



Quarterly Significant Issues Report

Period 3: July 1 - September 30, 2023

Compiled by John Voket

Director of Public Affairs - Connoisseur Media (CT)

This quarterly significant issues report reflects concerns facing our local communities, and details how our radio station is responding through weekly public affairs programming, news reports, PSAs and streaming content. Our award-winning public affairs program, 'For The People' is locally produced by Public Affairs Director John Voket, and features multiple, extended focus segments and several local PSAs.

The producer regularly interacts with residents, representatives of local, regional and national organizations, as well as visiting political and community leaders to help ascertain issues and initiatives relevant to listeners. These sources help qualify programming decisions and identify guests attempting to understand, explain and/or address these concerns. The producer also monitors daily news reports to stay informed, and to respond quickly when incidents or issues require more detailed or expanded focus.

This quarter, our program included reporting on: CT Food System Alliance - USDA Summer Food Safety Advisory - CTLCV Legislative Recap - CT Food System Alliance pt 2 - AARP Community Challenge Awards - Visionary Physical Therapy - SHU symposium on Creating Antiracist Solution - Children's Center of Hamden - AAA Northeast Bank Student Loan Support - GVI's Urban Farming Extravaganza - CT Voices for Children - Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center - CT Small Business Development Ctr - CT Council of Family Service Agencies - Waterbury Black Giving Circle - CT Violence Intervention Program - Sen. Tony Hwang - Histoury (Encore) - JoeAbate Charitable Foundation - Probus Club of Greater New Haven - Green STEP Summer Training - CMAK Sandy Hook Memorial Foundation - CT OHS/Dr Deidre Gifford - Liberation Programs Pt. 1 - Liberation Programs Pt. 2 - Children in Placement - The Exceptional Sidekick Service Dogs / YNH Children's Hospital - Abilis - CTC's Women of Innovation - Bigelow Tea Community Challenge / Bridge House - Lupus Foundation Norwalk Chapter - 'AARP & You' Pt. 1: Fraud Protection - VCF Health & Wellness Forum - CTData / Multigenerational Households

Our program occasionally features a series or "special report" - extended focus on a particular theme, or multi-faceted coverage on more broad or complicated issues. These specials and series have focused on Connecticut's organic farms, farmers and gardeners; stigmas facing individuals with disabilities or mental health issues; environmental preservation and conservation; events like the Beardsley Zoo's 100th Anniversary, NOFA's annual OrganiCONN, and the International Festival of Arts & Ideas; how state government and leadership are affecting listeners' economic quality of life; workforce development; as well as highlighting initiatives impacting food equity, and the latest social / racial justice issues affecting our communities. 'For the People' airs Sunday mornings at the times noted in the grid below, and each program then becomes available as a podcast on each station's website and on multiple podcast networks.

This quarter, our PSA notifications informed listeners about: Beardsley Zoo Teddy Bear Fest, Eversource Consumer / Business Scam Warning, Norwalk Seaport Assoc. Pirates Weekend, CT DCP Cannabis Growers PSA, Beardsley Zoo 17th Annual benefit golf tournament, Milford Food Bank Home Food Delivery service launch, 8th Annual Weekend In Norfolk (WIN), Western Connecticut State University Project ITCH - CT Age Well Collaborative Community Partnerships Manager - The Mattatuck Museum - Yoga in Our City matching grant from Sustainable CT - Flagman K-12 pilot education outreach program - Impact Fairfield County nonprofit grant program - Acts 4 Ministry's Back To School "Swap and Shop" event - Griffin Health Holiday Concert auditions - CT Sales Tax Free Week - the Greater Bridgeport Symphony (GBS) - AARP Connecticut 2023 Livable Communities Grant Program - The Lab @ ConnCORP Launchpad at The Lab series - Youth Gambling Awareness Project media campaign competition - 54th CT State Ukrainian Day Festival - 4th Annual Smart Walk for Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities - Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum Annual Gala - Random Hacks of Kindness Junior VIRTUAL Coding for Good Hackathon - The Center for Empowerment and Education's (CEE) annual SafeWalk - The Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum 10th Annual Young Writers' Competition.

A separate report detailing additional programming on WICC that addresses critical issues in our listening area will be attached as soon as it is made available.

Continued

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WEBE offers 2 traffic breaks Monday through Friday between 5-6 am

4 traffic breaks each hour between 6-8 am

1 traffic break each hour at 9 am, 10 am, 11 am, Noon, 1, 2, & 3 pm

2 traffic breaks each hour between 4-7 pm

There is 1 news break in the 5 am hour; and 2 news breaks in each hour 6, 7, & 8 am

WICC news & traffic reports air Monday through Friday, 5-10a

News 2x per hour - :00 and :30 / Traffic 6x per hour - :06, :16, :26, :36, :46, :56

Monday through Friday, 2-6p

News 2x per hour - :00 and :30 / Traffic 6x per hour - :06, :16, :26, :36, :46, :56

All other hours – news 1x per hour at :00

In 2023, For The People continues focusing on critical community issues related to:

Aging / Veterans (A/V) – Highlighting people, programs, local, state, or regional agencies, and/or legislation - and how they respond to critical issues involving Connecticut veterans and/or our maturing population.

Environment / Agriculture (Ev/Ag) – focusing on issues, local agencies and/or initiatives that may impact, protect, preserve, and/or enhance the environment and Connecticut's agricultural sustainability.

Government / Volunteerism (G/V) – promoting governmental or political issues or political leaders - and 'boutique' or hyper-local causes partnering with - or requesting station and/or staff assistance - because they recognize our broadcast platform's value, and the responsiveness we inspire throughout our listening area.

Health / Safety (H/S) – highlighting issues, agencies, and activities specifically related to health and/or safety.

Social/Racial Justice (SRJ) - agencies and/or individuals educating, engaging, or promoting Social and/or Racial Justice issues or programs.

Workforce / Consumer / Tourism (W/C/T) – reporting on initiatives, agencies, or programs dealing with local, state, national and/or global economic situations affecting Connecticut and/or the communities we serve; economic and workforce development; and/or programs directed to consumer education/protection; along with focusing on events or activities related to the state's tourism industry.

Youth / Education (Y/Ed) – responding to education-related issues and/or concerns facing those under age 21 across Connecticut and our listening area.

Each 'For the People' segment report designates its related area(s) of coverage; approx. length and time of airing. Our public affairs director makes every effort to ensure each significant issue is addressed during at least one program each quarter. The extended nature of our program presents opportunities to include more than one significant issue or area of coverage in a particular segment, series, 'Special Report,' or entire program. And since 'For the People' is syndicated regionally and webcasts / podcasts globally, subject matter may contain content of national, regional and/or state-wide interest as well as community-specific impact.

Everyone at Connoisseur Media is proud of the efforts and energy our staff contributes through company initiatives and individually in their own communities. We invite you to review our public affairs coverage below as evidence of our broadcast commitment to those communities and listeners across the State of Connecticut.

