



Quarterly Significant Issues Report

Period 4: October 1 - December 31, 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: 'AARP & You' Pt. 2 Veteran Fraud Prevention - The "READI Set...Music Conference" - CT Social Equity Council - Liberation Programs Pt. 2 - United Way of Connecticut ALICE Update - Greater Bridgeport Symphony - Impact Fairfield County - Thin Line Peer Support Team - CT Women's Hall of Fame - 'AARP & You' Pt. 3 Fraud Protection - CT Housing Partners - CT DDS STEP Program - Waveny Lifecares - CT DOT Fall Update - Gifts of Love - Put CT Grown On Your Plate - SCORE of Western CT - Eversource Energy Assistance - Continuum of Care - AAA Northeast - Encore Replay: Western CT Food Farmacy - Child Health and Development Institute - CT Health Foundation - Wheeler Foster & Adoption Network - Special Report: A visit to the Green Village Initiative's 2023 Harvest Fest - Touting the Food Farmacy of Greater Danbury - The Barnum Museum, work in progress - AFL Foster Caregiver Program - Bye-Bye Mattress - Harbor Watch @ Earthplace - Back Yard Beekeepers Assoc. - CT Age Well Collaborative - AdvanceCT - Best of '23 Replay: Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center - East Coast Greenway - CT Dept. of Education

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: *Thin Line Peer Support Team, Inc. is holding its 1st Annual "Walk the Line" Fundraiser - UConn's 4th biennial Native Plants and Pollinators Conference - Abilis 18th Annual Walk/Run - Stratford Health Department and the Baldwin Center "Art of Aging Healthy Living Expo" - Barnum Museum's Wicked Walking Tour of Historic Bridgeport - Westport Country Playhouse - "A Sherlock Carol"- Disability:IN Connecticut Virtual Employment Roundtable for Businesses - The Bridgeport Business Challenge grant program - The Connecticut Cancer Foundation No Shave November - Griffin Hospital Free Prostate Cancer Screening - Connecticut Insurance Department's third-annual Conference on Climate Change and Insurance - Center for Housing Opportunity of Fairfield County - 'Housing Matters: Building Sustainable Communities - Wheeler's Foster Care program - AARP Driver Safety Program - Beardsley Zoo Breakfast with Frosty and Friends - CTNext / Tidal River angel investor network for women - Connecticut Age Well Collaborative - SBA 2024 National Small Business Week Awards - Families United in Newtown (F.U.N). Annual Autism Awareness Benefit Concert and Dinner - Red Cross Holiday season fire prevention tips - Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board Holiday PSA - Circle of Care for families of children with cancer appeal reminder - Beardsley Zoo Conservation Discovery Corps*

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:

Ageing / 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
A/V H/S	Series: AARP & You Pt.2 Veterans Fraud	<i>Can you believe veterans, active-duty service members and their families are nearly 40% more likely to be victims of scams and fraud?</i> To help better protect our veterans and the ones who love them, For the People hosted the 2nd part of our latest series "AARP & You" - by going straight to a veteran and AARP expert to help share how to identify and combat the growing number veteran-related scams exploiting our Connecticut heroes and their families.	10-01-23 6:02 am 15m
SRJ W/C/T Y/Ed	CT Office of the Arts - READI Set Music Conference	<i>Are you a musician or aspiring music pro who could benefit from industry knowledge, networking opportunities, and a platform to showcase your artistry?</i> For the People re-connected with the CT Office of the Arts to tout the October 7 READI Set Music Conference, a dynamic one-day event in New Haven celebrating the state's vibrant music scene and empowering artists and musicians.	10-01-23 6:17 am 20m
G/V H/S SRJ W/C/T	CT Social Equity Council	<i>Would you spend a few minutes helping the people and communities most affected by the war on drugs?</i> For the People caught up with the leader from Connecticut's Social Equity Council, which had recently announced the launch of a community reinvestment survey and upcoming forums to develop a reinvestment plan that will bring much needed resources back into communities negatively impacted by the "War on Drugs."	10-01-23 6:39 am 15m
H/S	Liberation Programs Pt. 2	<i>Do you know the few critical questions to ask someone you love to learn if they need addiction recovery support?</i> For the People recently featured the first of a two-part interview with the leader of Liberation Programs, a regional nonprofit serving about 1,000 people a day with addiction recovery and mental health support. And we continued that conversation answering critical questions to help listeners who might be supporting someone they know or love - to or through recovery.	10-08-23 6:02 am 15m
H/S SRJ W/C/T	United Way of CT ALICE Update	<i>Are you ALICE - Asset Limited Income Constrained & Employed?</i> For the People turned our attention back those who are or may be at risk to become ALICE as we reconnect with United Way of Connecticut to unpack its latest report focusing on several key points involving households that are Asset Limited Income Constrained & Employed with particular focus on marginalized families and communities.	10-08-23 6:17 am 20m
SRJ W/C/T Y/Ed	Greater Bridgeport Symphony '23-'24 preview	<i>How close to home can you find vibrant, globally influenced live symphonic music?</i> We offered listeners an opportunity to get in on For the People's spirited conversation with The Greater Bridgeport Symphony's new guest conductor Eduardo Leandro. We talked about his musical journey from Brazil to Bridgeport, how the GBS is collaborating on music education across the region's schools, and the upcoming 78th Season Opening concert - themed 'Connecting Communities.'	10-08-23 6:39 am 15m
G/V/S SRJ	Impact Fairfield County	<i>Do you know a Fairfield County nonprofit that could benefit from a grant of up to \$100,000?</i> For the People helped showcase the good works of Impact Fairfield County, a women's collective giving organization funding large transformational grants for qualified nonprofits. With their next application period about to open, we helped reach out to anyone involved with or volunteering for - or getting services from a nonprofit that operates or programs in Fairfield County.	10-15-23 6:02 am 15m
A/V G/V	Thin Line Peer Support Team	<i>Is there a first responder or veteran in your life facing challenges that might benefit from a little peer support?</i>	10-15-23 6:17 am

