massive amount of land that is preserved as part of the Kennedy Space Center and the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. Mr. Stahl discussed the outstanding number of birds that call the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge home for at least part of the year.

Florida Bat Conservancy. Shari Clark, President
Broadcast September 17, 2023

Ms. Clark shared that a single bat eats thousands of insects every day, up to 1 million over the course of a year, making dangerous pesticides less necessary. She encouraged all listeners to learn more about bats and the positive impact they have.

Florida Wildlife Hospital: Tracy Frampton, Executive Director
Broadcast September 3, 2023

Ms. Frampton discussed the services of Florida Wildlife Hospital and how residents can deliver injured, native wildlife to its facility.

3. Health and Therapeutic Services

Harmony Farms. Pamela Rogan, Founder, Executive Director, & Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor
Broadcast July 16, 2023

Ms. Rogan discussed the purpose and mission of Harmony Farms, a volunteer-based organization which provides equine assisted therapy and activities to disabled individuals of all ages, to improve their physical, mental, and emotional well being. She explained that Harmony Farms has been responding to the diverse needs of those with disabilities for over 26 years, and with five Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructors, services 60 riders a week with a waiting list.

4. Supporting Technology in Education

Computers Advancing Education. Fremont Bassett, Founder
Broadcast July 23, 2023

Mr. Bassett explained the vision and mission of Computers Advancing Education. They receive non-functioning computer hardware and repair it so it can then be donated to students, educational facilities, and certain others who could not otherwise afford it.

5. Community Economic Development

The Viera Company: Eva Rey, Director of Community Management, Amenities, and Communications
Broadcast July 30, 2023

Viera is a 43,000-acre planned community in Brevard County that began development over 25 years ago. Ms. Rey shared the history and progress of Viera to date, as well as plans to continue into the future.

6. Support for Seniors

One Senior Place. Barbara Fradkin, Director, Founder, Executive Director, & Certified Broadcast August 6, 2023

Ms. Fradkin discussed the importance of One Senior Place in providing information, referrals, and activities to individuals dealing with issues involving senior citizens.

7. Veterans Support Organizations

Brevard Veterans Resource Network. Scott Robinson, Executive Director Broadcast August 27, 2023

Brevard Veterans Resource Network is a partnership of numerous organizations that provide support and services to military veterans. Mr. Robinson described how the network facilitates access to information and other resources for the many veterans who call Brevard County home.

8. Emergency Preparations

Brevard County Emergency Management: John Scott, Director Broadcast September, 2023

John Scott, Director of Brevard County Emergency Management, reviewed the office's responsibilities in regard to its preparation and response to emergencies in our county. These involve not only dealing with hurricanes and other inclement weather, wildfires, and other natural phenomena, but also in the event of a space launch emergency at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Kennedy Space Center, and other "man-made" catastrophes.