

Podcast # 1926

NFRRS Meat Raffle with Marian Hetherly

Transcript

00:00:00 Speaker 1

Welcome to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of Western New York Independent Living.

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I'm your host, Tracy LeBlanc, Chief Community Engagement Officer at Western New York Independent Living.

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Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service has been a part of the WNYIL Family of Agencies since December 2018.

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Radio Reading has been on the air for nearly 40 years, offering readings of a host of print publications to assist people who have difficulty reading on their own.

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Joining us today to talk about Radio Reading and one of their upcoming fundraisers is their community engagement advocate, Marian Hetherly.

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Welcome to the program, Marian.

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Thanks very much for having me, Tracy.

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Marian, can you provide us with a brief overview of what Radio Reading does?

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Radio Readings are really an amazing community resource for people with reading disabilities and the only service of its kind in New York State, west of Albany.

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We're A 24-7 nonprofit radio station that broadcast readings of some 80 national and local newspapers, magazines, bestselling books.

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So, people who can't read these printed materials can listen to them.

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Instead, this helps the listeners

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be informed and stay engaged and thriving in their community independently.

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And all of our programming is produced by a team of 160 volunteers from across Western New York and in other states.

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You run two major fundraisers during the year to help in supporting your work.

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And you have one of those fundraisers coming up in a few short weeks, your third annual Meat Raffle.

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Can you tell us about that event?

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Our meat raffle is our largest fall fundraiser.

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I really can't believe it's our third year already.

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We hope everyone will join us on Friday, November 6th at the Knights Events Center in Cheektowaga.

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Doors will open at 6 p.m.

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The first spin is at 7 p.m.

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We encourage people to come in at 6 so they'll have plenty of time to peruse the dozens of raffle prizes we'll have available to win everything from Buffalo Bills items to liquor to toys to gift cards to some of Western New York's great cultural

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attractions and restaurants.

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Meat raffles are a fun Western New York tradition, but some of our listeners may not know what they are.

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Can you give us an overview of what takes place at a meat raffle?

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So, the main event is winning packages of meat.

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Radio Reading's meat raffle on November 6th will give you a chance to win 100 prime meat prizes.

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What happens is there's more than like a dozen rounds and attendees buy chances to win meat in that round that they

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have the meat that they want.

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Chances are usually a buck or two, so bring plenty of dollar bills to play each round.

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We'll spin the wheel and if we pick your number, you win the meat.

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Everyone is also welcome to bring their own snacks to eat as they play.

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In addition to the meat offerings, you'll have other prizes available to win as well.

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Can you tell us about that?

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Yeah, there sure are.

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You don't have to be a carnivore to enjoy meat raffles.

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We'll also have 50-50 and Find the Queen raffles for opportunities to win cash.

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Everybody loves cash.

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We'll have dozens of basket raffle prizes plus two grand prizes that are each valued at about \$300.

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Can you tell us about the efforts to make the meat raffle as accessible as possible?

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Yeah, that's very important to Radio Reading since we serve people with reading disabilities across

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Western New York and Southern Ontario. We'll have volunteers and large print and braille programs available for anyone who's blind or needs personal assistance.

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The tables will have plenty of space around them for people using canes or in wheelchairs.

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The restrooms and other facilities are very accessible to people with disabilities.

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And there's also

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plenty of free parking at the Knights Events Center with ramps at entrances.

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Anyone interested in attending and would like to discuss accommodations, just give me a call, 716-821-5555, extension 3.

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Where can people get tickets and more information?

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Tickets are only \$15 presale, \$20 at the door.

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Tables of eight are discounted to \$100.

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And admission includes beer and soda pop, so we hope that people will buy their tickets early.

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We're directing everyone to the Radio Reading website for tickets and information.

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That website is nfradioreading.org.

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You can also call us again at 716-821-5555, extension 3, or just e-mail us at Read, that's R-E-A-D, Read.

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at NFRadioReading.org.

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Tell us you're coming and we'll have some presale tickets available for you at admission.

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Well, that's all the time we have for this week.

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Thanks for joining us, Marian.

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Thank you, Tracy.

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As a reminder, Radio Reading's Meat Raffle is Friday, November 6th at the Knights Event Center in Cheektowaga.

00:04:56 Speaker 1

You've been listening to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of Western New York Independent Living.

00:05:02 Speaker 1

Our guest today was Marian Hetherly from Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service, and I have been your host, Tracy LeBlanc.