Submitted by-

John Voket

Director of Public Affairs - WPLR / WEZN / WFOX / WEBE / WICC AM-FM

440 Wheelers Farms Rd, Suite 302

Milford, CT 06461 / 203-783-8285

john.voket@ConnoisseurCT.com

continued

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Issue Related To	Guest / Cause	Responding to Community, Regional or Statewide Issue	Airdate, Time & Duration
Ev/Ag G/V H/S SRJ W/C/T	CT Food System Alliance	<p><i>Is it possible for New England to produce and consume one-third of all our food within seven years?</i></p> <p>We opened the third quarter with the first of a two-part discussion with the Connecticut Food System Alliance unpacking a recent report they helped produce to inform consumers, state governments, farmers, and the food industry in pursuit of producing and consuming 30% of New England's food in the region by 2030.</p>	7-02-23 6:02 am 15m
H/S W/C/T	USDA: Summer Event Food Safety	<p><i>Can you really prevent foodborne illness at a summer party, picnic, or barbecue?</i></p> <p>Barbecues, parties and picnics have great potential to spread foodborne illness, so For the People connected with our partners at the USDA to walk them through everything they needed to know to keep their family and guests safe - from the market, all the way to packing up and enjoying leftovers.</p>	7-02-23 6:17 am 20m
Ev/Ag G/V H/S SRJ W/C/T	CT League of Conservation Voters	<p><i>How could our elected leaders stall Connecticut's global leadership on climate change, while delivering several little environmental victories this session?</i></p> <p>The CT League of Conservation Voters returned to recap some of the wins and losses coming out of the 2023 state legislative session. While 2023 reflected a number of advances, we learned how lawmakers fumbled when it came to continuing Connecticut's pattern of progress on addressing climate change and food waste recycling.</p>	7-02-23 6:39 am 15m
Ev/Ag G/V H/S SRJ W/C/T	CT Food System Alliance	<p><i>Can New England achieve the goal of producing and consuming one-third of the food we eat by 2030?</i></p> <p>The second of For the People's two-part discussion with the Connecticut Food System Alliance continued focusing on their recent collaborations and report to help inform all of New England as they pursue the goal of producing and consuming 30% of New England's food needs in the region by 2030.</p>	7-09-23 6:02 am 15m
A/V W/C/T Y/Ed	AARP Community Challenge grants	<p><i>Which of our communities captured AARP Challenge grants this year - and what kind of projects will result?</i></p> <p>For the People connected with a state spokesperson to learn more about recipients of the latest round of national AARP Community Challenge grants. This year, five Connecticut projects were chosen from over 3,000 applicants, so we prompted conversation about each of these community building initiatives that were all slated to be completed by the end of this year.</p>	7-09-23 6:17 am 20m
G/V H/S Y/Ed	Visionary Physical Therapy & SHU	<p><i>Are first responders subject to specific work-related injuries that physical therapy can address?</i></p> <p>For the People brought in the founder of Visionary Physical Therapy to talk about the unique issues and needs facing first responders, and how he and several Sacred Heart University PT students would be providing free treatments to first responders at an upcoming event in Fairfield.</p>	7-09-23 6:39 am 15m
H/S SRJ Y/Ed	SHU: Creating Antiracist Solutions	<p><i>Where can educators come together with community members to learn better ways of addressing racism?</i></p> <p>For the second year running, For the People helped brief educators, nonprofit representatives and community members about an upcoming Sacred Heart University symposium on Creating Antiracist Solutions, that in part planned to address the recent</p>	7-16-23 6:02 am 15m

		Supreme Court decision on affirmative action.	
H/S SRJ W/C/T Y/Ed	Children's Center of Hamden	<i>Is there a place for Connecticut youth to turn to for comprehensive support and solutions when facing life's biggest crises?</i> For the People helped celebrate 190 years of the Children's Center of Hamden supporting and educating local young people as they address and overcome challenges that may have life-altering implications. We were reminded that this long-established behavioral health organization is dedicated to helping individuals of all cultural backgrounds achieve their highest level of functioning through quality treatment, education and care.	7-16-23 6:17 am 20m
G/V W/C/T Y/Ed	AAA Northeast Bank	<i>Are you scrambling to figure out what to do now that student loan repayments will be resuming in October?</i> Listeners saddled with debt who just saw their planned student loan forgiveness struck down by the Supreme Court received some highly valuable advice and possibly some assistance courtesy of AAA Northeast Bank's Director of Student Lending.	7-16-23 6:39 am 15m
Ev/Ag H/S SRJ W/C/T	GVI Urban Farming Extravaganza	<i>Where can you find a flourishing urban community garden network that provides education, allies, and advocacy supporting neighborhoods that need it most?</i> For the People invited listeners back to Reservoir Community Farm for its upcoming first-ever Green Village Initiative (GVI) Urban Farming Extravaganza - connecting farmers and gardeners with the goal of growing knowledge and interconnection, rooted in a shared goal to feed loved ones, neighbors, and communities.	7-23-23 6:02 am 15m
A/V H/S SRJ W/C/T Y/Ed	Connecticut Voices for Children	<i>Did you know Connecticut is lacking almost 90,000 affordable housing units for its lowest income renters and workforce members?</i> Our state's escalating eviction crisis is taking a toll on our economy, workforce, public health and education systems - and is already affecting our quality of life. So, For the People connected with Connecticut Voices for Children for help unpacking their latest report on the eviction crisis and why the need to address it is so urgent.	7-23-23 6:17 am 20m
A/V H/S SRJ Y/Ed	Cornell Scott - Hill Health Center	<i>As for-profit healthcare agency consolidations continue, where can residents find viable nonprofit healthcare options in our region?</i> For the People brought in the CEO of the Cornell Scott - Hill Health Center network to talk about how they are delivering a wide range of physical, mental, dental, and wellness services to neighborhoods who need it the most. We also celebrated the opening of their newest project - the Dixwell Community House more commonly known as the "Dixwell Q-House," a center that welcomes and provides resources and opportunities for the breadth and diversity of our community: young children, teens, adults, and senior citizens.	7-23-23 6:39 am 15m
W/C/T	CT Small Business Development Ctr	<i>Where can aspiring or new small to medium sized business owners get the help they need to succeed?</i> This segment targeted small or medium size business owners, start-ups and entrepreneurs who could use the support of the CT Small Business Development Center,. Their spokesperson visited and covered many ways this agency is working to help businesses get started successfully or grow their existing business as well as advice on hiring new people or retaining their existing workforce.	8-06-23 6:02 am 15m
H/S Y/Ed	CT Council of Family Service Agencies	<i>How can youths in crisis access the screenings and services they require to begin addressing mental health challenges?</i> We were proud to introduce parents, friends and loved ones of adolescents and teens facing possible mental health challenges an important new and free resource from the CT Council of Family Service Agencies, which just received funding to offer free youth mental health screening and fast-track referrals for support to anyone who may need it across the state.	8-06-23 6:17 am 20m
SRJ	Waterbury's Black	<i>How are Black community members rallying around the nonprofits and businesses they</i>	8-06-23

