

## ***Catamount Radio Issues List***

**Catamount Radio (WDVT, WJEN, WJJR, WSYB, WZRT)** serves our city of license (Rutland/Killington) and beyond to the surrounding areas by gearing our programming to meet the areas of concern to our community members through our issues list.

Our radio stations' staff meets regularly to discuss these issues of importance and based upon recommendations from community leaders, and news topics, both local and regional. We arrive at our issues list and focus our ***public service and public affairs*** in that direction.

We integrate guests (usually local experts) into our regular programming. Our issues, although addressed in pre-recorded PSA's, are also presented in a more informal fashion with "live" in-studio interviews with representatives from the police department, schools, hospitals and various community leaders.

The stations also broadcast numerous free announcements from non-profit community organizations who request such time to promote their causes.

We also execute a number of "on-location" broadcasts if the event warrants such activity. Catamount Radio believes that ***public service is more than lip service***. We know we can encourage more people by example, rather than just more talk.

**HEALTHCARE AND INSURANCE**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**WEATHER RELATED EVENTS**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**ENERGY**

**CHARITY**

# WJEN 4Q 2023

## Catamount Community Connection Fourth Quarter 2023

**Sunday 9-10-2023 - @ 11pm      Duration: 60 minutes**

Rutland City Police Chief Brian Killcullen and Rutland City Mayor Michael Doenges. The program focuses on the community's concern about public safety in light of the death of Police Officer Jessica Ebinghausen in the line of duty and the continuing issue of drugs and violence and robbery in the area and the Mayor's explanation of flooding concerns in the county and city and the vote to enact the Road Diet, reducing the Woodstock Avenue and North Main Street to one lane with a turning lane in the middle and a bike lane on each side. There is much push back on this including an online petition to reconsider the decision. It was a 2-1 vote to do this with the Mayor and Board of Alderman President voting yes and the DPW Commissioner voting no.

**Sunday 9-17-2023 - @ 11pm      Duration: 60 minutes**

CEDRR Executive Director Lyle Jepson and Crispin White who is the Member Services Manager and Events Manager. Lyle is the Executive Director of CEDRR and a long time leader in community affairs. CEDRR stands for Chamber and Economic Development of the Rutland Region. It serves as the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development group in the County. They talk about the work they do with a focus on the Whoopie Pie Festival which attracts thousands of people to the downtown area and other events in the fall that hope to attract families to move to the Rutland area.

**Sunday 9-24-2023 - @ 11pm**

**Duration: 60 minutes**

Julie Moore, Vermont Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources and Anson Tebbetts, Vermont Secretary of the Agency of Agriculture. Talking about the floods and the new rules affecting 3 acre Rule and Heating Standard. Secretary Tebbetts talked about how the flooding affected farming operations thru the State and what the agricultural community can do to get back on its feet. Also spent a lot of time talking about the continuing decline in conventional dairy farms in Vermont and the diversification of Vermont agriculture. Secretary Moore talked about wake board regulations and new regulations affecting municipal rules regarding wetlands, etc.

**Sunday 10-1-2023 - @ 11pm**

**Duration: 60 minutes**

Hilary Solomon, District Manager of the Conservation District in Rutland County and Jerremy Jones, Trustee of the Lake Saint Catherine Association. They each spoke about efforts to reduce storm runoff into our lakes and streams and the ways people who own property can help the State get better control over that. They also spoke about grant funding and a general overview of the work they do to improve water quality in the waters of the Rutland County area. Both are folks who work with land owners who can voluntarily take measures to reduce runoff and improve water quality.

**Sunday 10-8-2023 - @ 11pm**

**Duration: 60 minutes**

Tim Barrett, Director of Athletics at Vermont State University at Castleton University. Topic was the new alignment of some of the athletic programs at Castleton University. Football and ice hockey teams will compete in new conferences which mean less travel and expense and a better experience for the student athletes. Also talked about the community outreach of team members in the Rutland county community. Second guests were Amy Laramie, Internal Communications & Guest Experience Manager and Mike Solimano, President and General Manager of Killington Resort and Pico Mountain. Many many topics including the expansion of the resort, and the Ladies World Cup coming once again to Killington. Vermont-schooled Olympic gold medalist Mikaela Shiffrin was part of the event last year which attracted over 21,000 people to the event, which is a world record. Looking forward to breaking that record again this year which is a major economic boost to the entire region.

**Sunday 11-19-2023 - @ 11pm**

**Duration: 60 minutes**

First guest was Representative Robin Chesnut-Tengerman, Progressive member from Middletown Springs. We talked about what he saw as priorities for the upcoming Legislative session in Montpelier. He highlighted housing and concern over the rising crime statistics along with his continuing desire to address climate change. As a member of the Rutland County delegation, Robin serves as the Vice Chair of the House General and Housing Affairs Committee.

Second guest was Jamie and Cassie Munson who are organizers of the Annual Killington Turkey Trot which is a road race in Killington which raises funds for local food shelves. We spend about 15 minutes talking about how the race first came about, how someone can enter each year and what kind of money is raised and where it goes. People are welcome to just show up on Thanksgiving morning and run the race.

Third guest was Terry Jaye who is the Secretary of the WSYB Christmas Fund, Inc. Terry and I talked about how the Fund stated and what plans were for this year's annual effort to raise money to help people in Rutland County have a better Christmas. Talked about remote broadcasts and how people could donate to the Fund.

**Sunday 10-29-2023 - @ 11pm**

**Duration: 60 minutes**

First guest was Devon Neary, from **Fair Haven, Vermont, United States** · Executive Director · Rutland Regional Planning Commission and Senior Planner with expertise in water quality, renewable energy, flood and climate resilience. Devon outlined plans for the creation of updated community plans to address all segments of a community's Master Plan. Regional planning commissions are a local resource for towns and, in a state without county governments, a critical link between municipal affairs and state government. He outlined the hearings that will be held to help communities make their statute mandated updates.

Second guest was Tiffany Saltis, who is the Executive Director of the Downtown Rutland Partnership. We talked about the economic importance of the downtown Rutland area to the County and she let listeners know about all of the promotions coming up for the holiday season and the first quarter of 2024. Plans are in the works for the Downtown Rutland Partnership to assist in the Christmas Fund efforts and how the tree lighting ceremony in downtown Rutland will be a focal point.

**Sunday 12-8-2023 - @ 11pm**

**Duration: 60 minutes**

Guest was Rutland City Mayor Michael Doenges. We spent the majority of the one hour show on the current demand for housing. The Mayor has made several proposals to create 1000 additional housing opportunities for people. This includes both affordable and market rate stock. We also spoke about the need to increase the population of not just Rutland City which is currently about 15,000 residents to somewhere near 22,000. The Mayor also feels strongly that Rutland County needs to also grow by a proportional amount. With more people living in both the County and the City, the tax burden will be lessened for those living here. We also spoke about the need for the upcoming legislative session to include legislation to address the public safety issue. Too many times people complain that many of the same people (nearly 30%) are those who are committing petty crimes with apparently no accountability. This means even before they are in court to answer a previous charge, they are back on the street and re commit the same crime over and over. The Mayor cited a study which showed that roughly 80% of offenders are experiencing drug and alcohol substance abuse issues. The last topic was the upcoming Gift of Life Marathon, which is the local blood drive. Rutland proudly still holds the national record for most amount of blood donated in a one day period.

## **26<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Jude Radiothon**

October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> we dedicated programming to our annual St. Jude Radiothon from 6am – 7pm each day.