

Problems and Issues ascertained by WFRM are addressed daily and weekly through a series of local newscasts, public service announcements, and special public affairs programs. These include the following:

AG RADIO NETWORK FARM NEWS: 6:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday

AG RADIO NETWORK CONSUMER NEWS: 12:06 p.m., Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m., Saturday

LOCAL NEWS: 5:30, 6:30, 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m., Monday through Friday

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS: Included in Daily Local Newscasts

LINCOLN RADIO JOURNAL: 9:00 a.m., Sunday

RADIO PA ROUNDTABLE: 9:30 a.m., Sunday

LEGISLATIVE REPORT with STATE REP. MARTIN CAUSER: 10 a.m., Sunday

LIST OF COMMUNITY PROBLEMS and ISSUES
October 01 – December 31, 2023

1. ECONOMIC:

- a. Local retail base is dying or being replaced by corporate chain stores
- b. Lack of good paying jobs, especially for new graduates, outmigration
- c. Lack of job opportunities in general, except for a few select industries

On the plus side...while drilling for natural gas has slowed measurably, new efforts are being focused on tourism, including promotion of the PA Wilds, PA Route 6 Corridor, and Dark Skies at Cherry Springs state park. Most recently the PA DCNR reached an agreement with 3 local families to create a 4-season recreation destination at the long-dormant Denton Hill state park. Meanwhile, the local hospital, a carbon manufacturer, telemarketing firm & regional cable company continue to contribute with new employment opportunities and positions. County government has signed on to support numerous revitalization efforts in area communities.

2. TAXES:

- a. Excessive property taxes due to ever-increasing school budgets
- b. Large amounts of state land removed from the tax base

On the plus side...county commissioners have formed a growing regional coalition to lobby state legislators for increased payment-in-lieu of taxes for the large amounts of state land which is tax-exempt and puts additional pressure on local property owners. Their efforts have paid off, in part, with an increase in the PILT, although funding of school budgets remains a challenge for local property owners, especially with declining student enrollment, combined with ever-increasing school staff.

3. SOCIAL:

- a. Drug and alcohol abuse and its negative consequences on society, most notably the opioid abuse crisis that continues unabated.
- b. Lack of recreation and opportunities for young people
- c. Local organizations struggle with lack of volunteers and members

On the plus side...county commissioners and the local judicial board have created award winning programs to address and provide treatment and early-intervention for drug and alcohol offenders, for men and for women who have entered the justice system. Local law enforcement officials and drug and alcohol specialists continue to hold a series of meetings to inform and educate the public on the opioid epidemic afflicting the region.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL:

- a: Concerns that fracking and related gas & oil industry activities may pollute the ground water supply.

On the plus side...several local conservations groups have formed and are working together to monitor water sources for changes, pollution and water quality countywide, creating a data base for users and developers.

5. GOVERNMENT:

- a: Zoning and planning for development while maintaining rural roots

On the plus side...county commissioners have been fiscally responsible in maintaining and improving services by utilizing available technology, creative solutions to problems through outreach and inter-agency cooperation and streamlining local government operations, all with a minimal increase in taxes.

6. HUMAN SERVICES:

- a: Many low income and elderly citizens continue to lag behind
- b. Lack of affordable housing for incoming residents and job-seekers

On the plus side...county commissioners have worked to develop and advance services for veterans, transportation options have improved and senior centers are thriving with activities for the elderly. Housing remains an issue with low-inventory and excessive rates, making it difficult for those needing long-term accomodations.

7. HEALTH and SAFETY:

- a: West Nile virus, Lyme disease prevalent across rural north central PA.
- b: Poor roads and bridges always a concern for motorists

On the plus side...several area hospitals and clinics provide a wide variety of health-care services. Health insurance has become more available and affordable as a result of the ACA. PennDot infrastructure spending has increased with more roads and bridges being repaired or replaced.

8. EDUCATION:

- a: State and federal mandates stretch and burden school district budgets and staff

On the plus side...the local education council in conjunction with area technical schools and universities provide a wide array of educational and learning oportunites, credits and degrees for students from high school through adult. The local hospital is also the site of an intern program for medical students, in cooperation with a regional university.

