

WHTG-AM – “The Breeze”
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SHOWS 2ND QUARTER 2023

4/2/23 PHILLIP DUCK, DIRECTOR OF EMPLOYABILITY AT FAMILY RESOURCE ASSOCIATES IN MONMOUTH COUNTY, discussed Project Search, a 10-month internship program at Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch for people with disabilities in their last year of school through early adulthood, targeted to those whose goal is competitive employment, how the program works, the response from parents and the community, the application process, success stories, and how people can get more information about the services.

4/9/23 AMY BROGAN, VOLUNTEER WITH HOLIDAY EXPRESS, discussed her role with the charity over the past 13 years, how the non-profit brings live music performances to various places statewide during the holiday season, such as hospitals, nursing homes and schools for special needs children and adults, and provides donated items in gift bags to the places they visit.

4/16/23 BOB ZUCKERMAN, RED BANK RIVERCENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, discussed the return of the "Broadwalk" outdoor dining and shopping area created during the Covid-19 Pandemic that blocks a section of downtown off to vehicle traffic, as well as the addition of a community tent this year for live music and other events with local non-profits, and the return of the Red Bank Classic 5k run and walk this summer to raise money for a free swim program for third-graders offered by the YMCA of Greater Monmouth County.

4/23/23 MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN, discussed April being Autism Awareness Month and several initiatives that have been implemented to help special needs individuals, including a new "Blue Envelope" program to improve communication between police and drivers with Autism Spectrum Disorder during a motor vehicle stop.

4/30/23 TOMS RIVER POLICE OFFICER VIC TAMARO, discussed prom and graduation safety tips for teens and parents, ways teens can be responsible before, during, and after celebrations, the dangers of distracted driving, especially with cell phones, the rules for teen drivers with provisional licenses, including the number of passengers and curfews, and how parents can put themselves at legal risk by hosting parties where underage drinking takes place.

5/7/23 CONGRESSMAN JOSH GOTTHEIMER, discussed a proposal being sponsored by him and several New Jersey lawmakers to preserve the AM radio signal in all new and electric vehicle models, its importance to serving as a warning system especially during national emergency situations, such as Superstorm Sandy and the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, how low-cost software can be installed to solve automakers' claims that new technology interferes with the AM-signal, and how the federal government could mandate automakers to include AM-radio as a stock feature, similar to seatbelts.

5/14/23 SYLVIA SYLVIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASBURY PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, discussed the upcoming tourism season, the city's involvement in a new statewide pilot program highlighting arts, music, and dance, new businesses downtown and on the boardwalk, and the return of bonfires on the beach, as well as the ongoing struggle of small businesses to find and retain workers.

5/21/23 LORI PEPINELLA, CEO OF THE SOUTHERN OCEAN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, discussed the 2023 summer tourism season, new business opening this season, popular attractions Long Beach Island has to offer, including the Barnegat Lighthouse, Surfflight Theatre, the Maritime Museum, and the upcoming Lighthouse International Film Festival.

5/28/23 TONY VAZ, SEASIDE HEIGHTS MAYOR, discussed major rebuilding that's been taking place in the Borough to make it more family-friendly since Superstorm Sandy in 2012 and a devastating boardwalk fire at Funtown Pier nearly a year later, how Seaside is replacing old motels with smaller-scale flag ship hotels, and more residential dwellings, the 2023 summer tourism season, beach badge sales, and how Seaside is being pro-active to curb teen rowdiness and pop-up parties.

6/4/23 CHRISTINE ROONEY, MANAGING DIRECTOR, LIGHTHOUSE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, discussed the annual event happening on Long Beach Island 6/7 through 6/11, the types of films being featured, how they whittle down more than 800 entries to about 130 to be showcased, venues where the films will be shown, how to get tickets and passes, special events, including discussions with film directors and awards categories.

6/11/23 CHIP CRAIG, CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CHIEF BUSINESS OFFICER, INTERFAITH NEIGHBORS IN ASBURY PARK, discussed how the Monmouth County non-profit started in 1988 to address homelessness and evolved over the years to meet the needs of the community in all areas, including food insecurity, affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, its Kula Farm operation, and a new early childhood learning center that its opening in September.

6/18/23 LARRY HAMM, CHAIR OF THE NEW JERSEY PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION FOR PROGRESS, discussed the efforts to make Juneteenth a federal holiday in 2021, the significance of the day, his appearance as the keynote speaker at an event in Red Bank and Monday's annual Juneteenth Reparation March and Rally in Newark from the Lincoln Statue.

6/25/23 BOB MAKIN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER AND DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR CARTERET BOROUGH, discussed the ongoing redevelopment of Carteret's downtown and waterfront to provide residential, retail and entertainment opportunities in the next 5 to 10 years to make it a destination hub, how the city is able to invest money into projects using federal, state and county grants, and through property settlements from abandoned companies to in turn attract private redevelopment, and current major projects to build a ferry terminal and Intermodal Transportation building, a movie studio and two mixed use multi-story buildings with apartments and commercial space.