

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

*Deborah Greenwood, Director of Senior Services, Prepared for: December 19, 2024*

## ADMINISTRATION

### NOVEMBER 2024

#### Enrollment

During November, the COA acquired 23 new patrons – 13 are Wellesley residents and 10 are non-residents. Of these, 5 are in the 60-69 age group, 14 are in the 70-79 age group, and 4 are in the 80+ age group, 16 new patrons are female, and 7 are male.

In November 662 patrons utilized the COA - 530 were Wellesley residents and 132 were non-residents.

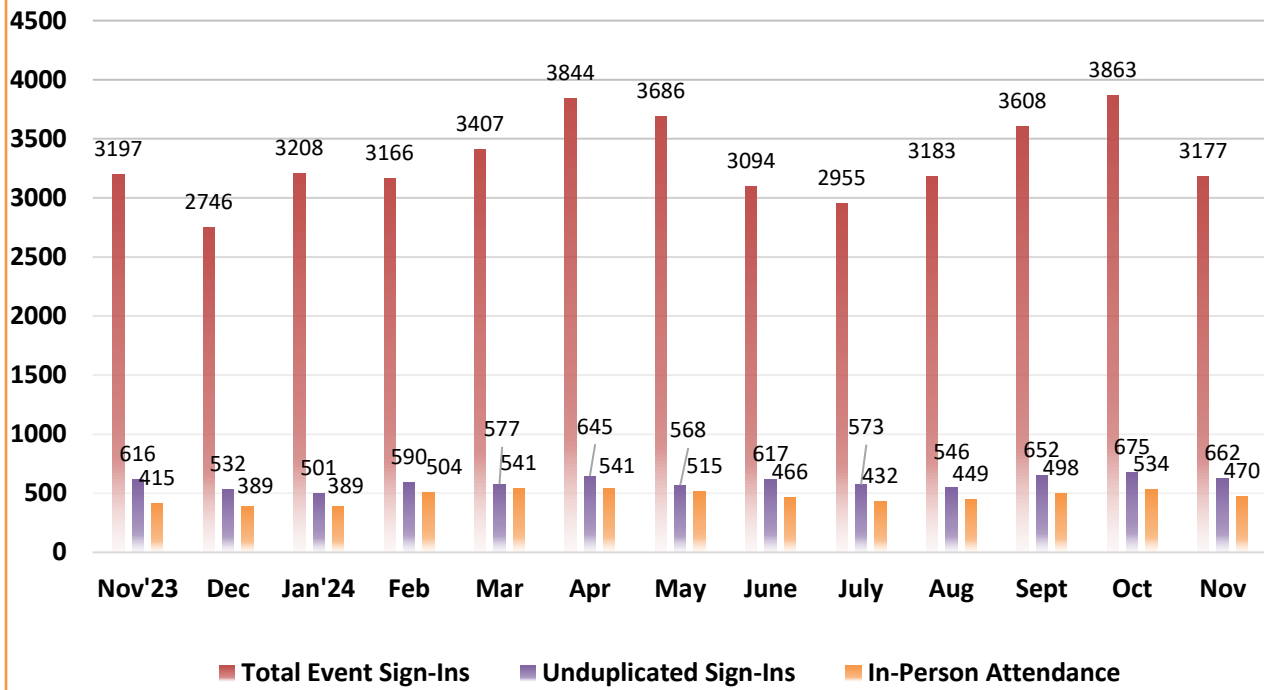
#### Programming Stats

Community Education - 145	(106 unduplicated)
(KevTech, Learn How to Use Uber)	
• Cultural – 310	(167 unduplicated)
(Art classes, The Sixties, Adventures in Nova Scotia)	
• Fitness Center usage - 260	(71 unduplicated)
• Fitness Instruction - 629	(138 unduplicated)
(Yoga, Cardio Dance, Chair Yoga, Core and More, Fit 4 Life, Hi-Low, Pilates, Yoga for Better Balance, and Seated Strength and Balance)	
• Wellness/Health Education - 10	(10 unduplicated)
(Keep Well Clinic, Aging Alone, Series of Mindfulness, Kate's groups)	
• IT Tech Assistance – 9	(9 unduplicated)
• Recreation/Socialization – 1055	(301 unduplicated)
(Bingo, Bridge, Cribbage, Ping Pong, Movies, Café Visits, and Musical Events)	
• Outreach - 95	(35 unduplicated)
(Men In Retirement, Women in Retirement, Social Connections)	
• Group Support - 33	(22 unduplicated)
(Breakfast Club, Community Bears, Coffee with the WPD)	
• Day Trips, Congruent Meals – 107	(107 unduplicated)
(Events with Lunch, Breakfast club, Thanksgiving dinner)	
• SHINE appointments – 41	(40 unduplicated)
• Lunch Attendance – 257	(57 unduplicated)