Lincoln Radio Journal 2023 Q4 Program Notes for Your Public File

1 message

Lincoln Radio Journal <lincolnradiojournal@gmail.com>

Thu, Dec 28, 2023 at 2:51 PM

Bcc: whkswfrm@gmail.com

Attached are ***Lincoln Radio Journal 2023 Q4 program notes for inclusion in your station's public file.***

Thank you for airing ***Lincoln Radio Journal!***

Lincoln Radio Journal 2023 Q4 Program Notes

(September 30, 2023 - October 6, 2023) This week on Lincoln Radio Journal: David Taylor from the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association in joined by Rebecca Oyler of the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association and by Stephen Bloom of the Commonwealth Foundation for a Capitol Watch look at threats to our energy supply; And, Lowman Henry has a Town Hall Commentary on how everyone in Harrisburg wants to legislate - except legislators.

(October 7, 2023 - October 13, 2023) This week on Lincoln Radio Journal: Lowman Henry talks with Thomas Kimbrell from the Americans for Prosperity Foundation about declining tele-health services in Pennsylvania; Frank Gamrat and Eric Montarti have an Allegheny Institute Report on PennDOT plans to expand Amtrak service amid declining ridership; And, Emily Greene from Americans for Prosperity-PA has a Lincoln Radio Journal commentary on the disconnect between voters and their elected representatives.

(October 14, 2023 - October 20, 2023) This week on Lincoln Radio Journal: David Taylor from the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association and Stephen Bloom of the Commonwealth Foundation have a Capitol Watch look at budget chicanery under the Capitol dome; And, Lowman Henry has a Town Hall Commentary on the dependability of the electric power grid.

(October 21, 2023 - October 27, 2023) This week on Lincoln Radio Journal: Lowman Henry talks with Greg Moreland from the National Federation of Independent Business-PA about results of the Lincoln Institute's Fall 2023 Keystone Business Climate Survey; Joe Geiger has Dr. Bob Murray of Next Gen Health Care in the Community Benefit Spotlight; and Emily Greene has a Lincoln Radio Journal commentary on giving nurse practitioners full practice authority.

(October 28, 2023 – November 3, 2023) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: **David Taylor** from the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association hosts a *Capitol Watch* look at the legislature's failure to move the 2024 Presidential Primary date with **Rebecca Oyler** from the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association and **Stephen Bloom** of the Commonwealth Foundation; And, **Lowman Henry** has a *Town Hall Commentary* on Shapiro' Stumbles Sullying his reputation.

(November 4, 2023 – November 10, 2023) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: **Lowman Henry** gets a preview of the 2023 General Election from **Chris Nicholas** of Eagle Consulting; **Frank Gamrat** and **Eric Montarti** have an *Allegheny Institute Report* on the challenges facing Pennsylvania's county commissioners; And, **Emily Greene** has a *Lincoln Radio Journal* commentary on a better way to budget.

(November 11, 2023 – November 17, 2023) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: **David Taylor** from the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association and **Rebecca Oyler** from the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association have a *Capitol Watch* look at election results and discuss the recent Commonwealth Court ruling striking down the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative; And, **Lowman Henry** has a *Town Hall Commentary* on Pennsylvania's House of Clowns.

(November 18, 2023 – November 24, 2023) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: **Lowman Henry** talks with **Guy Ciarrocchi** of the Commonwealth Foundation about trends and lesson learned from the recent General Election; **Joe Geiger** has **Jennifer Westcoe Singley** of the Westcoe Foundation for Pulmonary Fibrosis in the *Community Benefit Spotlight*; And, **Emily Greene** from Americans for Prosperity-PA has a *Lincoln Radio Journal* commentary on restoring the American Dream.

(November 25, 2023 – December 1, 2023) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: **David Taylor** from the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association is joined by **Rebecca Oyler** from the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association and **Stephen Bloom** of the Commonwealth Foundation for a *Capitol Watch* analysis of Governor Josh Shapiro's speech at the Pennsylvania Press Club; And **Lowman Henry** has a *Town Hall* commentary on signs Pennsylvania is becoming a purple state.

(December 2, 2023 – December 8, 2023) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: **Jason Sorens** from the American Institute for Economic Research has details on the CATO Institute's annual *Freedom in the 50 States* report; **Eric Montarti** and Dr. **Jake Haulk** have an *Allegheny Institute Report* on the impact of job growth on passenger counts at Pittsburgh International Airport; And, **Emily Greene** from Americans for Prosperity-PA has a *Lincoln Radio Journal* commentary on the Left's deceptive messaging.