W/C/T Y/Ed	Giving Circle	<i>operate and sustain?</i> As Black Philanthropy Month arrived this August we welcomed the founder of Waterbury's Black Giving Circle, which is ramping up recruiting and is seeking a whole new group of younger new members who want to cultivate charitable giving within the Black community, build capacity and financial sustainability of Black-led nonprofits, and address the most pressing needs facing Waterbury's Black community.	6:39 am 15m
H/S SRJ Y/Ed	CT Violence Intervention Program	<i>Are there any agencies targeting the necessary time and resources to begin addressing violence in our urban regions?</i> We were proud to introduce the CT Violence Intervention Program or CTVIP. This nonprofit practices trauma-informed care and unconditional care with every youth they come in contact with, providing a one-stop shop for at-risk youth and generally at-risk victims of violence throughout the New Haven region.	8-13-23 6:02 am 15m
A/V Ev/Ag G/V H/S SRJ W/C/T Y/Ed	State Senator Tony Hwang	<i>What were some of the key issues Connecticut lawmakers grappled with during the 2023 legislative session?</i> In this segment, we checked in with State Senator Tony Hwang, who represents several communities in northern Fairfield County to discuss some of the most important outcomes from the 2023 General Assembly session, as well as a couple of issues still simmering that are likely to come up again in 2024.	8-13-23 6:17 am 20m
W/C/T	Histoury	<i>How can residents and visitors learn more about the history and culture of Fairfield County Communities?</i> This replay of a late spring segment featuring a unique nonprofit called Histoury - this organization hosts fun and educational tours helping folks in Fairfield County show off or learn about styles of architecture, community development, and the events and people that shaped these places.	8-13-23 6:39 am 15m
H/S W/C/T Y/Ed	JoeAbate Foundation	<i>Did you know there's a local foundation helping care for children battling cancer and teens who are exploring career possibilities?</i> We introduced the founder of the nonprofit JoeAbate Foundation, and learned how it's supporting families with babies in the Yale New Haven Hospital Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, and creating micro-internships to help students discover career possibilities. We'll also invited listeners to participate in their upcoming 'Light Up the Night' fundraiser.	8-20-23 6:02 am 15m
G/V Y/Ed	Probus Club of Greater New Haven	<i>Do you have a bike - or two - or any old or unused musical instruments you'd like to see in the hands of young people who can't afford their own?</i> Listeners looking to make a difference - even with a tight schedule - were invited to join or support the Probus Club of Greater New Haven, which supports an incredible variety of service projects in greater New Haven. We also learned how the Probus Club can help listeners get rid of unused bicycles and musical instruments that might be cluttering up closets, garages, or storage areas, so they could be refurbished and given to young people who have had to go without due to financial challenges..	8-20-23 6:17 am 20m
Ev/Ag W/C/T Y/Ed	Green STEP Summer Training	<i>Have you heard about a new training program getting high school students certified to work in 'Green Commerce'?</i> A representative joined us from Energize Connecticut's Green STEP Summer Training Program, which just graduated 100 young people credentialed and prepared to go to work in Green commerce. We helped explain how to get local school systems involved, and about Energize Connecticut's plans for expanding this program to after school this fall and winter.	8-20-23 6:39 am 15m
A/V Ev/Ag	CMAK Sandy Hook Memorial	<i>Where can families, kids, and adults gather around a nonprofit doing good community work while promoting healthy activities?</i>	8-27-23 6:02 am

G/V H/S SRJ W/C/T Y/Ed	Foundation	For the People visited with Rebecca Kowalski who co-founded the CMAK Sandy Hook Memorial Foundation to honor her son Chase Michael Anthony Kowalski - one of the 20 student victims at Sandy Hook Elementary School. We heard how to get adults and kids involved in this unique program promoting community health and leadership skill-building through youth triathlon programs, and how to support the cause at a couple of upcoming events.	15m
A/V G/V H/S	CT Office of Health Strategy	<i>How does our state rank when it comes to the quality of healthcare we all receive?</i> For the People is bringing you an important and informative chat with Dr Deidre Gifford from Connecticut's OHS - the Office of Health Strategy. She'll be unpacking enlightening rankings - good and bad - about our state's healthcare delivery systems and related issues that affect everyone across Connecticut including veterans and our aging populations.	8-27-23 6:17 am 20m
H/S Y/Ed	Liberation Programs	<i>Is there a local agency that provides both addiction and mental health support services?</i> On this first day of International Overdose Awareness Week - For the People hosted the first of a two-part interview highlighting Liberation Programs, which serves about 1,000 people a day in our region with a range of addiction recovery and mental health support initiatives.	8-27-23 6:39 am 15m
H/S SRJ Y/Ed	Children In Placement	<i>Where can families turn if a child they love is under the care of the welfare or judicial system?</i> For the People reconnected with Children In Placement to promote their critical work with abused and neglected young people - while advocating for their best interests throughout the child welfare and judicial systems, and securing them safe homes, supportive services, and a stable transition into adulthood.	9-03-23 6:02 am 15m
A/V G/V H/S Y/Ed	Exceptional Sidekick Service Dogs YNH Children's Hospital	<i>Is there a local program training and placing service and support dogs in health care settings?</i> People joined folks from Yale New Haven Children's Hospital and The Exceptional Sidekick Service Dogs - which grew out of the Sandy Hook tragedy to bring these truly exceptional animals into the lives of people who need them most. We heard about how Exceptional Sidekick is now partnering in a growing program to serve young patients and their families at YNH Children's Hospital and other health systems including those serving veterans, and incarcerated individuals.	9-03-23 6:17 am 20m
H/S	Abilis	<i>How are alternately-abled people getting services fostering inclusiveness while learning to make contributions to their communities?</i> For the People welcomed back the CEO of Abilis, Inc., and invited listeners to support their upcoming Walk/Run for Abilis, programs like Abilis Gardens & Gifts, or just learning how this nonprofit has been breaking down stigmas, building communities, and serving people with alternate abilities in lower Fairfield County for over 70 years.	9-03-23 6:39 am 15m
SRJ W/C/T Y/Ed	Connecticut Technology Council's Women of Innovation	<i>Are you ready to celebrate current and future Women of Innovation?</i> The Connecticut Technology Council's Women of Innovation event is the state's first women in tech awards, which now includes over 800 women as winners and finalists. So, we connected with CTC's new Executive Director to get the latest on how the council can help those women who are in a tech or STEM field, or who aspire to be - and how listeners could help support Connecticut's Women of Innovation.	9-17-23 6:02 am 15m
H/S SRJ W/C/T	36th Bigelow Tea Community Challenge	<i>How can your whole family step into giving back to dozens of local nonprofits - all at the same time?</i> For The People welcomed back Cindi Bigelow to talk about and invite listeners to this year's Bigelow Tea Community Challenge. We also introduced representatives from one of the nonprofits the multi-generational event helps fund - Bridge House - a supportive and empowering community for adults with persistent mental illness. We spoke with Bridge House's director about how it is successfully executing its mission, as well as a client who	9-17-23 6:17 am 20m

		was recently elevated to the nonprofit's board of directors.	
H/S	Lupus Foundation of America	<p><i>Is there an organization specifically supporting folks in our community diagnosed with lupus?</i></p> <p>For the People welcomed two inspiring spokespeople from Norwalk's Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America - promoting critical research and services to improve life for people living with lupus, and touting their upcoming fund and awareness-raising Walk to End LupusNow, happening in Norwalk during October.</p>	9-17-23 6:39 am 15m
A/V H/S W/C/T Y/Ed	'AARP & You' Pt. 1	<p><i>What are some of the latest or most prevalent fraud schemes affecting folks in Connecticut?</i></p> <p>AARP has something for everybody - and For the People aimed to prove it as we kicked off our latest series 'AARP & You' - providing a deep dive into issues that could affect us all. We planned to tap local and national experts to look at ways to help protect listeners from imposters out to steal their identity or hard-earned cash; how AARP is supporting veterans, and a few other subjects of specific concern.</p>	9-24-23 6:02 am 15m
H/S SRJ	Valley Community Foundation	<p><i>Would you like to learn more or provide input on improving the health and wellness of Naugatuck Valley communities?</i></p> <p>For the People reconnected with the Valley Community Foundation, picking up a conversation we started in the spring with the Valley Health District as those agencies planned collaboration on a community health & wellness forum. If you live in the lower Naugatuck Valley, listen in and plan to attend this upcoming free event at Griffin Hospital.</p>	9-24-23 6:17 am 20m
A/V H/S SRJ W/C/T	CT Data Collaborative	<p><i>Why would living in a 'multigenerational household' be of concern to Connecticut communities?</i></p> <p>On this segment, we circled back with the CT Data Collaborative, which just released a surprising and concerning new report about the upward trend of multigenerational households. We learned why a steady increase in these living situations could highlight the onset of several other negative socio-economic trends, and which local communities are leading the state when it comes to multiple generations of immediate family members living together in the same space.</p>	9-24-23 6:39 am 15m