H/S W/C/T		For the People proudly introduced Thin Line Peer Support Team, a non- profit providing peer-to-peer mental health assistance to first responders, active military, and veterans as well as facilitating access to more comprehensive mental health resources including drug and alcohol programs, here in CT. Listeners heard about their first major fundraiser - Walk the Line - and how they can help or come out and support the cause in person.	20m
SRJ Y/Ed	CT Women's Hall of Fame 30th Anniversary	<i>Are you ready to help honor some of the most important women community leaders of the year?</i> For the People reconnected with the CT Women's Hall of Fame, which delivers educational programs and resources bringing Connecticut women's history to life for current and future generations. As our chat aired, the Hall was planning its Induction Ceremony and 30th Anniversary Celebration, so our guest helped listeners learn more about it.	10-15-23 6:39 am 15m
A/V H/S W/C/T	'AARP & You' Pt. 3	<i>Do you know the 3 most important things to do fast if you've fallen victim to fraud?</i> We closed out our 3-part series 'AARP & You' - tapping expert sources from the national AARP network to provide critical information to better protect everyone in Connecticut. In this segment, listeners learned the 3 most important things to immediately do if they became the victim of fraud.	10-22-23 6:02 am 15m
H/S SRJ W/C/T	CT Housing Partners	<i>What do you really know about Connecticut's 'affordable housing' 8-30g statute?</i> For the People circled back with CT Housing Partners' CEO and one of their developers to provide some insight into Connecticut's much maligned 8-30g statute related to affordable and workforce housing. Our guest also explained how their agency is working to highlight and defeat the stigma associated with so-called 'affordable housing,' and how proposed projects are facing stiff scrutiny and opposition across many Connecticut communities.	10-22-23 6:17 am 20m
A/V G/V H/S SRJ	CT Dept. of Developmental Services	<i>Have you heard about the new program to help more of our alternately-abled neighbors live and thrive in our communities?</i> For the People welcomed the Commissioner of Connecticut's Dept. of Developmental Services to hear more about the recently launched STEP (Supporting Transformation to Empower People) program to shift and expand the continuum of supports to serve as many individuals in the most independent settings possible.	10-22-23 6:39 am 15m
A/V H/S	Waveny LifeCare Network	<i>Are you looking for expert, caring guidance on lifecare, rehabilitation, or palliative support for someone you love?</i> We invited listeners to tune in and learn about the nonprofit Waveny LifeCare Network which is celebrating 50 years of delivering a comprehensive continuum of healthcare to seniors with diverse therapeutic programs, services, and living options, along with an important new partnership with Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Fairfield County.	10-29-23 6:02 am 15m
G/V H/S	CT DOT	<i>Is there any agency working to address increasing risks drivers and pedestrians are facing on Connecticut roadways?</i> For listeners who are among the millions who travel in and around our state, we solicited a briefing briefing with the CT Dept. of Transportation on subjects from traffic safety, and fare increases on state bus and rail lines, to a couple of important construction updates, and how the DOT will be making state roads more friendly for all in the near future through the CTDOT's 'Complete Streets' initiative.	10-29-23 6:17 am 20m
H/S SRJ W/C/T	Gifts of Love	<i>Where can families across northern New Haven County struggling with basic household needs turn for support?</i> We highlighted Gifts of Love - a regional nonprofit supporting struggling working families fighting food insecurity in a number of New Haven County communities by providing basic living needs including food assistance along with household items, and clothing. We'll also let listeners know how to support Gifts of Love, including inviting them to attend the nonprofit's	10-29-23 6:39 am 15m

		upcoming 'Fall In Love' fundraiser.	
G/V W/C/T	SCORE Western Connecticut	<i>Would you like to start, sell or close a business - or take your current company to the next level?</i> For the People Connecticut's #1 SCORE chapter leader from @SCOREWConnecticut came on to chat about all the free, confidential resources available, whether listeners wanted to accelerate their business; break out on their own as an entrepreneur; or if they happened to be a professional or retiree willing to volunteer as a SCORE mentor or coach.	11-05-23 6:02 am 15m
Ev/Ag G/V H/S W/C/T	CT Dept. of Agriculture	<i>Do you know there are 10 easy and affordable ways to put CT Grown veggies, dairy products, meat, beer, wine, or seafood on your family table?</i> For the People reached out to Connecticut's Agriculture Commissioner and a state Ag Ambassador to talk about how easy, healthy, and economically feasible it is to 'Put CT Grown On Your Plate' for the fall and winter holidays - and every day!	11-05-23 6:17 am 20m
W/C/T	Eversource	<i>Would you be shocked to discover you qualify to get help paying your Eversource energy bills?</i> For the People reached out to Eversource to unpack the cost of energy, explain the brand new billing statements arriving this month, and reveal how that utility is offering a range of new and enhanced programs to assist folks in paying their energy bills.	11-05-23 6:39 am 15m
G/V H/S	Continuum of Care	<i>Would you do some holiday shopping to help an innovative agency save taxpayers millions by better supporting our region's homeless families?</i> Since 1966 the nonprofit Continuum of Care has been serving adults diagnosed with mental illness and severe developmental and intellectual disabilities. So For the People helped them tout their upcoming Holiday Bazaar that will help fund a brand new and comprehensive program that will save taxpayers millions addressing homeless individuals.	11-12-23 6:02 am 15m
H/S W/C/T	AAA Northeast	<i>Are you planning for Thanksgiving travel - or thinking about buying an electric vehicle?</i> For the People connected with AAA Northeast to get listeners prepared and up to speed on issues from pedestrian and driving safety post Daylight Saving - to the new addition to Connecticut's 'Slow Down, Move Over' law, along with details on a new mobile EV emergency charging squad, and what they needed to know when traveling on Thanksgiving.	11-12-23 6:17 am 20m
H/S SRJ	Encore: Western Connecticut's 'Food Farmacy'	<i>Did you hear Connecticut has its first 'Food Farmacy' prescribing fresh, healthy food to help keep folks healthy?</i> For the People celebrated the recent opening of the western Connecticut 'Food Farmacy' by replaying part of a spring series focusing on a first-of-its-kind collaboration between United Way of Western CT and Nuvance Health on this community-based site designed to connect folks diagnosed with obesity, heart disease, diabetes, and/or hypertension to fresh healthful foods.	11-12-23 6:39 am 15m
H/S SRJ Y/Ed	Child Health and Development Institute	<i>Is anybody doing anything to onboard the workforce needed to address our state's youth mental health crisis?</i> The Child Health and Development Institute's latest research produced a blueprint for strengthening Connecticut's behavioral health workforce for our children, so For the People provided listeners an opportunity to be among the first learning how this report can help fast-track the help our kids need!	11-19-23 6:02 am 15m
H/S SRJ	Connecticut Health Foundation	<i>What is the real cost of not providing health care assistance to some of our most marginalized neighbors?</i> For the People connected with the Connecticut Health Foundation to learn how the agency is providing important grants supporting advocacy and efforts to expand health care coverage to more immigrants and to ensure that those who are eligible can get covered.	11-19-23 6:17 am 20m
H/S	Wheeler's Foster	<i>Did you know there are almost 4,000 kids in Connecticut who need something you can</i>	11-19-23