(December 9, 2023 – December 15, 2023) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: **David Taylor** from the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association and **Rebecca Oyler** from the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association discuss legislation before the state House to dramatically increase the mandate for solar energy in the state's energy mix: And, **Lowman Henry** has a *Town Hall* commentary on why Governor Josh Shapiro's policies are imperiling the dependability of the electric grid.

(December 16, 2023 – December 22, 2023) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: State Representative **Joe D'Orsie** (R-York) discusses the proposed Student Freedom Account Act giving parents and students universal school choice; **Joe Geiger** has Dr. **Keith Smith** from the Surgery Center of Oklahoma in the *Community Benefit Spotlight* to discuss how Medicare inflates the cost of health care; And, **Emily Greene** from Americans for Prosperity-PA has a *Lincoln Radio Journal* commentary on swinging for the fences for education freedom.

(December 23, 2023 – December 29, 2023) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: **David Taylor** from the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association is joined by **Rebecca Oyler** from the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association and **Stephen Bloom** of the Commonwealth Foundation for a *Capitol Watch* look at the impact of Japan-based Nippon Steel buying venerable U.S. Steel; And, **Lowman Henry** has a Christmas reading of the Biblical account of the birth of Jesus Christ.

(December 30, 2023 – January 5, 2024) This week on *Lincoln Radio Journal*: **Lowman Henry** talks with State Representative **Rob Mercuri** (R-Allegheny) about legislative efforts to end antisemitism in the state's institutions of higher education; **Frank Gamrat** and **Eric Montarti** look at financial pressures affecting school districts on the *Allegheny Institute Report*; And, **Emily Greene** from Americans for Prosperity-PA look back at 2023's legislative successes with a *Lincoln Radio Journal* commentary.



Radio Pennsylvania Network Roundtable Public Affairs Issues/Clearance Report Fourth Quarter 2023

October 7, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Traffic Safety/Public Safety

Guests: Col. Christopher Paris, Commissioner, Pennsylvania State Police; Dr. Robin Engel, Senior Vice President, National Policing Institute

Segment 2 Topic: Elder care

Guests: Lisa Durkin, Chief Operating Officer, United Neighborhood Centers of NEPA; Governor Josh Shapiro

Segment 3 Topic: Transportation

Guests: Lt. Governor Austin Davis; Senator Jim Brewster (D-Allegheny/Westmoreland); Michael Carroll, Acting Secretary, PA Department of Transportation.

October 14, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Property Tax

Guests: Governor Josh Shapiro

Segment 2 Topic: Click It or Ticket/Traffic Safety

Guests: Karen Leonovich, Director of Policy and Programs, PA Association of Area Agencies on Aging; JR Reed, Director, Lehigh County Office of Aging; Tim Arthun, Deputy Secretary for Financial Services, PA Department of Banking & Securities

Segment 3 Topic: Agriculture

Guests: Russell Redding, Secretary of Agriculture, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Governor Josh Shapiro

October 21, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Women's Health

Guests: Governor Josh Shapiro; Senator Kim Ward (R-Westmoreland); Senate President Pro Tempore; Rep. Joanna McClinton (D-Delaware/Philadelphia), House Majority Leader.

Segment 2 Topic: Expanded Broadband Access

Guests: Marty Qually, Adams County Commissioner; Jacob Liebenluft, Chief Recovery Officer, US Treasury Department

Segment 3 Topic: Work Zone Awareness/Highway Safety

Guests: Mark Compton, CEO, Pennsylvania Turnpike Authority; Cheryl-Moon-Sirianni, Executive Secretary, PA Department of Transportation; Major Robert Krol, Director, Bureau of Patrol, Pennsylvania State Police

October 28, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Opioid Addiction/Public Safety

Guests: Governor Josh Shapiro; Dr. Latika Jones-Davis, Acting Secretary, PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs; Quetcy Lozada, Philadelphia City Council (District 7)

Segment 2 Topic: Property Taxes

Guests: Lt. Governor Austin Davis; Representative Peter Schewyer (D-Lehigh); Pat Browne, Acting Secretary, PA Department of Revenue