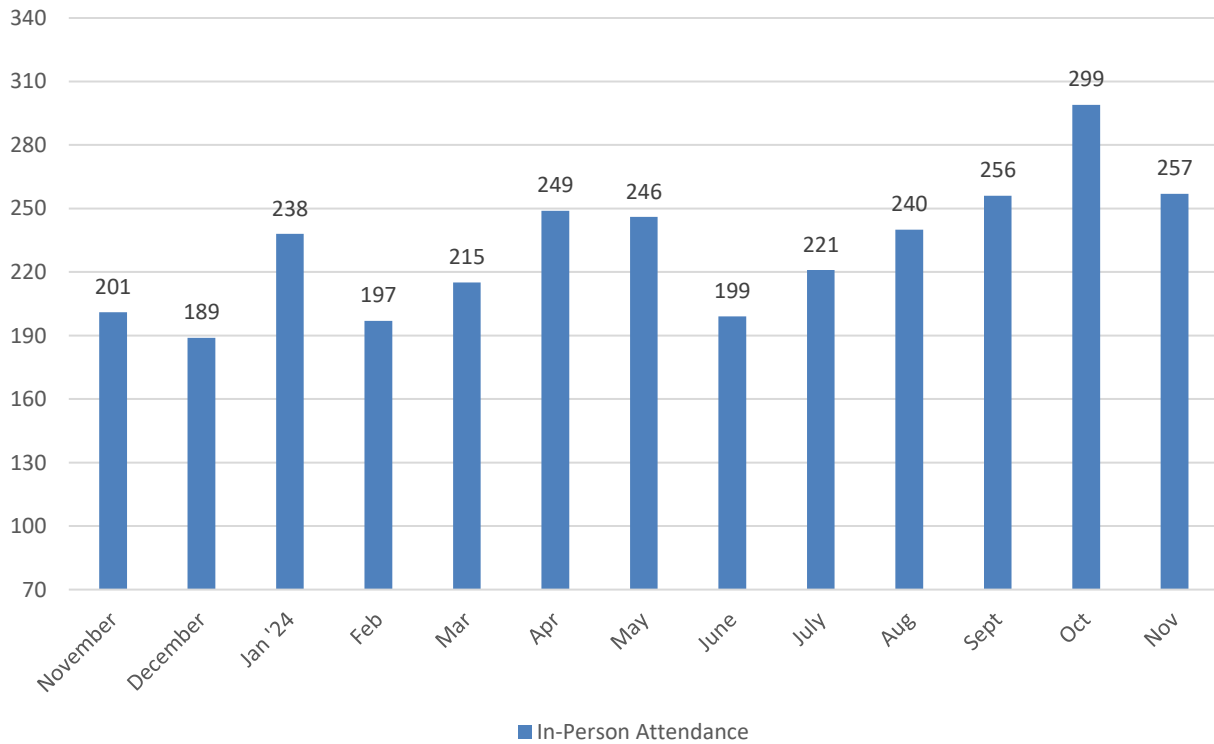
#### Gifts:

\$311.57	Friends of the Wellesley COA	Coffee Subsidy November 2024
\$726.00	Friends of the Wellesley COA	Lunch Subsidy November 2024
\$1,323.00	Almira Simons Fund	Simons Lunch November 2024
\$230.00	Almira Simons Fund	Programming/Scholarship November 2024
Non-Monetary	Laura Friedman	Mahjong Board

## # EVENT PARTICIPATION



## # Lunches



## PROGRAMMING

### November 2024

November was a dynamic and impactful month at the Tolles Parsons Center, marked by a variety of educational, health-focused, and engaging recreational programming that drew impressive participation and enriched our community.

#### *Special Presentation by Ted Reinstein WCVB*

- Ted Reinstein visited to discuss his book, *Travels Through the Heart of New England*.
- The event was a success, drawing **over 65 patrons** to learn about and celebrate regional stories.
- After the presentation, Ted engaged with attendees, answering questions, signing books, and posing for photos, creating a personal and memorable experience for all.