MELISSA

in the Morning

Weekdays 5AM-10AM

***Critical issues / topics & guests featured on WICC-AM Melissa in the Morning
Contributed by Melissa Sheketoff - Host***

Quarter 3 - July - September 2023

July 10 –

1. SCAM ALERT! This week, the two-day annual Christmas in July sale is back for Amazon Prime members. Ahead of the online sales, Kristen Johnson with the BBB shared red flags to look out for to better protect yourselves from scammers.
2. We recently experienced some severe heat in Connecticut. It's important to understand heat exhaustion and heat stroke, as well as the signs, symptoms, treatment and prevention tactics for both. Dr. Andrew Wong of Hartford Healthcare spoke about all of this.
3. There's a new state police law surrounding traffic stops. What's in the law? Is it necessary? And what does this mean in regards to false reports? We spoke with law enforcement expert, Gary MacNamara, about it all.

July 11 –

1. We had the honor of an exclusive interview with legendary artist and performer, Donny Osmond. He spoke with us one week ahead of his national tour, kicking off in Waterbury, Connecticut. We spoke with him about the show, what audiences can expect and more about his six decades of work.
2. According to national statistics, 72% of caregivers are providing help to a parent or grandparent. That relationship shift from child to caregiver can strain family relationships. Counselor, Julius Dudics, provided help to cultivate healthy relationships and adjust to new roles.
3. Now that the US Supreme Court has struck down the Biden Administration's plan to cancel or reduce student loans, what's in store for borrowers, saddled with high student loans? We learn about a way to steer through student lending and loan repayment plans thanks to AAA. Don Kerr explains.
4. According to The Wall Street Journal, young workers are talking about sex more often at work. Have the rules on what's appropriate to discuss with coworkers changed? And how should you respond if a coworker starts talking about their sexual activities? Julie Bauke of Julie on the Job addressed these questions.

July 12 –

1. The FDA is granting full approval to a potential breakthrough Alzheimer's drug. Leqembi is the first drug proven to slow the memory-loss disease. Other approved drugs only target its symptoms. We spoke with one of the investigators behind the hefty clinical trial around this drug, Dr. Sharon Cohen, as well as one of her patients who has been trialing the drug.
2. Several Connecticut volunteers with the American Red Cross are heading to Vermont to help following the catastrophic flooding. We got the details on the upcoming deployment and also spoke about water safety this summer, with John Godin.
3. Pizza and Brewfest is coming to the Hartford Healthcare Amphitheater. It's the first of its kind festival in Connecticut. We spoke with BRBC President Dan Onofrio about the Amp and how it's become a model of maximizing

space for an outdoor venue. We also touched on the kickoff of an annual farmers market and a big change for Bridgeport Islanders' hockey coach.

July 13 –

1. Earlier this week, PGA Tour officials were grilled for a three-hour hearing in Washington DC. The committee overseeing the hearing wants to better understand the recent announcement of a PGA and LIV merger. The subcommittee chairperson is Senator Richard Blumenthal. He spoke to us about the hearing.
2. A new initiative has been launched by the Milford Food Bank to help homebound individuals in need of assistance. The Milford Food Bank now has a mobile food van delivering to seniors in need. We heard about the problem at hand and how people can help.
3. Native plants can help birds better deal with change. Tom Anderson from CT Audubon Society shared why planting trees in your yard can be life changing.
4. There have been 13 outbreaks of norovirus on cruises this year according to the CDC. According to reports, that's the highest number of norovirus outbreaks on cruises recorded since 2012. And it's only July! We asked Dr. Browne about this common stomach bug, how to treat it and prevention.

July 14 –

1. Are politicians really trying to push their agendas using the military as a bargaining chip? It seems that way! Overnight, the House voted 221 to 213 to overturn a Pentagon policy guaranteeing abortion access to service members regardless of where they are stationed. It comes just days after the Marine Corps General stepped down leaving the military branch without a confirmed leader for the first time in more than 150 years. Congressman Jim Himes shared his thoughts on the situation.
2. This week, the LPGA is hosting a women's championship golf tournament in Milford. Hartford Healthcare orthopedic surgeon, Dr. John Irving, talked about a common golf issue: needing hip surgery. What does that procedure require, are there ways to prevent needing the surgery and can you ever return to the course after a hip replacement? Find out here!

July 17 –

1. There's a lot of talk around the new state law changing the requirement age month for kids to enter kindergarten in Connecticut. Starting in 2024, kids have to be five years old by September first. That's a big shift from the former law of a January first age cut off. Education leader, Fran Rabinowitz, shared the concerns of childcare options and cost. She also spoke to the need to change the law and help kids from playing catch up later in life.
2. There is a national movement that's been around for over a decade to try and bring compromise back to politics. We learned all about the No Labels movement and a Common Sense policy being announced this week for people to learn more.
3. The FDA recently gave the Alzheimer's disease drug Leqembi full approval. Study findings suggest that the treatment slowed cognitive decline for people in the early stage of Alzheimer's. We spoke about it in depth with Dr. Paul Wright of Nuvance Health.

July 18 –

1. This month, the World Health Organization deemed aspartame a "possible carcinogen." What are carcinogens? What are the concerns around aspartame? And how much is too much? We speak with Hartford Healthcare Medical Weight Loss Physician, Dr. Jackie Cameron.
2. The northeast has seen its fair share of flooding so far in July. The Better Business Bureau wants you to be careful of sketchy contractors following flood damage. Here's what you should look out for.
3. Why do we speak without thinking and say things that we regret? Counselor Julius Dudics discussed the power of the tongue and why we need to practice controlling it.

July 19 –

1. July 23rd kicks off Shark Week on Discovery Channel. We had a local expert shark scientist with Sacred Heart University here to answer all of our shark questions from shark attacks to what sharks are attracted to and are there topicals that turn sharks off? Find out here!

2. After a deadly blaze in Bridgeport that claimed the lives of two elderly people, we spoke with Fire Chief Lance Edwards about fire safety.
3. Workout Wednesday: if you want to improve your physical, mental and emotional health, look no further than your own backyard! Amy Llinas highlights the benefits of gardening.

July 20 –

1. Dozens of Connecticut farms are struggling to recover after recent flooding in our state and across New England. Ag Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt gave us a picture of the problem and shared how we can help support our farms. Check out CTGrown.org for more information.
2. There's been an increase of people experiencing dry eye or getting a stye this summer. We learned the Canadian wildfires are to blame. Dr. Scott Spector shared prevention and treatment options to help!
3. A Connecticut company has created a one of a kind, innovative toilet seat to secure older adults and people with disabilities. SedMed CEO and Founder, Jeremy Bronen, shared the product details with us and what consumers think of the product available for pre-order now!