Segment 3 Topic: Financial/Elder Abuse/Banking Scams

Guests: Karen Leonovich, Director of Policy and Programs, PA Association of Area Agencies on Aging; JR Reed, Director Lehigh County Office of Aging; Tim Arthun, Deputy Secretary for Financial Services, PA Department of Banking and Securities

November 4, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Small Business

Guests: Lt. Governor Austin Davis

Segment 2 Topic: Child Safety/Child Abuse

Guests: Maryann McEvoy, Commonwealth Child Advocate; Bree Hood, Youth Advocate; Duane Price, Youth Advocate; Dr. Debra Bogen, Acting Secretary of Health, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Segment 3 Topic: Agriculture

Guest: Russell Redding, Secretary, PA Department of Agriculture; Governor Josh Shapiro

November 11, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: State Budget/Property Taxes

Guests: Governor Josh Shapiro

Segment 2 Topic: Politics

Guests: Rep. Bryan Cutler (R-Lancaster), House Republican Leader; Rep. Tim O'Neal (R-Washington), House Republican Whip

Segment 3 Topic: Financial Education

Guests: Timothy DeFoor, Auditor General, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Kerry Woodward, Executive Director, Philadelphia Financial Scholars

November 18, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Property Tax/Renters Relief

Guests: Governor Josh Shapiro

Segment 2 Topic: Voter Access

Guests: Representative Christopher Quinn (R-Delaware); John Updike, President, Open Primaries; Representative Craig Staats (R-Berks)

Segment 3 Topic: Elder Financial Abuse

Guests: Robert Torres, PA Secretary of Aging; Lt. Adam Reed, PA State Police

November 25, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Politics

Guests: Governor Josh Shapiro; Senator Nikil Saval (D-Philadelphia)

Segment 2 Topic: Mental Health Awareness

Guests: Nick Miller, Student, Hempfield Area High School, Greensburg; Governor Josh Shapiro

Segment 3 Topic: Public Safety/Gun Violence

Guests: Senator Steve Santarsieo (D-Bucks); Michelle Henry, Attorney General, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

December 2, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Education

Guests: Katona Miller, STEMM Program Supervisor, Scranton High School

Segment 2 Topic: Senior Citizen Health

Guests: Lisa Durkin, Chief Operating Officer, United Neighborhood Centers of NEPA; Governor Josh Shapiro

Segment 3 Topic: Agriculture/Produce Month

Guests: Russell Redding, Secretary, PA Department of Agriculture; Ashley Fehr, Bureau of Market and Business Development, PA Department of Agriculture

December 9, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Mental Health Awareness

Guests: Kristen Houser, Deputy Secretary, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, PA Department of Human Services; Dr. Denise Johnson, Physician General, PA Department of Health

Segment 2 Topic: Veteran Services

Guests: Maj. General Mark Schindler, PA Department of Military and Veteran Affairs

Segment 3 Topic: Environmental Education

Guests: Bert Myers, Director, Environmental Education Specialist Program Supervisor, DEP

December 16, 2023

Topic 1: Politics/Budget/Public Funding

Guests: Governor Josh Shapiro

Segment 2 Topic: Child Abuse

Guests: Maryann McEvoy, Commonwealth Child Advocate; Bree Hood, Youth Advocate

Segment 3 Topic: Agriculture

Guests: Russell Redding, Secretary, PA Department of Agriculture

December 23, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Abortion/Mother Safety

Guests: Sara Goulet, Special Advisor, PA Department of Human Services

Segment 2 Topic: Clean Energy

Guests: Jennifer Granholm, Secretary, US Department of Energy

Segment 3 Topic: Medicaid/Health Care

Guests: Dr. Val Arkoosh, Acting Secretary, PA Department of Human Services; Mike Humphries, PA Department of Insurance

December 30, 2023

Segment 1 Topic: Education/Budgets

Guests: Dr. Tamara Sanders Woods, Principal, Colifax K-9, Pittsburgh; Congresswoman Summer Lee (D-12th Congressional District); Mayor Ed Gainey, Pittsburgh; Governor Josh Shapiro

Segment 2 Topic: Education/Teacher Shortages

Guests: Dr. Tanya Garcia, Deputy Secretary, Post-Secondary and Higher Education, PA Department of Education; Laura Boyce, Executive Director, Teach Plus

Segment 3 Topic: Jobs

Guests: Governor Josh Shapiro