

WMBR 88.1 FM

QUARTERLY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ASCERTAINMENT 2nd QUARTER / April 1 – June 30, 2015

The following is a list, of issues, the management, of WMBR Radio, has determined to be of significant importance, to the citizens of Cambridge and the Greater Boston Area of Massachusetts. Each issue was treated through the station's most significant issue-responsive programming and community activities, during the reporting period.

ARMS CONTROL

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: David Goodman
GUESTS: Joseph Gerson/New England AFSC Director Programs & Education
TOPIC: Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Peace and Planet Activism
AIRED: Sunday, June 14th
DURATION: 40 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Gerson discussed prognosis for nuclear abolition and activist movements and policy priorities that favor military spending over local economic and social needs.

ECOLOGY

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein
GUESTS: Chuck U (Rusina) /WMBR News reporter
TOPIC: Wake Up Earth
AIRED: Sunday, May 3rd
DURATION: 15 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Rusina reported on the Wake Up the Earth celebration, highlighting both the activism of the event and the music and food. He interviewed both performers and citizen attendees and noted the intense pleasure of all at the success of this long-running local celebration of spring.

ECONOMY

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein & David Goodman
GUESTS: Chuck Collins of Wealth for the Common Good
TOPIC: Economic/Wage Inequality
AIRED: Sunday, April 5th
DURATION: 30 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Collins discussed many efforts to abolish the inheritance tax. He noted the incredibly small group affected by this and argued that the tax is one of the few things that stands against complete shifts of wealth to the richest .1% of the population. Collins advocates expanding the tax and allocating resources to issues of student debt in America.

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein & David Goodman
GUESTS: Jeff Hall/communications director SEIU 1199
TOPIC: Economic/Wage Inequality
AIRED: Sunday, April 12th
DURATION: 30 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Hall talked about the "Wage Action Coalition" and its mobilization around helping low wage workers receive living wages. He discussed topics about various industries such as home health care and fast food that have historically relied on suppressed wages. A particular focus on the Boston area where the cost of living is very high and wage inequality recently was found (Brookings study) to be third highest in U.S.

PROGRAM: What's Left
HOST: Linda Pinkow
GUEST: Chuck Rosina/WBUR "What's Left" reporter
TOPIC: Boston Olympics
AIRED: Friday, April 17th
DURATION: 12 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

A news report on the "Fight for 15" rally and march to raise the minimum wage, which took place Tuesday, 4/14/2015 and attracted several thousand participants. The Boston event coincided with a National Day of Action organized by WageAction.org. Recorded and produced by WMBR's Chuck Rosina.

PROGRAM: What's Left
HOST: Linda Pinkow
GUEST: Andrew Zimbalist/economics professor
TOPIC: Economics of the Boston Olympics
AIRED: Sunday, April 10th
DURATION: 15 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

“What’s Left” aired a speech, by Mr. Zimbalist, professor at Smith College, in Northampton, Massachusetts, on "The Real Cost of the Boston Olympics." Zimbalist provided evidence that the Boston 2024 would cost much more than its backers are promising, and discussed some of the unexpected negative side effects of having the Olympics in Boston.

EDUCATION

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: David Goodman
GUEST: Joel Westheimer/University of Ottawa, Professor Democracy & Education
TOPIC: Public School Education and Citizenship
AIRED: Sunday, May 31st
DURATION: 40 minutes

Mr. Westheimer discusses his new book: "What Kind of Citizen" and how standardized testing, common core, and lack of teacher autonomy is eliminating opportunities for students to learn how to be questioning, engaged citizens.

FARMING

PROGRAM: I Love A Parade
HOST: Lindsay Ellison
TOPIC: Chemicals, with neonates, destroying bee and insect population
AIRED: Friday, April 24th
DURATION: 70 minutes

Ms. Ellison spoke how insects do the bulk of the work on this planet. Every one of 3 bites we eat is because of bees. Agricultural destruction of small farms and the use of wide spread pesticides containing neonates poisons the bees as they sip the nectar. Sometimes they die even before they pass it along another blossom nearby - maybe even on an organic farm. What we can do to protect bees.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein & David Goodman
GUESTS: Manolo de los Santos
TOPIC: U.S./Cuba relations and the ongoing economic blockade
AIRED: Sunday, June 28th
DURATION: 25 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

We had an in-studio conversation with Pastors for Peace Caravan Coordinator about the serious economic hardships and crippling effects, of the U.S. economic blockade, on the Cuban citizens. The very slow and tentative nature of changes, hitting the national as well as community businesses, manufacturing, agriculture, arts and culture. They are wondering when the U.S. will relent and see the effect that this is having on the people as well as relations between the governments.