SRJ Y/Ed	Care Programs	<i>provide them?</i> It's National Adoption Month - so, for listeners with a desire to be the best part of a child's challenging life, For the People welcomed a rep from Wheeler Health's Foster Care programs to discuss the options, support and benefits they can receive if they qualify to participate in this program.	6:39 am 15m
Ev/Ag G/V H/S SRJ Y/Ed	Special Report: Green Village Initiative's 2023 Harvest Fest	<i>Where can the greater Bridgeport community go to grow and cook their own food while addressing food injustice and insecurity?</i> Our on site visit to this year's Green Village Initiative Harvest Fest was bittersweet - while it preceded a major change for this urban agricultural nonprofit that has done so well supporting Equity, Community, Anti-Racism, Wellness, Knowledge-Sharing, and Youth Mentorship, along with responding hunger and promoting food justice - the festival also provided an opportunity to meet and learn about numerous individuals in greater Bridgeport who have learned from and benefited as a result of their ties to GVI, as well as news about the coming changes from the nonprofit's leadership.	11-26-23 6:02 am 15m
A/V Ev/Ag H/S SRJ	Food Farmacy of Greater Danbury	<i>Where can qualified families find a comprehensive program that addresses the entire nutritional world of an ailing loved one?</i> For the People hit the road again, landing at the first of its kind Food Farmacy of Greater Danbury - that's Farmacy with an 'F'. We visited with 2 key individuals who helped create this unique public health program - and the facility to help support it and the hundreds of families it is already serving after being open only a few weeks.	12-03-23 6:02 am 28m
W/C/T Y/Ed	The Barnum Museum	<i>How is the extensive restoration of The Barnum Museum going since the facility was placed on the National Register of Historic Places?</i> For the People hosted a candid conversation with the director and curator of Bridgeport's Barnum Museum - which was recently elevated to a position on the National Register of Historic Places after a disastrous 20-year journey that had more twists, turns, and unfortunate detours as the life of P.T. Barnum himself.	12-03-23 6:29 am 20m
A/V H/S	CT AFL Foster Caregiver Program	<i>Are you planning to visit with cherished aging family members this holiday season?</i> For those visiting with family this holiday and noticing developing issues related to aging, For the People welcomed experts from Assisted Living Services and one of Connecticut's Area Agencies on Aging to explain the little-known Adult Family Living-Foster Caregiver Program that can help loved ones continue aging in place at home.	12-17-23 6:02 am 15m
Ev/Ag H/S SRJ W/C/T	Bye-Bye Mattress	<i>Have you made a resolution to finally get yourself a new bed in 2024 - or sooner?</i> After touting it for 8 years, For the People revisited Connecticut's groundbreaking mattress recycling program with qualified guests who helped educate consumers about where to go and what to do when they're ready for a new bed and who will need to recycle their existing bedding.	12-17-23 6:17 am 20m
Ev/Ag G/V H/S Y/Ed	Earthplace / Harbor Watch	<i>Where can you find a hands-on environmental center that will help your kids fall in love with science and stewardship?</i> For the People introduced some very cool and dedicated folks from Harbor Watch - a program of Earthplace - who discussed hosting their Annual Student Symposium on local water quality findings. They also invited interested listeners to participate in all the upcoming activities available at Earthplace's Westport nature center.	12-17-23 6:39 am 15m
Ev/Ag	Back Yard Beekeepers Association	<i>Are you still looking for a special gift or making a resolution that promotes environmental sustainability 2024?</i> For the People's Christmas Eve program reminded listeners about a special and unique gift opportunity - providing tuition to 'Bee School' that comes with membership to the Back Yard Beekeepers Association (BYBA) - providing members a forum for sharing knowledge while	12-24-23 6:02 am 15m

		educating and promoting the benefits of beekeeping to the public.	
A/V G/V H/S SRJ	Connecticut Age Well Collaborative	<p><i>How can you become part of the movement to defeat ageism and ableism across Connecticut in 2024?</i></p> <p>Whether watching out for an aging loved one, or for those older Connecticut residents motivated to disrupt ageism and ableism, For the People brought back the director of the The Connecticut Age Well Collaborative to talk more about how her agency is supporting that effort in 2024 with a series of workshops and public outreach.</p>	12-24-23 6:17 am 20m
W/C/T	AdvanceCT	<p><i>Is there an agency businesses can lean on to support workforce development and capital investments to spur growth in 2024?</i></p> <p>For the People's Christmas Eve program dispensed a few gifts of wisdom to entrepreneurs and business community members across the region, from the leader of AdvanceCT - a nonprofit cooperating with state, regional, and local partners driving job creation and new capital investments across Connecticut through business attraction, retention, and expansion.</p>	12-24-23 6:39 am 15m
A/V H/S SRJ	ENCORE: Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center	<p><i>What are a few of the 2023 'For the People' interviews that will still have a lasting impact well into the New Year?</i></p> <p>Our New Year's Eve program revisited a few of our most informative and special segments, including our mid-July chat with the CEO of the Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center talking about how his team is delivering a wide range of physical, mental, dental and wellness services to neighborhoods that need it the most. We also celebrate the opening of the center's new Dixwell Q-House.</p>	12-31-23 6:02 am 15m
Ev/Ag G/V H/S W/C/T	ENCORE: East Coast Greenway	<p><i>What are a few of the 2023 'For the People' interviews that will still have a lasting impact well into the New Year?</i></p> <p>Our New Year's Eve program revisited a few of our most informative and special segments, including our chat about the East Coast Greenway - stretching 3,000 miles from Maine to Florida - and how far along Connecticut is in completing its section, offering a safe place for bicyclists, walkers, runners, and more of all ages and abilities to commute, exercise, and visit new destinations.</p>	12-31-23 6:17 am 20m
G/V SRJ W/C/T Y/Ed	ENCORE: CT Dept of Education	<p><i>What are a few of the 2023 'For the People' interviews that will still have a lasting impact well into the New Year?</i></p> <p>Our New Year's Eve program revisited a few of our most informative and special segments, including our visit with the Education Diversity Coordinator from the CT Dept of Education discussing the state's commitment to fortify our teaching force while expanding the diversity of educators for the benefit of all the children and youths who will be learning from them.</p>	12-31-23 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***

Period 4: October – December 2023

October 2 –

1. The Clydesdale horses are best known for their roles in Anheuser Bush advertisements. However, calls to stop tail mutilation of these animals is finally addressed. We spoke with PETA about the problem and the beer company's decision to change its animal treatment practices.
2. In a matter of months, Connecticut will have results for both its equity and disparity studies. It's been about two years in the making and we spoke with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities about the importance of these findings.
3. According to studies, couples can reduce the likelihood of divorce by 50% by participating in some type of pre-marriage counseling or program. We spoke with marriage coach, Bob Donovan, about what comes out of marital programs and why the wedding is different than the marriage.

