

## **JERSEY SHORE MATTERS**

**APRIL TO JUNE 2021**

**WKMK, WTHJ, WBBO, WWZY, WBHX, WHTG-AM**

4/4/21 STEVE BRIGHAM, PASTOR AND FOUNDER DESTINY'S BRIDGE, discussed how the non-profit agency helps the homeless in Ocean and Monmouth Counties, how he was on the receiving end of help after having the truck he uses to deliver supplies to the homeless stolen, and progress on talks to bring a permanent homeless shelter to the Jersey Shore.

4/11/21 CHRISTINE JAGERBURGER, VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY IMPACT WITH THE UNITED WAY OF MONMOUTH AND OCEAN COUNTIES, discussed a partnership with Fulfill food bank to provide free tax help for qualifying residents, services offered by the Financial Success Center Network, how the program works, other key programs offered by the United Way and the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on the non-profit agency.

4/18/21 JEFF TITTEL, DIRECTOR OF THE NJ SIERRA CLUB, discussed his upcoming retirement after 23 years of service, his most memorable accomplishments, outcomes he wished turned out differently, current environmental issues impacting the state, his biggest environmental pet peeve, and advice for future generations.

4/25/21 PAUL ROMAIRE, FOUNDER OF THE FOSTER FIT FOUNDATION, discussed why he created the non-profit organization, how foster children and teens can benefit from exercise, how the scholarship program works, eligibility and how to apply.

5/2/21 AIDEN AND LOUIS ARDENE, WALKING AMERICA, two brothers from Monmouth County discussed a fundraising journey they are taking to help restaurants and workers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. They are walking from Asbury Park to California and highlighting eateries along the way and sharing their stories on social media.

5/9/21 ERIN SHARKEY, CO-FOUNDER OF COMPASSION CAFE, discussed the non-profit she started with her aunt to give adolescents and adults with disabilities a chance to get hands-on job experience and get paid to run the cafe, what's involved in the training and the day-to-day operation.

5/16/21 JOE LEONE, OWNER OF JOE LEONE'S ITALIAN SPECIALTIES & CATERING, discussed a grass-roots movement to help businessowners dealing with a shortage of employees send a message to state lawmakers in Trenton. He's compiling photos and addresses of businesses statewide with "Help Wanted" or "Now Hiring" signs displayed to create a binder illustrating the magnitude of the labor shortage to present as evidence to lawmakers.

5/23/21 SYLVIA SYLVIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ASBURY PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, discussed the upcoming summer tourism season, how the labor shortage is impacting Asbury Park, what the chamber is doing to attract employees, new events this year, beach badge sales, and changes in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

5/30/21 JENNIFER ECKHOFF, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EASTERN MONMOUTH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, discussed the upcoming tourism season, how the labor shortage is impacting businesses inland and by the beaches, ways they are trying to attract workers and how they are helping businesses overcome challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

6/6/21 LORI PEPENELLA, CEO SOUTHERN OCEAN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, discussed the upcoming summer tourism season, challenges businesses are still facing from the COVID-19 pandemic, how the chamber is helping, upcoming events, new attractions.

6/13/21 PAUL HULSE, CEO JUST BELIEVE INCORPORATED, discussed plans for a group home, rehabilitation facility, and retreat for homeless veterans with land donated in May by a veteran from Barnegat, why the 30-acre site off route 72 in Barnegat will be called "Jeff's" camp, the unlikely way the land donation came about, how the facility will run and fundraising efforts.

6/20/20 NEW JERSEY STATE ASSEMBLYMAN ANDREW ZWICKER, discussed an update on a bill to eliminate a cap on direct-to-consumer wine shipments, so wine can be sent from U-S wineries to consumers' homes or workplaces and the projected financial surplus it could bring to the state.

6/27/20 CHRISTINA JONES, VICE PRESIDENT OF POPULATION HEALTH AT EASTER SEALS NEW JERSEY, discussed the return of in-person Day Habilitation programs more than a year after the COVID-19 pandemic forced them to close, the financial impact the pandemic had on the program, current challenges, and proposed solutions.