July 21 –

1. The Bridgeport Police Department is furthering their initiative surrounding recruitment by hosting physical agility exam demonstrations. The demonstration is being used as a tool to encourage and help prospective candidates successfully pass the physical agility course; a requirement needed to become a Bridgeport Police Officer. We spoke with Police Chief Roderick Porter.
2. Earlier this month, the Attorney General filed a lawsuit against Stone Academy and we learned the results from the audit of the school. Senator Kevin Kelly shared more on the findings and what it means for Connecticut. He also touched on a newly released report showing how Connecticut is doing in the workforce sector...
3. Former interim Bridgeport Police Chief Rebeca Garcia retired after being passed over for the permanent position. We found out how life has been since she left the force and her plans to run for city council.

July 24 –

1. This week, a legislative hearing is set to discuss the findings from an audit surrounding fake tickets submitted by state police in the last decade. We spoke with Senator Herron Gaston who co-chairs the Public Safety and Security Committee overseeing the hearing.
2. Governor Lamont announced a \$3 million state grant to support the remediation of a vacant Fairfield site and construct a transit-oriented development. It will include 240 housing units, retail, co-working, and public amenity space at the site adjacent to the Fairfield Metro train station. Fairfield First Selectwoman Brenda Kupchick explained the history of the site and addressed some residential concerns.
3. Since affirmative action was recently eliminated by the Supreme Court, we spoke to the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities about what happens next.. Mike Roberts discussed the trickle down effect not just for college enrollment, but also for jobs, housing and much more

July 25 –

1. The writers and actors in Hollywood are still on strike and one of their biggest concerns surround artificial intelligence. For writers, they worry AI will replace them for script jobs. And for actors, they worry AI versions of themselves will be used without their permission and without making more money. We talked about AI in the workforce more generally and whether there will be hiring discrimination in the future with employment attorney Gary Phelan.
2. According to the National Marriage Project, more and more people in their 40's don't want to get married. In fact, the number of couples in that age range NOT putting a ring on it is at an all time high. Counselor Julius Dudics reacts to these facts and turns to a dynamite tool that can help build confidence in relationships.
3. Bye, bye birdie! Twitter is ditching the blue bird icon and Instagram has rolled out a new program called 'threads.' What's up with both of these changes? We spoke with social media consultant Krista Carnes.

July 26 –

1. There's a lot of buzz around the release of the new movie 'Sound of Freedom.' The film highlights human trafficking and how big a problem it is in our world. We spoke with the founder of non-profit Partnership to End Human

Trafficking (PEHT), Elizabeth Koldyke Boolbol. She shared human trafficking statistics in Connecticut and what we need to do better to eliminate the problem.

2. Bridgeport Police revealed new crime statistics in the city showing shooting crimes are down compared to last year. But not everything in the crime report was something to celebrate. Hear more from Chief Roderick Porter.

3. The Trumbull Mall is the latest Connecticut mall to impose a weekend curfew starting next month. We gained insight on the decision from BRBC President, Dan Onofrio.

4. In recent months, air travel troubles are now looking at the air traffic controller shortages nationwide. We spoke with a travel expert about worker shortages and other issues for the airline industry. We also got tips to minimize headaches at airports.

July 27 –

1. A Connecticut company partnered with another to create the world's first lithium-ion battery fire extinguisher. We spoke to Rodger Mort with PACT about the product, the partnership behind it and why it matters in today's world with all of the lithium-ion battery product at risk of starting a fire.

2. Another hearing was held in Washington DC over the concerns of artificial intelligence. In order to put safeguards in place, Senator Blumenthal says lawmakers need training and an oversight committee should be formed for the country.

3. Governor Lamont is touting that over 500 residents are now ambassadors spreading the good news about manufacturing jobs in the state! Paul Lavoie is the Chief Manufacturing Officer in our state and shared more on the ambassador program and debunked misconceptions about this line of work.

4. Election season is heating up in the city of Bridgeport. Jeanette Herron is the incumbent city council member for the 133rd district. She shared her platform and hopes to keep her seat, despite facing a well-known name in the city.

July 28 –

1. Connecticut Housing Partners is a non-profit organization that provides housing and services to enhance the quality of life for low- and moderate-income families. CHP developments and programs have produced more than \$100 million in community investments and provided safe, secure, affordable housing to more than 1000 residents. This morning, CEO Renee Dobos, shared testimonies from Connecticut residents who benefitted directly from CHP and why people should support their work.

2. Piping Plovers are tough little birds who rely on beaches to lay their eggs. Unfortunately, in such public space, that poses major threats for the birds and their nests. But this year, we are seeing some record setting numbers for piping plovers nests and babies. Tom Anderson of CT Audubon Society shares this success story.

3. Congressman Jim Himes was out of this world! We talked about the possibility of UFO sightings as well as an update with a cryptocurrency protections bill.

July 31 –

1. Earlier this summer, Pfizer warned of a nationwide shortage of penicillin that could last well into 2024. So what does this mean for the millions of Americans who rely on the antibiotic? We spoke with Dr. Listy Thomas is a practicing emergency medicine physician at Hartford Healthcare St. Vincent's Medical Center. She shares what prompted the shortage and options for patients.

2. Over the weekend, many recognized World Day Against Trafficking In Persons highlighting the problem of human trafficking, including here in Connecticut. Partnerships to End Human Trafficking is a non-profit organization in Connecticut. The executive director of the organization shared how parents can discuss this problem with kids and whether schools should join in educating the public about it.

3. Connecticut passed a state law requiring high school students to complete a financial management/literacy course ahead of graduation. It goes in effect starting with the class of 2027. Junior Achievement of Greater Fairfield County is a local non-profit lending a helping hand in this effort. We spoke with them to find out how.

August 1 –

1. Chobani is the latest company to add childcare to its suite of benefits to better support working parents. Will offering childcare benefits help companies attract and retain workers? We asked career strategist, Julie Bauke, about this model of benefits.

2. At the end of the month, the annual Step Up for Vets event is back for Homes for the Brave. We spoke with executive director, Vince Santilli, about the event and how the organization has expanded since opening in 2002.
3. Stamford Restaurant Weeks is back August 14th. We got the scoop from organizers.
4. A big win for the owner of Little Pub in Stratford. Doug Grabe shared the update on an open lot becoming a food truck park in town.

August 2 –

1. According to estimates from Feeding America, 1 in 10 Connecticut residents struggle with hunger; more than 83,000 children are food insecure. Chadwick Schroeder is the sustainability manager in Bridgeport. He spoke to us about the health food initiative in the city as well as the paramount work being done at the East End NRZ Market and Café.
2. Last month, the Connecticut Airport Authority officially said it was backing away from operating the Sikorsky Airport. We talked to BRBC President, Dan Onofrio, about the new developments in offloading the airport costing Bridgeport \$500,000 a year!
3. The American Red Cross Connecticut chapter made its monthly stop on the morning show. John Godin spoke about hurricane season happening now through the end of November and being prepared for anything! Plus, he shared the latest on blood donations.