October 3 –

1. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and according to national statistics, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the US. Deb Greenwood with The Center for Family Justice shares the uptick in cases in Connecticut and resources available to people impacted.
2. As of October first, many Connecticut laws went into effect, including several laws changing the rules of the road. Alec Slatky of AAA shared the changes that many drivers may not realize now need to be considered before getting behind the wheel.
3. A new Low-Income Discount Rate will be available for some Eversource customers in Connecticut beginning in December 2023. Depending on their household income, eligible customers will receive 10% or 50% off their electric bills per month. Vice President of Customer Operations, Jess Cain, explained the program and what you should do if you DO NOT qualify.
4. Gen Z this, Gen Z that. How this youngest generation enters the workforce has been a popular talking point for some time. But that kind of over-attention means older workers often get forgotten. What should employers do to better engage older employees? And how can older workers stay competitive in today's job market? Career strategist, Julie Bauke, talked about the value of older workers and how to continue focusing on them, not just young workers.

October 4 –

1. We aren't talking grandparent scams...a new study found America's youth lost a record \$210 million to online scams last year. That's up 2,500% since 2017; the largest increase of any age group. Kristen Johnson with BBB shares tips to better protect our kids from internet scams.
2. Next week is Fire Prevention Week and the Red Cross shared the importance of testing your smoke alarms. We also got an update on the national blood shortage.
3. Stratford planners are granting approval to what is expected to be the town's first adult use marijuana store: C-3 Industries. We asked Dan Onofrio of the BRBC about the impact of this on Stratford and the surrounding community businesses.

4. This week is national digital inclusion week. What does that mean and how are local libraries closing the digital divide? Bridgeport Librarian, Elaine Braithwaite, shares what the city is doing.

October 5 –

1. One of our legal experts on the morning show, Bill Bloss, also happens to be the attorney representing John Gomes in the alleged absentee ballot fraud lawsuit in Bridgeport.
2. Two times in the last month, Connecticut teens got their hands on unsecured guns inside a residential home. A 16-year-old boy died in Bridgeport and a 14-year-old in Watertown is fighting for his life. We spoke with Senator Richard Blumenthal who has been a driving force for Ethan's Law to see if there are other approaches to avoid these tragedies.
3. Earlier this week, Changbai the tiger, left the Beardsley Zoo to permanently settle in at another AZA-accredited zoo. With her departure, the zoo is starting its tiger habitat expansion project. We got the details from Zoo Director, Gregg Dancho.

October 6 –

1. Today is National Manufacturing Day and our state has worked hard to help residents understand the benefits of entering the industry and eliminate false stigmas. We spoke with Connecticut's Chief Manufacturing Officer, Paul Lavoie.
2. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. We spoke with Nuvance Health about new studies on the uptick of breast cancer cases and debunked some myths surrounding breast cancer risks.
3. A bomb shell announcement this week: Avangrid is backing out of the offshore Park City Wind project in Bridgeport. We get reaction from Senator Ryan Fazio, ranking Republican member of the Energy Committee.

Oct 9 –

1. One week ago today, New York was celebrating the discovery of a 9-year-old girl abducted during a family camping trip. But most kidnapping cases don't end that well and quickly. We spoke with Gary MacNamara about tools to keep your kids safe.
2. A bomb shell announcement was just dropped just weeks ahead of open enrollment for health insurance. We spoke with a local broker about the changes with Connecticare and what it means for thousands of residents.
3. Shelton is getting two million dollars for the Canal Street reconstruction project. What is it and why does it matter? We get the details from State Representative Jason Perillo.

Oct 10 –

1. For women who know they're pregnant, about 10 to 20 percent of pregnancies end in miscarriage. And data shows in the US, among married women aged 15 to 49 years with no prior births, about 20% are unable to get pregnant after one year of trying. October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month and we wanted to talk to a fertility specialist about why pregnancy is hard in 2023 and options for couples wanting to start a family.
2. Today, October 10th, is World Mental Health Day. We spoke with Rawle Andrews, Executive Director of the American Psychiatric Association Foundation. Find out about their new campaign tackling the stigma around mental health and how to encourage people to seek treatment.
3. Married in life and at work. Abby and Ryan are local filmmakers and created a new movie called 'Blow Up my Life' that was shot in Connecticut. The couple shared the film's purpose and where you can see it this month!

Oct 11 –

1. "We Stand with Israel" is a sign that is popping up in more and more business windows. Is it a good idea for businesses to share their stance or opinion on social and political matters? We asked Dan Onofrio of the Bridgeport Regional Business Council to share professional input about that.
2. October 12 is National Farmers Day and we have over 5,000 farms here in Connecticut to celebrate! We spoke with fourth-generation female farmer, Erica Hermonot, about her family's 103-year-old farm in Woodstock. She shared the history of the farm, what it is today and how people can support it and other local farms.
3. October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month, a dedicated month for the public and private sectors to work together to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity. We did a check-in with our cybersecurity and AI expert, Dr. Vahid Behzadan, about recent news impacting Connecticut residents.
4. New studies show older people doing exercise lowers their risk of dementia, Alzheimer's and stroke. We spoke with health and fitness coach, Amy Llinas, about the findings and what exercises work on Workout Wednesday.

Oct 12 –

1. Today marks the one-year anniversary of losing Lt. Dustin Demonte and Sgt. Alex Hamzy after an ambush attack. We learned about the CT Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation and its work honoring the fallen in our state. We spoke with retired Watertown Police Chief, John Gavallas, who is also the Chairman of the foundation's board of directors.
2. An unexpected tragedy happened on a Connecticut high school football field. A 15-year-old player became unresponsive at practice and died later that day. Glenn Lungarini of the CIAC responds to the incident and reiterated the state's focus on student athlete safety.
3. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 20% of people with disabilities, including those with autism, are employed in the US. During National Disability Employment Awareness Month, we highlighted a new Autism Speaks program meant to help people with autism find employment and encourage employers to hire people on the spectrum. President and CEO of Autism Speaks, Keith Wargo, explained the issue at hand and what the new program will do to help.