#### *Seasonal Programs and Musical Performances*

- November featured a range of special events, including:
  - A **Veterans Day** program to honor those who served.
  - *1620: The First Thanksgiving*, exploring history and traditions.
  - *When Words Fail, Music Speaks*, a unique performance blending music and storytelling.
- These programs brought both historical insights and artistic inspiration to our patrons.

#### *Flu Clinic*

- On **November 13th**, the Health Department conducted its annual **Flu Clinic**, providing critical preventive care to dozens of community members.
- This collaboration underscored the center's role as a hub for health and wellness services.

#### *Uber Training Collaboration*

- In partnership with a student from **Olin College**, we introduced a **class on how to use Uber**, aimed at increasing transportation options and independence for patrons.
- The session included hands-on demonstrations and troubleshooting to ensure attendees felt confident in using the app.

#### *Post-Thanksgiving Fun - Friday, November 29th*

- To cap off the holiday weekend, we hosted a lively **team-based game show activity**, featuring *Jeopardy* and *Concentration* themes.
- This lighthearted event brought laughter, friendly competition, and camaraderie to the center, showcasing the joy of shared experiences.

In answer to a question posed by Judy Gertler about Vendor having patron emails:

In review of the vendor contract we will add patron emails for COA business only. The COA determined that the COA does not share any patron email with vendors and any email exchange is done by the individual patron not the COA. The COAs only share participant names with instructors/vendors.

SOCIAL WORK/OUTREACH

TOTAL	Unduplicated residents served	Almira Simons Approved
NOV	31	3

MONTH	Social Connections (Attendance 1x/wk.)	Women in Retirement (Attendance 2x/mo.)	Men in Retirement (Attendance 1x/wk.)	Senior Work Off Tax Relief	FUEL Assistance Consults
NOV	43	15	41	7	1

MONTH	In- Office Consults	Telephone Consults	Home Visits	Email referrals
NOV	6	27	5	22

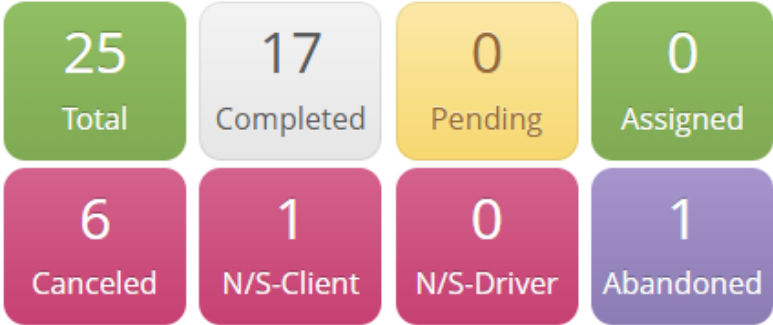
The Health & Social Services Administrator works with Wellesley seniors and their families to help individuals navigate challenges and life changes. Consultations are provided via telephone or in person, as requested. The level of time and complexity varies by each situation and crisis level. Common concerns involve topics such as financial distress, family dynamics, anxiety, depression, increasing cognitive impairment, housing issues, and coping with various medical diagnosis.

TRANSPORTATION



November 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024

Rides



Washington St	WELLESLEY	11/5/2024	7
Chestnut St	NEEDHAM	11/6/2024	8
Washington St	WELLESLEY	11/7/2024	3
Central St	WELLESLEY	11/12/2024	10
Washington St	WELLESLEY	11/13/2024	7
Linden St	WELLESLEY	11/14/2024	7
WASHINGTON	NEWTON LOWER	11/19/2024	8
ST	FALLS	11/20/2024	7
Washington St	WELLESLEY	11/21/2024	7
Washington St	WELLESLEY	11/25/2024	2
Worcester St	WELLESLEY	11/26/2024	11
Washington St	WELLESLEY	11/27/2024	7

Number of Riders: 47

Number of Trips: 165

## VOLUNTEER

The COA had success filling several open Greeter and Lunch positions. Several new applications were received through our News blast and word of mouth from our current volunteers. Two Tax Work Off Volunteers were added - one to our recurring weekly schedule as a Greeter and Lunch Server, and the other joined our Volunteer Driver Program.