August 3 –

1. Bridgeport Superintendent Carmela Levy-David has officially started in her new role this week. Learn her career story and her plans for the city's student body.
2. Oh-Oh-NO, Ozempic! A new lawsuit was filed against the makers of Ozempic and Mounjaro for claims of causing stomach paralysis in users. We spoke with Dr. Andrew Wong, Fairfield Region Medical Director of Hartford HealthCare Primary Care. He came back on to discuss the health concerns with this drug if people are solely using it as a weight loss solution.
3. There are new colon cancer screening guidelines and it's causing MAJOR confusion! Dr. Charles Cha with the Cancer Institute at St. V's explains the new recommendation and how many doctors are responding.

August 4 –

1. Last week, we spoke with retired police officer, Rebeca Garcia, about life after leaving the force. Her plans include a run for city council. She faces incumbent city council member, Jeanette Herron, for the 133rd district seat.
2. We spoke with Herron about her roles on the city council and her plans if re-elected this year. Herron is currently the Majority Leader, Co-Chairs the Committee on Contracts and works with the Committee on Budget and Appropriations as well as serving as the liaison to Fire Commission. She was first elected in 2015.
3. Governor Lamont wants all automakers to sell electric cars by the year 2035. But is it too lofty a goal? We asked the governor about that and many other state matters including elder protections, affordable housing options and teacher shortages.
4. The Flynn Foundation, located in Stamford, is making waves in the oncology and palliative care front in our state. The founder, Fred Flynn, shared the mission of the foundation, what it has accomplished in the last ten years and goals for the future.

August 14 –

1. Analytics students at University of Bridgeport played a huge role in helping a Stratford start-up business. We spoke with UB Associate Professor, Mike Lohle, about the program and what skills students are gaining at UB.
2. Fairfield First Selectwoman Brenda Kupchick stopped by to clarify why the town was investigating credit card use by town employees. She also commented on an archaic law impacting redistricting for Fairfield elementary school students.
3. Local sports announcer, Rob Adams, followed Trumbull's Babe Ruth team during the 2023 season and even down to Virginia for a shot at a World Series title. He joined the show to share the team's success story and why baseball is so strong in Connecticut.

August 15 –

1. In the latest blow for SeaQuest at the Trumbull mall, the USDA cited it for having insufficient distance and barriers between an animal and the public. PETA got its hands on agency's inspection report and shared the details on

this latest complaint. Michelle Sinnott also shared why such a controversial chain company is still doing business if it's so bad.

2. The latest Travel Scam targets people doing a google search for an airline's phone number because of a cancelled or delayed flight. Fran Mayko of AAA explains what's happening and how to detect a fraudster airline number. Also, she touched on adjusting Hawaii travel plans due to the wildfires and the specifics of the new European Travel Visa Requirements are expected to start in 2024.

3. According to national studies, up to 25% of parents will experience empty nest syndrome. With kids heading off to college this month, counselor, Julius Dudics, shared what you can do to grieve properly and move on with your life without the kids at home in a healthy way.

August 16 –

1. For more than 100 years, this historic Palace Theater building in Waterbury has quite the story. And next year makes 20 years since the theater reopened to the public after shuttering decades ago. CEO Frank Tavera shared his story of bringing this old gem back to life and what it is offering for the upcoming 2023-24 season.

2. Bridgeport was one of eight municipalities that just received grant money to recreate the post office square. We got the details from city officials about the project and a timeline of when we can start to see some major changes to the space.

3. The Connecticut Hurricanes has a great opportunity for students 12 years and older to strike up the band. Find out about the group and the upcoming clinic to get in on this month.

August 17 –

1. We had an exclusive interview with one of the ten volunteers from our local Red Cross chapter directly helping wildfire victims in Hawaii. Lori Merker-Chapman has been a volunteer with the Red Cross in Connecticut for six years and this is the first time she's had this role as a virtual volunteer connecting families around the globe with loved ones in Hawaii.

2. After years of fighting to shut them down, The PETA Foundation is celebrating the permanent closure of SeaQuest in the Trumbull Mall. It's set to close the only Connecticut location August 20th. Michelle Sinnott has been on the morning show the last four years talking about the issues they've seen with the aquarium chain. She came back on just hours after the news broke in Trumbull.

3. Senator Richard Blumenthal stopped by to discuss the latest on abortion pill regulation, a push to ban flavored vaping products, health concerns surrounding easy access to Ozempic and what can be done about SeaQuest staying in business across the US despite leaving CT.

August 18 –

1. Connecticut has reported 1,300-1,700 teacher openings across the state. And that doesn't include hundreds of para professional jobs unfilled as well. We spoke with Fran Rabinowitz about the issue attracting and retaining teachers in our state and how parents should prepare for shortages this school year.

2. The big talker this summer is the abrupt change to kindergarten age requirements. For the first time, Commissioner Beth Bye, came on the morning show to talk about the trouble with this big change. She also specified what parents may not know about childcare options.

3. What is school choice and why should Connecticut families be researching K-12 options for their kids? We speak with Krissia from The National School Choice Awareness Foundation about the different choices in Connecticut and resources to help find the best place for your child.

4. This fall, two early childhood educators at Friends Center for Children will be moving into brand new homes and they will live rent-free. We spoke with the executive director of Friends Center for Children about this program, who qualifies and their housing goal for the near future.

5. A third intruder break-in was reported since May involving a Yale University student living off campus. Gary MacNamara with Sacred Heart University explains why off-campus students need to change their mindset of security. He also talked about pertinent conversations parents need to have with K-12 students walking to school.

August 19 –

1. This summer, two national recalls impacted cookie products; one impacting Trader Joes and the other from Nestle. But how do impurities like rocks or woodchips end up in food products? The Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection gave us professional perspective on what could happen at manufacturing plants to trigger recalls.
2. We have a consumer alert! Beware of credit and debt assistance companies. The Better Business Bureau shared how some of these "middle man" companies provide false advertisement to customers and others are straight up fraudsters.
3. We are down to two weeks for businesses to sign up for or opt out of MyCTsavings. Comptroller Sean Scanlon explains the program and why it's a good option considering Connecticut law requiring retirement options for employees.

August 21 –

1. Attorney General William Tong shared the latest on his lawsuit against Stone Academy. He also touched on scams he's worried about and an update on his open investigation around Hyundai and Kia cars that are easy targets for theft.
2. CDC research shows about 1 in 8 women with a recent live birth experience symptoms of postpartum depression. A first of its kind, postpartum depression pill will be available on the market as early as October. Dr. Daniel Gottschall talks about how common postpartum depression is and why this pill can be a game changer.
3. Today is National Senior Citizens Day, making it the perfect time to make sure seniors are more tech savvy. Research shows that around 40 percent of U.S. seniors lack access to high-speed home internet services. Savvy Senior syndicated columnist, Jim Miller, discussed the digital divide and how to get seniors more comfortable with getting online.

August 22 –

1. An archaic state law on the books was really impacting churches and non-profits across the state from raising money through raffles and partnering with other entities. Senator Ryan Fazio shared how one Greenwich church brought this to his attention and he worked with Senator James Maroney on fixing the problem.
2. There are THREE types of bad bosses out there who you need to look out for. Career strategist, Julie Bauke, told us the three types and how to handle them in Julie on the Job.
3. We spend all this money and count down the days forever just to stress during a vacation. How do we stop doing that? And how do we get back into a routine after vacation ends? Counselor, Julius Dudics, shares insight on both questions.

August 23 –

1. John Gomes was the only Democratic candidate able to collect enough signatures to force a primary election for mayor. We spoke with both John Gomes and incumbent Mayor Joe Ganim about their platforms and visions for Bridgeport. The primary is set for September 12th.