Oct 13 –

1. This Sunday starts the Medicare Open Enrollment period in Connecticut. What has changed with the plans and how can people prepare? We spoke with our medicare expert, Bob Vontell.
2. Overnight, Israel ordered an evacuation notice to Palestinians living in Gaza ahead of a massive counterattack against Hamas. We got a check in with Congressman Jim Himes about whether US troops will soon get involved and how our country is reacting to what's happening in the Middle East.
3. October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month and we want to know what our state is doing to hire more people with special needs. We spoke with the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Aging and Disability Services about resources available and an upcoming disability resource fair to help more people.
4. David Pia is running as the Republican nominee for First Selectman of Trumbull. But his ticket is different than most politicians in 2023. He unofficially created what's called "United For Trumbull," teaming up with two town leaders: one a democrat and one, an unaffiliated. We asked him about this plan to run and why this approach seems to resonate with voters.

Oct 16 –

1. "Sliders" are targeting drivers across the nation and you need to protect yourself! What is a slider and how do I make myself less of a target? Crime Prevention Expert, Jim Perez, shared the trends happening out west and making their way to the East Coast and how you can avoid the problem.
2. Amid the alleged ballot box stuffing lawsuit playing out in court, we continue to focus on the Bridgeport mayoral election. Lamond Daniels will be on Line F on election day. He shared his campaign platform, vision for education, and plans to restore government trust in the Park City if elected to be the next mayor.
3. Every two years, Fairfield CARES conducts surveys to see if middle and high schoolers are abusing substances like alcohol, marijuana and vaping. Program Director, Cathy Hazlett, shared the data that proves substance abuse among teens is on the decline. However, mental health challenges are on the rise.
4. 2023 data shows divorce is alive and well in the United States. Statistics show among adults 20 and older, 34% of women and 33% of men who've ever been married have been divorced. For those ages 55 to 64, the number is about 43% for both sexes. Marriage coach, Bob Donovan, shared what happens when one spouse is "all in" on making a marriage work...while the other spouse "isn't all there."

Oct 17 –

1. National statistics show 10% of Americans have trouble controlling their own anger. 25% worry about how angry they sometimes feel. 20% have ended a relationship or friendship with someone because of their anger. 60% agree that people in general are getting angrier. Counselor, Julius Dudics, gave us insight on anger management and tips on keeping your cool when you're triggered.
2. This week is Teen Driving Awareness Week. AAA's Alec Slatky shared what ALL drivers should be thinking about, regardless of age. Plus, he talked about the massive uptick in deer strikes on roadways. Find out what you can do to protect yourselves.
3. Is the middleman manager at your workplace feeling the pinch? Or is the middleman manager feeling insignificant? In either case, we need to help these roles adjust. We asked Julie Bauke about it during Julie on the Job.
4. Students at University of Bridgeport have launched a new business. It's called Purple Knights Coffee Company. Find out from the company president and CEO, Shiv, all about the product. Also, hear from the business professor, Tim Raynor, where the idea of a student-run business came from and the goal of it.

Oct 18 –

1. How was the crop season for fall and what can we expect for Christmas trees in Connecticut? Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt from the Department of Agriculture gives us the scoop. Plus, he told us about two grants to help farmers recover from weather problems and attract schools to their properties.
2. Workout Wednesday: Don't buy or eat these candies on Halloween! Amy Llinas shares why some candies will never get a pass, even on Halloween.
3. Science You May Not Know: David Mestre is back from a stellar trip to Texas! Find out why he and the University of Bridgeport went south, with help from NASA.

Oct 19 –

1. We are weeks out from the general election and we want to make sure you are prepared to vote. Secretary of State Stephanie Thomas shared information on getting registered, how to handle absentee ballots and why there's a lack of education for voters ahead of local elections.
2. Today is Purple Thursday bringing awareness to domestic violence awareness month. Gary MacNamara, chair of the White Ribbon Campaign, shared how men can serve a bigger role in combatting the problems surrounding unhealthy, sometimes violent, relationships.
3. Senator Richard Blumenthal is getting ready to leave for Israel. We heard about his goals behind the trip and his stance on the war erupting between Israel and Hamas.
4. Scam Alert! Kristen Johnson of the BBB shared tips for people wanting to donate to charities helping people in Israel.

Oct 20 –

1. Despite the controversy surrounding them, red light cameras got the green light here in Connecticut. What do you need to know about the optional cameras for your town or city? Josh Morgan with the CT Dept. of Transportation shared information and why people need to show up to municipal public hearings on this.
2. Local elections see very low voter turnout. In an effort to boost voter turnout numbers, we are informing voters about the candidates running for major races in our listening area. We focused on the Fairfield First Selectman race. Democratic candidate, Bill Gerber, introduced himself to the audience and shared his vision for the town if he unseats the incumbent. And we heard from Republican First Selectwoman Brenda Kupchick about her time in office handling the town's fill pile scandal and her goals if she's reelected.
3. Last week, we heard from the Republican candidate running for Trumbull first selectman and his model of doing politics with people on all sides of the aisle. Today, we heard from the incumbent, Vicki Tesoro. She talked about her time in office and her goals for Trumbull if she's reelected.

Oct 23 –

1. How do you feel walking into a business and seeing their political views plastered in the front window? It's becoming more and more common, and we want to know if it's appropriate. Employment attorney, Gary Phelan, gave us the laws on the book protecting companies of free speech, but shared his professional opinion on the matter.
2. Voter turnout is much lower during local election years. So, we are focusing on the races and candidates running this year. In Milford, we met the democratic candidate for mayor, Kerri Rowland. Hear about her vision for Milford, including plans for affordable housing, increasing police personnel and handling school matters.
3. Terrorism makes most people think of 9/11 or what we see in the news overseas. But how likely are we, here in Connecticut, to be in a terrorism situation soon? Retired Lt. Jim Perez talked about the reality of it in our state and how we need to be thinking about it.

Oct 24 –

1. Are you worried about lithium-ion battery fires? Hear from a Connecticut company that has cracked the case combatting these fires from cell phone batteries to an electric car battery.
2. Lower back pain is far too common for many. Nuvance Health, which operates Norwalk and Danbury Hospitals, is the first in Connecticut to perform new spine surgery. Learn about it from neurosurgeon Dr. Joshua Marcus and who qualifies.
3. Prostate Cancer continues to be one of the most common cancers in men. National statistics show 13 percent of American men will get prostate cancer. Find out about the latest minimally invasive procedure for enlarged prostate from Hartford Healthcare.