Volunteers ran a Holiday Card Writing for Vets in collaboration with Jan Hastings, a volunteer with the Veterans with Disabilities Office. 100 cards were completed by a small group of committed volunteers. The cards will be delivered to the West Roxbury VA hospital by Jan Hastings in December.






A new volunteer was added to assist with the Food Pantry grocery trips on Tuesdays. The volunteer was referred to us by Betty Lee Wang who speaks Chinese. The Chinese-speaking passengers enjoy speaking with her, and the bus driver appreciates having a translator on the bus.




## PROGRAMMING Views Through Wellesley Media

A new data point for attendance and the COAs ability to reach community members. Provided by Luke McHenry Community Film Producer Wellesley Media Corporation. We have been fortunate that Wellesley Media has covered many of our Lecture and performances and this gives another opportunity for patrons and community member to attend events without coming to the center for what ever reason they have. You can see from the number we are reaching even more Wellesley Residents. The access to Wesleymedia.org can be streamlined in the search bar by typing in COA Wellesley, the views are not measure on Wellesley Media. The information is recorded views on YouTube, Luke will provide information each month as to views and recordings. The COA will be looking to add a spread sheet to include title of event and number of views of recording going forward.

The information from Wellesley Media on Youtube views start August 2024 to December 6, 2024.

Video Title and Post Date	Thumbnail	Views	Video Description
<b>Learn How to Uber with Pauline (Posted on 12/4)</b>	 <b>Learn How to Uber with Pauline! - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 15 views • 2 days ago	15	Join Pauline for a hands-on class designed to help seniors navigate the Uber app with confidence! Whether you're new to ridesharing or looking to refresh your skills, Pauline will guide you through the steps of downloading the app, booking a ride, and understanding payment options. This is a great opportunity to embrace new technology and stay connected with your community. Don't miss out on this helpful and informative session!
<b>Fall into a Good Book with Wellesley Books (Posted 11/19)</b>	 <b>Fall Into a Good Book with Wellesley Books - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 9 views • 2 weeks ago	9	Join Lorna as she presents her recommendations for cold weather reads. The program will include audiobooks, a mix of new releases of fiction and nonfiction, along with a few old chestnuts to revisit and enjoy as the weather turns colder. Lorna was born to talk about books, as an avid reader and manager of bookstores.
<b>Veteran's Day Program (Posted 11/12)</b>	 <b>Veterans Day Program - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 15 views • 3 weeks ago	15	Mike LePage as General Thomas Gage visits the center to enthral the audience with historical storytelling. Mike LePage has been a Historical Interpreter since 1992 and has played historical characters since 1998 including John Adams, Paul Revere, Dr. Joseph Warren, Peter Oliver, a British Soldier, a Civil War Soldier, and Baseball Player/Manager John McGraw.
<b>Travels Through the Heart and Soul of New England (Posted 11/12)</b>	 <b>Travels Through The Heart and Soul of New England - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 9 views • 3 weeks ago	9	Journalist and author Ted Reinstein has reported all around New England for 25 years, telling the colorful stories of this historic yet ever-changing corner of America. Now, he condenses his countless travels into a single, unique labor of love: a journey through the heart and soul of New England.
<b>How We Remember the Fifth of November: Beyond the Gunpowder Plot (Posted on 11/5)</b>	 <b>How We Remember the 5th of November: Beyond Gunpowder Plot of 1605 - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 35 views • 1 month ago	35	Remember, remember the 5th of November, the Gunpowder treason and plot... If the Pope had simply granted a divorce to King Henry VIII of England, then the Church of England might never have picked a fight with Rome. Were that the case, think of the lives that might have been spared in the hundreds of years of tumult between the Catholics and the Protestants of England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and the world. But, alas, the divorce was not granted, and the battle lines were drawn, and the persecution did ensue, and so in 1605 a man named Guy Fawkes set out as part of a swashbuckling crew to administer their version of justice with "The Gunpowder Plot." In this talk we discuss who the real Guy Fawkes was, how he found himself at the center of this infamous event, and how, over the centuries, his likeness and spirit have developed into a troubling harbinger of chaos to those in command, and rallied underdogs in the quest to speak truth to power.
<b>Patagonia, the Strait of Magellan and Tierra del Fuego (Posted 10/29)</b>	 <b>Patagonia, the Strait of Magellan and Tierra del Fuego - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 61 views • 1 month ago	61	Long before humans arrived in South America, the far south of the continent was chiseled and carved by glaciers forming land of rugged mountain spires and watery channels. In the early 1500s, Magellan passed through the strait that now bears his name. Today the region is one of the continent's major attractions. Barry Pell has traveled extensively through this land learning about its history, people, and the magnificent landscape of its lakes and forests. In this program, he will discuss its exploration and settlement and, accompanied by his photography, will show what makes this immense and remote land as breathtaking today as it was during the era of exploration.
<b>Extreme Weather (Posted on 10/29)</b>	 <b>Extreme Weather - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 26 views • 1 month ago	26	Join Harvey Leonard, WCVB-TV Chief Meteorologist Emeritus, for a talk about some of the extreme weather conditions we have been experiencing. Leonard will discuss how meteorologists predict them and how residents can respond to weather events.
<b>Fall Piano Performance (Posted on 10/22)</b>	 <b>Fall Piano Performance - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 163 views • 1 month ago	163	Join us for a lovely afternoon of autumnal tunes performed on the piano by Michael Leidig, who performs throughout New England. The theme of his program will be the fall season and will include a blend of well-known jazz, classical, and pop music. Michael weaves interpretations of a wide variety of music from jazz greats like Louis Armstrong, Nat King Cole and Sinatra to popular/rock artists such as Burt Bacharach, The Beatles and Elvis to classical composers including Chopin, Mozart and Pachelbel. Come in and enjoy this autumnal musical