August 24 –

1. A private Atlanta college will be requiring face masks for two weeks. Leaders at Morris Brown said this week that precautionary measures are being taken due to an increase in COVID cases. And Hollywood studio Lionsgate is bringing back a mask mandate for its Santa Monica office. The move comes in response to a new wave of employees catching COVID. The studio also wants people to self-screen before coming in. Following these national stories, we asked Dr. Browne why cases are spiking nationwide and why masking is the answer for some. Plus, we talked about the importance of the first FDA approved vaccine that is given to pregnant women in order to protect newborn babies from RSV.

August 25 –

1. The Former US Drug Czar is warning parents about vaping pens disguised as school supplies like highlighters and USB drives. Gary MacNamara joined the conversation and discussed the importance of talking to your kids about the dangers of vaping.
2. For the first time on WICC, we welcomed Education Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker. We spoke with her about the upcoming school year. We tackled teacher shortages, goals for K-12 students dealing with learning loss and handling bullying inside and outside of school.

3. Senator Kevin Kelly stopped by to talk about the state's goals for electric vehicles and how you can submit comments regarding the potential changes. We also talked about a big win for Stratford-based Sikorsky, Stratford officials approving cannabis-based companies and a shooting outside Amazon in Stratford feels like living in the wild, wild west.

August 28 –

1. Earlier this year, news broke about an audit looking at state police potentially falsifying thousands of traffic tickets. But the Connecticut State Police Union says the findings were shared prematurely. Andrew Matthews of the union shared the aftermath to troopers in the state and discrepancies in the report.

2. It's an illness that can destroy the liver – but the major problem is what's called "invisible symptoms" that are downplayed by doctors and loved ones. We spoke with Dr. Charles Cha about PBC and why you need to medically advocate for yourself.

3. Ahead of the new school year, all parents worry about their kids being bullied. The Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities shared statutes in place at schools and protections on chromebooks used by students.

4. A vision-impaired Connecticut couple is taking their experience with blindness and educating the public about making communities safer and understanding the importance of guide dogs. Meet Phil and Honorata for their community inspiration story.

August 29 –

1. Scam Alert: BBB Serving Connecticut has noticed a trend coming back with a vengeance. The "Can You Hear Me?" scheme is fooling people left and right. Kristen Johnson with the BBB shares why you can't just pick up the phone and what to say instead of "yes."

2. Forbes recently highlighted the importance of listening and empathy when it comes to building strong working relationships. Counselor Julius Dudics explained why humans aren't always the best listeners and how to get better at it.

August 30 –

1. We are in the midst of back-to-school season and we want to talk about safety inside and outside of school. Bridgeport School Resource Sgt. Tresha Parks gave us insight to what is done in the city outside and inside the building.

2. There is no such thing as tick season; ticks are in Connecticut all year round. What should parents do to make sure ticks aren't impacting their kids on the playground and what products can be helpful to prevent tick bites? Our tick expert, Jessica Snajder, shared information on all of this.

August 31 –

1. COVID-19 Hospitalizations are up by another 19-percent. According to the CDC, deaths also saw a large jump by 21-percent in one week. More than half of US states saw a "substantial" jump. South Dakota had the biggest spike, with hospitalizations surging more than 127-percent in one week. A new booster shot targeting the newest strain of the omicron variant is on its way, but isn't expected to be approved until the end of September. We spoke all about the latest on covid with Dr. Browne.

September 1 –

1. One of the biggest stories this summer in Connecticut is the audit exposing falsified tickets filed by state troopers. We heard from the co-author of the audit, Ken Barone, about the audit process and what happens now.

2. How do teachers manage artificial intelligence when it comes to student homework assignments? Matt Mervis of EdAdvance weighs in on the conversation. He calls AI a "crisi-tunity" in the classroom.

3. Like most theaters across the country, Downtown Cabaret Theatre in Bridgeport has struggled to stay afloat with ticket sales after the pandemic. We spoke with the executive producer of the theater, Hugh Hallinan, about the history of the venue and why it remains a gem in the city.

September 5 –

1. With crime on the rise in Connecticut news, cities are debating taking law enforcement into their own hands. Hartford announced last month that a group of gunowners want to bring back neighborhood watches while armed. We spoke with crime prevention expert, Lt. Jim Perez, about the dangers of this and why community policing programs need to be part of the solution.

2. A new study says most cancer screenings don't actually end up extending life. But experts still say you should have them. We spoke with Dr. Vipra Sharma with the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute at St. Vincent's Medical Center. She explained the new study and why screenings are still essential for people.
3. According to national statistics, nine out of ten fears reportedly amount to nothing happening. So, how do we handle fears that we have? Counselor Julius Dudics gave us tips on how to better control fear.

September 6 –

1. Significant changes in FDA eligibility officially started at the Red Cross has recently implemented. John Godin with the Connecticut chapter explains the major changes and what it could mean for donations nationwide. He also touched on national preparedness month and what to have in your hurricane kit.
2. Adam's House is a non-profit organization in Shelton providing support to families grieving the loss of a loved one. We learned about its purpose, the programming and upcoming events meant to support their work.
3. Singer Jimmy Buffett, died last week at the age of 76 after reportedly battling a rare form of skin cancer. We spoke to Dr. Jill Rubinstein with Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute St. Vincent's Medical Center. She explained merkel cell carcinoma and how rare it is compared to melanoma.

September 7 –

1. Connecticut schools are off to a weird start as temperatures have been so hot, they've had a string of early dismissal's due to lack of an ability to keep kids cool. Dr. Brown of Griffin Health joined Melissa to get his opinion on the effects of the heat, both in and out of the classroom, as well as other risks associated with the crazy temperatures.
2. Hospitals across Connecticut have been filing requests to shut down their labor and delivery units. We want to know why and how is the state responding? Comptroller Sean Scanlon shared his insight about the problem and what officials are doing to protect families living in rural Connecticut need a hospital nearby.
3. A first-ever partnership between Habitat for Humanity and the Town of Fairfield has led to a groundbreaking for affordable housing. Carolyn Vermont, CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County, gave us the details about these four units set to open in 2024.

September 8 –

1. The maker of the spicy 'One Chip Challenge' pulled product from store shelves following the death of a Massachusetts teenager. We talked to a social media expert, Quinnipiac Professor John Powers, about these viral challenges and why they gain popularity even though the average person knows they're reckless.
2. A first-of-its-kind school for the LGBTQ+ community in Connecticut had to delay its opening this year. We found out why from school officials and asked what happens to the students enrolled for this academic year.
3. We could see the newest covid vaccine as early as next week and many want to know what it's all about. Hartford Healthcare's Dr. Passalacqua shared the details on the shot and who will need it.

September 11 –

1. Over the counter Narcan is now available in pharmacies across the country, including here in Connecticut. Law enforcement expert, Gary MacNamara, shared why this is an essential tool for all families to have and what it means for the war on fentanyl.
2. We have a new scam alert! The Better Business Bureau says the latest problem stems from Bed, Bath and Beyond. Kristen Johnson shared how to spot a fake online sale.
3. It's official...insurance rates will go up significantly in Connecticut this year and state Republicans are livid. Senator Tony Hwang explains why more and more residents will not invest in health care coverage and the consequences to that decision.