4. Kindness is scientifically proven to help people's health but also help society. But in a cruel world, how do we muster up kindness and show it to people who we may not think deserve it? Counselor, Julius Dudics, shares his perspective on the impact of kindness and why seeking professional help.
5. Are you career happy? Career strategist, Julie Bauke, outlines the definition of career happiness and the four legs of the chair to keep you standing at work.

Nov 15 –

1. Scam Alert: scams targeting young adults have surpassed the ones targeting older adults. The Better Business Bureau explains how 18–24-year-olds are losing more money to scams compared to 65+ year olds and what to do to better protect yourself from fraudsters.
2. An estimated 6 million children in the U.S. will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18. Dealing with grief is hard, even for adults, but one author created a book to help kids understand grief and move forward from loss in a healthy way.
3. The Bridgeport Police Department has been increasing efforts to maintain public safety despite lower officer numbers. We asked Chief Roderick Porter how that is happening and if anything with security has changed since the absentee ballot fraud case in the city.
4. Science you may not know: a group of Connecticut fifth graders created air filtration systems that will significantly improve air quality! David shares what they did and how you can make your own system for just \$60

Nov 16 –

1. Bridgeport Mayor Joe Ganim and his challenger John Gomes have agreed on a January 23rd date for a new Democratic primary. Bill Bloss, the attorney representing John Gomes in the absentee ballot fraud case, shares if this date works for his client and what to expect in the new year.
2. The parents who own the home where a Fairfield Prep student was stabbed to death during a house party in Shelton, faced a judge in Derby. Former Fairfield Police Chief Gary MacNamara shared perspective on the importance of never allowing underage drinking at home.
3. New FEMA PSAs are helping older adults be better prepared for natural disasters. We spoke with FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell about making a plan, assessing your needs and creating a solid support network in the event of an emergency.
4. Our Zoo Minute goes to the birds with stories on eagles and turkeys.

November 17 –

1. Beware of imposter scams regarding your energy provider. Jared Lawrence with Eversource shared what fraudsters are doing, what you need to be aware of and the purpose of Utilities United Against Scams.
2. Were there bullying tactics used in the Fairfield first selectman race? We spoke about the division that seems deep in Fairfield with newly elected Bill Gerber and whether alleged nasty campaigning was going leading up to Election Day.
3. Bird lovers will be excited about this story! According to the Connecticut Audubon Society, the oldest black-bellied plover in the Western Hemisphere on record, was found in Milford! Tom Anderson shares the story in depth and what it means for bird populations in Connecticut.

November 20 –

1. Across the country, we are dealing with a referee and umpire shortage, especially in high school sports. Why is that the case, what does the job entail and if you're interested, how can you get involved? We spoke with Greg Horton, President of the Fairfield County Umpires Association.
2. Too many questions, not enough answers...that's what Senate Republicans are saying about the governor's electric vehicle mandate. Find out solutions to the controversial mandate for 2035 from Senator Stephen Harding, ranking member of the Environment Committee.
3. Crime on the Mind: Porch Pirates ahead of the Black Friday and online shopping frenzy.

November 21 –

1. The Great American Vape Out is a different take on the annual Smoke Out set for this Thursday. We spoke with Fairfield CARES about this new campaign and the focus on vaping, especially with teens.
2. Data of more than 100 thousand Connecticut patients was stolen in a cyberattack on hospitals in Waterbury, Manchester and Vernon. The attack on Prospect Medical Holdings resulted in data stolen, including patient addresses, dates of birth,

diagnosis and treatment plans, lab results and financial information. Our cybersecurity expert explained why hospitals should invest in full-time cyber experts to detect issues before it's too late.

3. Ahead of Thanksgiving, how do we live with a grateful heart? Counselor, Julius Dudics, shares perspective in practicing gratitude. He also gave us tips on handling difficult family members around the Thanksgiving table this week.
4. Julie on the Job: Why are younger workers hesitant to become managers? Career strategist, Julie Bauke, shared a new survey's findings and why more workers are concerned with their personal lives than making more money.

November 22 –

1. Did you know: cooking remains by far the leading cause of U.S. home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment? Ahead of Thanksgiving and holiday celebration, what should you do to avoid house fires? We spoke with Bridgeport Fire Chief Lance Edwards and Lt. Louie Santiago.
2. We have some nutrition and health tips for you ahead of holidays. Registered dietician and nutritionist, Melissa Keeney, shares valuable information if you are worried about your health while indulging throughout the most wonderful time of the year.
3. Recently, Connecticut-based IBM decided to pull its advertising on X, formerly known as Twitter. IBM says the move comes amid concerns that its ads had appeared next to pro-Nazi posts. We got some business perspective from BRBC President, Dan Onofrio; should businesses follow this decision and is bad publicity always considered good news for companies in the end?
4. Science you may not know: the Connecticut River is clogged by a newly discovered invasive plant. What is it? Where did it come from? How can we stop it from spreading more? David Mestre explains why the answer is not that simple...

November 27 –

1. One of the three Palestinian American students who were shot in a possible hate crime in Vermont is a student at Trinity College in Hartford. We spoke about the crime in one of the safest cities in the country with the top television news station in Vermont. Dom Amato, Assistant News Director with WCAX-TV, shared reaction from the state and the latest on the investigation.
2. November 30th is Native American Equal Pay Day. But why the focus on Native American women specifically? And what, if anything, is Connecticut doing to address the disparity? We spoke with Spencer Hill from the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities about it.
3. Tomorrow, Connecticut lawmakers will decide whether to ban gas-powered vehicles by the year 2035 in our state. It's a controversial proposal prompting more questions than answers. Chris Herb with the Connecticut Energy Marketers Association weighed in on the conversation.
4. Crime on the Mind : Shopping safety 101. Whether it's in person or online, crime prevention expert, Jim Perez, shares how to avoid being a target of theft during the shopping frenzy season.

November 28 –

1. There is an EMS worker shortage here and across the country. In fact, a federal study projected a need for 40,000 more full-time emergency medical personnel from 2016 to 2030. We checked in with Easton Volunteer EMS to hear about worker qualifications and got an update on the New Building Project.
2. We are in the midst of a 16-day challenge addressing domestic violence. Deb Greenwood from the Center for Family Justice shared statistics on the problem in our state and shared how you can be part of the solution.
3. Julie on the Job: What should workers do if management refuses to stop widespread harassment and misogynist behavior in the workplace?
4. "Why you gotta be so rude?" Rudeness is a problem in our society and we want to curb that problem. Counselor, Julius Dudics, shares the impact of practicing humility.