<b>Why the Salem Witch Trials Still Matter Today (Posted on 10/8)</b>	 <b>Why The Salem Witch Trials Still Matter Today - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 95 views • 1 month ago 1:13:17	95	People come from all over the world to see the town where the infamous American witchcraft trials occurred. But what really happened in Salem, Massachusetts, 331 years ago? In this talk we'll see how the suspicions of a community spiraled out of control and led to appalling injustices. We'll also examine the reasons why the Salem story is so relevant today.
<b>The Bus and Miss Rosa: A Civil Rights Tour of Georgia and Alabama (Posted on 10/1)</b>	 <b>The Bus and Miss Rosa: A Civil Rights Tour in Georgia and Alabama - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 7 views • 2 months ago 1:04:02	7	Join us for a program on the Road Scholar Civil Rights tour Brooks and Jeanie Goddard took last September. All on the same bus, the Goddards went to major civil rights locations we all heard about growing up: the home of MLK, Rosa Parks Museum, The Legacy Museum, The National Monument for Peace and Justice, the Edmund Pettus Bridge, Birmingham's Kelly Ingram Park and the bombed 16th Street Baptist Church. Brooks Goddard has been a teacher since 1963 in various schools including Deerfield Academy, secondary schools in Kenya, and a 30-year career at Wellesley High School. For the past 23 years he has worked with adults in various learning environments. Jeanie was a long time English teacher at Wellesley High School until 2005 when she started her 4-year career at the BU School of Education's teaching of English program
<b>Alzheimer's Association: Healthy Living For Your Brain and Body</b>	 <b>Alzheimer's Association: Healthy Living For Your Brain &amp; Body - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 55 views • 2 months ago 1:06:40	55	Learn about important research into diet/nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and develop a plan for healthy aging.
<b>The Great Musicals of the 70's: Part Two (Posted on 10/1)</b>	 <b>The Great Musicals of the 70's: Part Two - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 16 views • 2 months ago 59:07	16	Two of Broadway's biggest hits came out of the 70s, but there were also some hidden gems with some great music. In the second part of the Great Musicals of the 70s, we start with Godspell. Then we get a little edgy with Chicago and Company. But the 70s wouldn't be complete without a sendoff from A Chorus Line. As always, there will be singing, lectures, video clips from various shows, and many opportunities to participate. We always encourage everyone to sing along and get involved
<b>Singer Grace Etcorn (Posted on 8/27)</b>	 <b>Singer Grace Etcorn</b> Wellesley Public Media • 24 views • 3 months ago 52:36	24	Grace Etcorn sings show tunes at the Tolles Parsons Senior Center
<b>Woo and Friend (Posted on 9/5)</b>	 <b>Woo and Friend - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 24 views • 3 months ago 1:01:54	24	Experience an unforgettable musical journey with Vocalist Elaine Woo and her accompanists. A former MGH internist, Elaine will enchant you with timeless classics from The Great American Songbook, along with a selection of captivating new pieces. This performance is designed to soothe the soul and delight the senses—truly, just what the doctor ordered.
<b>Summer Beach Party with Michael Goodwin (Posted on 9/5)</b>	 <b>Summer Beach Party with Michael Goodwin - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 27 views • 3 months ago 1:03:13	27	Celebrate the summer with Michael Goodwin as he sings your favorite tunes from summer shows! Selections will include some of our favorite summer hits from the 40s, 50s, and 60s, including songs from the Beatles, The Beach Boys, and Elvis Presley himself. This showing includes a sneak preview of part 2 of Michael's Musicals of the 70's!
<b>Newton Swing Band (Posted on 9/24)</b>	 <b>Newton Swing Band - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 107 views • 2 months ago 59:31	107	The Newton Swing Band is back at Wellesley COA! The band originated over 35 years ago when two Newton residents happened to meet. Over a conversation they found that they both were musicians and shared an interest in music from the Great American Songbook. They decided to start a band and managed to enlist instrumentalists and singers who shared their interest in music from the 1920s to the 1970s. Today the band includes nearly 20 members and performs at various venues in the Greater Boston area.
<b>Skyline Jazz Band (Posted on 9/24)</b>	 <b>Skyline Jazz Band - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 64 views • 2 months ago 59:15	64	The Skyline Jazz Band is led by Dave Ramsay on piano and Greg Silva on upright bass and vocals. Their repertoire consists of classic jazz standards and songs from the Great American Songbook. Dave has recorded and toured extensively with the Maynard Ferguson big band and has also toured with jazz trumpeter Tiger Okoshi. Greg has been performing professionally since he was 15 and for the past 36 years, he has lived in the Boston area performing, composing, teaching, touring and recording music. Some of the artists Greg has opened for are Ray Charles, Santana, Steve Winwood, Tito Puente and Wynton Marsalis, to name a few. Together, Dave and Greg's chemistry brings the audience along with them as they perform some of the greatest songs ever composed.