September 12 –

1. The American Red Cross national blood supply has fallen to critically low levels and potentially threatens the medical care of patients with an emergency need for blood or those living with critical conditions. We got the latest detail on this from Trevor Rikken, President of Humanitarian Services of the Red Cross. He also commented on the impact of the FDA guidelines updated expanding the donor pool.

2. September is National Suicide Prevention Month and national statistics show suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in America. Where do these thoughts of death come from? How can I help someone I love who struggles with depression? Counselor Julius Dudics tackled the topic with advice.

3. AAA's annual Your Driving Costs study found that the annual total cost of new car ownership (including insurance, fuel, etc.) comes to over \$12,000 which is a big increase from 2022. What affects the cost of ownership and why is it so expensive? Alec Slatky explains. Also, Alec talked about how gas stations will survive and adapt as more vehicles become electric.

September 13 –

1. Reading comprehension and literacy rates haven't been the best in Connecticut recently. We wanted to talk about the importance of reading at a young age and even as adults. Melissa Hickey is the reading and literacy director of the Connecticut Department of Education; she talked about reading milestones and if forced reading is still a thing in state schools.

2. More entertainment venues are coming to an already busy block in Bridgeport. As we reported, a smaller, indoor venue is being added in 2025 to the property between the Hartford Healthcare Amphitheater and the Total Mortgage Arena. Not to mention, sports betting is reportedly being added to the arena soon too! With a lot of traffic headaches in that area of the city already, what can be done to alleviate the problem? Dan Onofrio of the Bridgeport Regional Business Council weighs in on the issue.

3. September is National Preparedness Month and we spoke with Scott Appleby of Bridgeport Emergency Management about being ready during hurricane season. We also talked about an open city position that can save lives but doesn't require you to be a cop, firefighter, doctor or first responder.

September 14 –

1. Mosquitoes infected with EEE have now been detected in six Connecticut towns. What does that mean for people outdoors trying to avoid mosquito bites? Dr. Browne talks about the impact of EEE. He also touched on decongestants. An FDA advisory panel says a decongestant found in popular over-the-counter cold medicines doesn't work. The panel unanimously agreed about the ineffectiveness of phenylephrine on Tuesday. The decongestant is found in common medicines like Benadryl Allergy Plus Congestion and Sudafed PE.

2. The trail over Google is underway. The DOJ says the tech giant is a monopoly blocking any entities from creating competition and more search engine options for consumers. Senator Richard Blumenthal talked about the importance of this case and what it could mean for other industries in similar hot water.

3. The Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashanah marks the Jewish new year and the beginning of the "High Holiday" season. We spoke with Fairfield Rabbi Shlame Landa about the holiday and traditions tied to it.

September 15 –

1. Congressman Jim Himes gave us the latest details on a massive prisoner swap. One of the people impacted is from right here in Weston, CT.

2. Sixteen current and former staffers of the Jimmy Fallon show say it's a toxic work environment to be in. Employment attorney, Gary Phelan, shared his insight into why more and more people are dealing with toxic workplaces and if there's hope to curb the problem.

3. The University of Bridgeport is stepping up their game to compete with other Connecticut colleges. We spoke with Dr. Tim Raynor of the School of Business at UB about their model of teaching and an upcoming symposium run by students at the school this month.

4. It's Christmas...in September? Yes! The Tran Siberian Orchestra is getting ready for its 2023 season and tickets are on sale now! We spoke with original member, Jeff Plate, about the group and why it has such growing success.

September 18 –

1. Crime on the Mind: Driving etiquette 101 with Lt. Jim Perez. We got answers to common questions about the rules of the roadways in Connecticut.

2. The school year is already underway, and some schools have detected mold in buildings. We spoke with Natural Home Solutions about how to detect mold, how it works and why it needs to be tested for in homes, schools and businesses.

3. Where is your focus: the wedding or the marriage? According to studies, couples can reduce the likelihood of divorce by 50% by taking a pre-marriage class or seeing a marriage counselor. Marriage coach, Bob Donovan, shares the data he sees with couples seeking help before saying "I do."

September 19 –

1. The state opened its newest sports betting venue in Hartford and another one is set to be announced in Bridgeport soon. We thought it was a great time to check in with the CT Counsel on Problem Gambling. Find out why they are seeing an influx of calls and who seems to be struggling with gambling addiction the most.
2. A millionaire property developer has issued a brutal wake-up call to 'arrogant' workers. Gurner Group CEO Tim Gurner argued the pandemic changed the attitude many workers had towards their jobs.. Gurner said employees needed to remember they worked for their bosses -- not the other way around. Career strategist, Julie Bauke, says why this backwards thinking is not going to work out for employers much longer.
3. Change is inevitable, but naturally, people aren't good at it. Counselor Julius Dudics shared why change is hard for people and how we can cope with the anxiety paired with change.

September 20 –

1. The Bridgeport city worker accused of stuffing the absentee ballot box before last week's mayoral primary has been placed on leave. Wanda Geter-Pataky was informed on Monday that she would remain on leave until an investigation is complete. Meanwhile, state lawmakers want to install an election monitor in Bridgeport to oversee the vote for mayor on November seventh. State House Speaker Matt Ritter says he expects a vote to allocate funds for the monitor during the special session next week. Both John Gomes and Mayor Joe Ganim joined the morning show to discuss the latest on the investigation into alleged ballot box stuffing ahead of the democratic primary election in Bridgeport.

September 21 –

1. Families want to know that when they drop kids off at school in the morning, that the children will return home at the end of the day. We talked about resource officers at schools as well as building safety tools with Westport Police Chief Foti Koskinas. It comes after Westport recently added three more officers to the school security beat in the district.
2. Unsportsmanlike conduct is becoming far too normal for student athletes, coaches and fans. Recently, North Haven High School had to forfeit its first football game due to bad behavior in school. Masuk High School's two head football coaches are on leave pending an investigation into complaints against them. Glenn Lungarini of the CIAC talked about the issues we are seeing on and off the field and how the state is responding.
3. Weapons, drugs, bullying, social media, you name it...teenagers today are exposed to it and most times, involved in it in some way. So, how do we bridge the conversation gap between parents and their kids? We got perspective from Bethel Superintendent of Schools, Christine Carver.

September 22 –

1. The first full week of school in September was plagued with early dismissals for many districts in Connecticut because of hot weather. With many old buildings that have no air conditioning units, taxpayers want to know where their school dollars are going? We talked to Fran Rabinowitz about school building conditions and if the state is figuring out how to improve the problem before next school year.
2. Connecticut is still dealing with a bus driver shortage. It comes as we see a couple bus companies in the state starting off the school year with a strike. We spoke with Durham Bus Company about the issue with retaining and gaining drivers. We also got perspective from them about avoiding a union strike.

September 23 –

1. When Cindy Iodice lost her brother in a tragic accident on a Connecticut Highway, she launched the Flagman Safety campaign. The organization works to teach people about the importance of the Slow Down, Move Over law. Last spring, a pilot program launched in Fairfield Public Schools. We got an update on how the program went and what's on the horizon?
2. Following the fallout of the alleged ballot box stuffing investigation in Bridgeport, will the state make it a higher priority to purchase new voting machines? We asked Secretary of the State Stephanie Thomas about that. We also talked about the possibility of primaries being open to all voters, not just registered party voters.

3. What is the ArrayRX card and why is it being called a game changer in Connecticut? We spoke to Comptroller Sean Scanlon about that and why hospitals are too expensive nowadays.