November 29 –

1. An unknown and potentially deadly contagious canine respiratory illness has now been detected in dogs in 14 states, including Connecticut. Fairfield veterinarian, Dr. John Kristy, shares more on this mysterious illness, which dogs are more at risk and what dog owners need to look out for.
2. As you know, Governor Lamont nixed the vote on an electric vehicle mandate proposal this week. So, what did the committee talk about instead and what does this mean for the 2024 legislative session? We asked Senator Kevin Kelly of Stratford, who's one of the fourteen members on the bi-partisan committee.

3. Science you may not know: missing cicadas in Connecticut. David Mestre explains the mystery surrounding this insect and how Connecticut is responding.
4. Toy stores are thriving despite online shopping trends. How is that possible? We asked Dan Onofrio from the BRBC about that. And we talked about changing the date for Giving Tuesday to better benefit non-profits in Connecticut.

November 30 –

1. Deck the halls with help from a Connecticut farm or two! We spoke with Department of Agriculture Commissioner, Bryan Hurlburt, about supporting the 5,500+ farms in our state for décor, gifts and food this holiday season.
2. Senator Richard Blumenthal was back on the air. We talked about dropping RSV vaccine prices, avoiding more healthcare mergers and holding social media platforms accountable for child exploitation.
3. Zoo Minute: We are welcoming a new feathered friend to the Beardsley Zoo campus. Gregg Dancho talks about a new crane and the health of this species' population.

December 1 –

1. Counterfeiting is a long-time norm when it comes to the marijuana industry. But that problem has hit a new high since weed became legal in Connecticut. Attorney General William Tong shared the latest on bootleg cannabis products and how his office is combatting the problem.
2. Congressman Jim Himes is back! We did a catch-up on the issues surrounding the border and talked about the war between Israel and Hamas. WARNING: Congressman Himes revealed details of a gruesome 43-minute video he watched involving Hamas during their terrorist attack back in October.
3. A Fairfield horse farm helps children from different walks of life, from anxiety and depression to autism and cerebral palsy. And now, the non-profit and farm needs your help! Doreen Caruso of Hope River Farm shares the mission of her organization and why you should check out Festival of Lights this month.

December 4 –

1. State data shows 80,000 people are living with Alzheimer's in Connecticut. And even more people are caregivers of loved ones with the disease. Nicole Fidanzo, a Quinnipiac University professor, offered holiday tips for caregivers helping loved ones with dementia.
2. It's an uncomfortable conversation, but it's one that families need to start having with their kids. We spoke with Gary MacNamara about familiar people engaging in inappropriate relationships with kids. How do you help kids identify predators, even if it's someone they trust like a teacher?
3. A trip to the big apple is a popular choice for many Connecticut residents during the holiday season. But protestors and big crowds can lead to tragedy when you least expect it. We asked our crime prevention expert, Jim Perez, what we should think about before heading into New York City.
4. A local newspaper columnist wrote an article sharing his perspective as an electric vehicle owner. We had Steven Gaynes from Fairfield Citizen share that perspective on the show amid constant talks about a potential electric vehicle mandate in Connecticut by 2035.

December 5 –

1. Julie on the Job: Don't go crazy at this year's company party. Career strategist, Julie Bauke, explained why alcohol is not always your friend and presentation is a big factor in making an impression away from your desk.
2. According to a recent CBS News report, the typical American household must spend an additional \$11,434 annually just to maintain the same standard of living they enjoyed in January of 2021. So, what can Connecticut lawmakers do to give residents some financial relief? We asked Senator Ryan Fazio.
3. Are you allergic to your Christmas tree? Dr. Hemmers with Hartford Healthcare explained Christmas Tree Syndrome as well as the symptoms, treatment, and prevention of it.
4. Many people become caregivers to their aging loved ones but don't take into account their own financial, physical, emotional and mental health. We spoke with a registered nurse from Assisted Living Services about a program that provides a stipend and got tips on better self-care solutions.

December 6 –

1. Lithium-ion batteries are used in so many things: cellphones, tablets, laptops, Bluetooth headsets, electric toothbrushes, e-scooters, the list goes on and on. But unfortunately, there aren't a lot of options to extinguish those fires quickly. Fairfield's

Assistant Fire Chief, Schuyler Sherwood, shared training that the department goes through for these fires. He also highlighted a new public education campaign to help people prevent these fires from happening. Check out fairfieldct.org.

2. 'Tis the season to deck the halls! But we want to make sure we are safe while enjoying the festive decorations in and around our homes. We did our monthly check-in with The American Red Cross to get safety tips and an update on blood donations.
3. Genetic testing company, 23andMe, confirmed that hackers stole personal information from millions of users. We got insight from our business expert, Dan Onofrio, on whether companies of all sizes should start investing in cybersecurity experts to avoid more of these hacker disasters.
4. Science you may not know: forget cat naps...try chinstrap penguin naps! Find out how this penguin population takes FOUR SECOND, DEEP SLEEP NAPS thousands of times a day!

December 7 –

1. DR BROWNE – Why are kids constantly sick this fall? In fact, why does it seem like we ALL have been constantly sick since September?? In a word: payback! Dr. Browne explains.
2. HOUSING – Finding available and affordable housing continues to be a major struggle for Connecticut. We invited Renee Dobos back in studio. She is the CEO of non-profit, CT Housing Partners. We outlined the problem at hand and what 'affordable housing' actually means for Connecticut residents. Renee then explained how CHP is part of the solution.

December 11 –

1. Local author and volunteer firefighter, Paul Albert, created a new book honoring law enforcement and remembering two of our own. In the children's book 'True Blue Heroes,' find out how Lt. Dustin DeMonte and Sgt. Alex Hamzy are remembered and the lesson behind respecting those in uniform.
2. Crime on the Mind: How do I handle a street takeover if I'm caught in one? Jim Perez shares why you should invest in dashboard cameras and how to keep from engaging with suspects.
3. Fairfield residents are outraged after college students trashed Penfield Beach after a Santacon party. We asked First Selectman Bill Gerber what action comes next for the students responsible.
4. December 10th marked the 75th anniversary of Human Rights Day. But as a society, are we falling short of respecting people no matter what? We spoke in length with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.