<p><b>SHINE 2025 Medicare Open Enrollment (Posted on 9/17)</b></p>	 <p><b>SHINE 2025 Medicare Open Enrollment - COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 87 views • 2 months ago</p>	<p>87</p>	<p><b>*PLEASE NOTE:</b> This information is only relevant to Residents of Massachusetts.* You may have heard that big changes are coming to Medicare drug coverage in 2025! Each January, Medicare health insurance premiums change, health care and drug coverage changes, providers contract with different plans, and new benefits are introduced. Join representatives from MetroWest SHINE for an unbiased overview of what's new in Medicare for 2025 and about the importance of reviewing your Medicare coverage each fall during Medicare Open Enrollment, which runs from October 15th to December 7th!</p>
<p><b>Sergei Novikov Piano Concert (Posted on 9/11)</b></p>	 <p><b>Sergei Novikov Piano Concert - Wellesley COA</b> Wellesley Public Media • 84 views • 2 months ago</p>	<p>84</p>	<p>At the age of six, Novikov began his musical studies on the three-stringed balalaika. His proficiency and determined attitude led his parents to enroll him in the Moscow School of Art, where he was introduced to the accordion. At the age of seven, he switched to piano and made rapid progress during the remainder of his training at the school. In his teens, Novikov traveled throughout Russia with a pop band selling out big stadiums. Since his immigration to the United States in 1990 Novikov has become a major force in contemporary composing and has a large following in New England, Pennsylvania, and Florida. His sounds reflect influences and nuances of Classical, Jazz, Spanish, Latin, Russian, Blues, Tango, Electronica, and other styles. The Boston Globe described his work by stating, "Sergei Novikov brings an intelligence, craft and elegance to his arrangements that popular New Agers lack.</p>
<p><b>Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia – Unraveling the Mysteries of the South Pacific (Posted on 8/20)</b></p>	 <p><b>Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia – Unraveling the Mysteries of the South Pacific</b> Wellesley Public Media • 59 views • 3 months ago</p>	<p>59</p>	<p>The South Pacific has been celebrated in literature, art, and music. Yet, the island countries that dot the Pacific Ocean are mysterious unknowns to most Americans. Barry Pell has traveled throughout both the south and north Pacific countries and territories. In this program, he will explain the distinctions between the regions of Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia in terms of their geography, history, culture and people. The program will be accompanied by Mr. Pell's photography of the islands.</p>
<p><b>Total YouTube Views :</b></p>			<p><b>982</b></p>