December 12 –

1. There were several street takeovers in Connecticut earlier this month and we want to know what lawmakers are doing to eliminate the problem or better protect residents. Senator Paul Cicarella is the Ranking state Senator of the Public Safety and Security Committee. He shared concerns over a lack of penalties and whether task forces make a difference in curbing the issue.
2. Just days ahead of the Sandy Hook tragedy anniversary, how do we handle trauma and fear? We get advice from morning show counselor, Julius Dudics.
3. Over the river and through the woods to Grandmother's house or just away for the holiday we go! We get the latest AAA data on travel trends for Christmas and New Years. Plus, we discuss new data about older drivers and what to discuss as a family with safe mobility.
4. More than 1,100 lobster traps have been removed from Long Island Sound in the last year. Where do those traps go after they're removed? What's the goal for next year? And do we need more fishermen to get involved in this conservation effort? We spoke with the Conservation Project Manager from Maritime Aquarium.

December 14 –

1. New data shows that Google searches for AI to help with college essays has skyrocketed 110% in the last year! But is the headline deceiving? We ask our cyber security expert, Dr. Vahid Behzadan, about the findings. We also talked about artificial intelligence in the classroom and how teachers can strike a balance with students using it.
2. Earlier this week, four women who attended the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London told a congressional committee of sexual abuse they experienced. The hearing was led by Senator Richard Blumenthal as chair of a Senate investigative panel. We spoke with Senator Blumenthal about the investigation and the next steps for abuse allegedly tied to all branches of the military.

3. A well-known voice actor with ties to Connecticut is back to reprise his role as Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*. We spoke with John Ratzenberger, born in Bridgeport and best known for voicing Hamm in *Toy Story*, about his role on stage at Sacred Heart University.

December 15 –

1. In a world so divided and it feels like hate is spread much more than love, one non-profit is being recognized for promoting non-violent, racial and social justice. Find out about the Chick Rosnick Boxing Club and why the state is recognizing it in January.
2. How do you create positive screen time for your kids? We spoke with child psychiatrist, Dr. Jodi Gold, about parents letting go of fears and embracing screen time with your children. How do we do it though? Find out here!
3. Connecticut is projected to have another healthy rainy-day fund for 2024. But if that's the case, why not ease some of the burdens Connecticut residents are feeling...like warming their homes this winter? We dive into this with Comptroller Sean Scanlon.

December 18 –

1. More and more places of worship are at risk of attacks. Connecticut has released five million dollars to help facilities heighten security measures. Sen. Tony Hwang, Ranking Senator on the Bonding Subcommittee of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, explained how the money can help and who can benefit from it.
2. Elon Musk reinstated Alex Jones on X, formerly known as Twitter, after close to two-million users voted in favor of the decision. What does this mean for spreading fake news and deciphering what's real online? We spoke with Professor Bill Yousman, who teaches media and communications at Sacred Heart University, to get perspective on the change and its impact.
3. Implicit bias is within all of us because of all the information we take since the moment we are born. It doesn't mean we can't retrain the brain to think about people or roles in a different way. Jody Walker Smith with The Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities shared how to combat implicit bias.
4. SCAM ALERT: Gift cards! Crime prevention expert, Jim Perez, explained this repeat scam and how fraudsters have gotten even trickier!

December 19 –

1. As we round out 2023, what does Connecticut consider to be some big wins? Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz shared her perspective and influential bills taking effect in 2024.
2. How do we find peace in a stressful season of the year? Counselor Julius Dudics shares tips to overcome holiday stress and enjoy the time of year a little bit more.
3. A college football player is suing his school for alleged disability discrimination. Will more of these cases pop up for college sports? We ask attorney Gary Phelan.
4. Ansonia scored big with state grants for fixer-upper projects in the city. We got the details from Mayor David Cassetti.

December 20 –

1. Cannabis retailer, Budr, is looking to open a new location at the Hartford Healthcare Amphitheater in Bridgeport. Good idea or bad for surrounding businesses? We got perspective from Bridgeport Regional Business Council President, Dan Onofrio.
2. Officials say a new COVID-19 variant is on the rise this holiday season. The CDC says cases of the new variant, been dubbed JN.1, now account for one in five new infections. We heard from Dr. Hussain about hospitalizations in Connecticut and what doctors are seeing.
3. It's the darkest time of the year, but it doesn't have to be so depressing! Tom Anderson with Connecticut Audubon Society shares how birds and nature can turn your frown upside down this winter.
4. It's one of the most common, unenjoyable parts of pregnancy: morning sickness! Researchers have discovered what's to blame for it. OB/GYN Dr. Daniel Gottschall explains the GDF15 hormone and why it's creating such havoc in women at the start of pregnancy.

December 21 –

1. With the news of a new strain of Covid-19 starting to become more prevalent, Dr. Browne joined Melissa to talk about what to know and how to prepare for it.

2. Zoo Minute: Gregg Dancho shared a lot of reindeer facts ahead of Christmas! They may not fly, but you won't believe how magical reindeer are in real life.
3. Is cursive writing making a comeback in Connecticut classrooms? A new state law is encouraging teachers to bring back this nostalgic skill to the curriculum. Fran Rabinowitz talked about the need to cursive but not the way it was taught in the past.
4. Hundreds of Fairfield County students will soon have access to the support and opportunities they need to thrive thanks to \$347,500 in funding announced today by the Fairfield County Business Collaborative for Education Equity. We got the details about this organization and who is benefiting from the funding.

December 27 –

1. Ahead of New Years weekend, Bridgeport Police Chief Roderick Porter shared tips and warnings to keep you safe this holiday.
2. Before we head in to 2024, we take a look back at some of the biggest Connecticut business stories of 2023. And Dan Onofrio of the BRBC shares advice for refocusing and restarting jobs for people heading back to work after the holidays.
3. Science You May Not Know: From small butterflies to monster-size whales, we recap the biggest science discoveries of 2023 according to David Mestre.

December 29 –

1. Help Our Military Heroes had an incredible year helping service men and women get outfitted vans for their war injuries. Laurie Hollander, CEO and Founder of the organization, shared the success of 2023 and goals for the new year.
2. Did you know the stretch between Christmas and New Years brings an uptick in heart attacks? We learned why that is from Hartford Healthcare cardiologist Dr. Jasser and what signs to look out for.
3. A new poll shows overwhelming concern from Connecticut residents surrounding a potential ban on gas-powered vehicles. Senator Kevin Kelly shares the significance of the data and what that means for conversation among lawmakers in 2024.
4. Hear the biggest animal stories from Norwalk's Maritime Aquarium in 2023 from Emily Lavin.