GOVERNMENT

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein & David Goodman
GUESTS: Burt Neuborne/author
TOPIC: The First Amendment to the Constitution
AIRED: Sunday, May 3rd
DURATION: 55 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Neuborne discussed his new book "Madison's Music" and argued that to be read properly, the 1st amendment has to be understood as sequenced and textually linked and against efforts to fragment and reduce the amendment by relegating the assembly and petition clauses. Madison intended the amendment to protect speakers and "hearers".

HOUSING

PROGRAM: What's Left
HOST: Linda Pinkow
GUEST: Grace Ross/director-Massachusetts Alliance Against Predatory Lending
TOPIC: Foreclosures and Predatory Lending
AIRED: Friday, May 15th
DURATION: 30 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Ms. Ross discussed why her organization was organizing to support five bills in the state legislature to help fix the spiraling foreclosure crisis in Massachusetts.

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein & David Goodman
GUESTS: Steve Meacham and Lisa Owens-Pinto - City Life/Vida Urbana
TOPIC: Housing Crisis and Foreclosures
AIRED: Sunday, May 31th
DURATION: 30 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Meacham and Ms. Owens-Pinto discussed the plight of the housing and foreclosure crisis, in urban communities.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein & David Goodman
GUESTS: Brock Satter/activist – Mass. Action Against Police Brutality
TOPIC: Police Brutality
AIRED: Sunday, April 12th
DURATION: 20 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Satter, also an organizer for #Black Lives Matter, discussed local efforts to stem police violence both locally and nationally with the recent North Charleston, SC example of police deadly force as a starting point.

WAR/GENOCIDE

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein & David Goodman
GUESTS: Lou Ureneck/journalism professor and author
TOPIC: The Armenian Genocide
AIRED: Sunday, May 17th
DURATION: 40 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Ureneck discusses his new book: "The Great Fire," which explains what happened to Greeks, Armenians, and other Christians during the years of World War 1 and afterwards. An issue that is VERY important to our listeners as Turkey to this day has not acknowledged the genocide committed by their ancestors.

COMMUNITY INTERESTS

PROGRAM: What's Left
HOST: Linda Pinkow
GUEST: Evan Falchuk/founder-United Independent Party in Massachusetts
TOPIC: Boston Olympics
AIRED: Sunday, April 10th
DURATION: 30 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Falchuk, who was a 2014 candidate, for Governor, in Massachusetts, was organizing to create a binding referendum in which voters statewide could decide whether or not Boston should continue with its bid for the 2024 Olympic Games.

PROGRAM: I Love A Parade
HOST: Lindsay Ellison
TOPIC: The Baltimore Riots
AIRED: Friday, May 1st
DURATION: 70 minutes

Ms. Ellison spoke how race relations have not improved, though our Government thinks it's over. No need for EEO they say. Red-lining in many Black communities, already impoverished urban districts, is designed to alienate and destroy communities. It's not surprising that the Baltimore riots were in this kind of area this year; that the LA riots were, as was the New Cross Massacre in Britain. Also, discussed was the murders of blacks for no reason (Hattie Carroll is only one example).

PROGRAM: What's Left
HOST: Linda Pinkow
TOPIC: 2024 Olympics in Boston
AIRED: Friday, June 6th
DURATION: 8 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

“What's Left” played a speech by Kade Crockford of the ACLU of Massachusetts, on how past Olympics have featured government surveillance, displacement of residents, and other negative side effects. She also discussed what to expect if the Olympics come to Boston in 2024. This public event was co-hosted by NoBoston2024 and the Safe Hub Collective.

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOST: David Goodman
TOPIC: 2024 Olympics in Boston
AIRED: Sunday, June 14th
DURATION: 60 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

We aired a speech by civil rights icon and non-violence theorist James Lawson. Only program and station to do so. Recorded at Harvard Law School by Dave Goodman. Lawson's talk sponsored by AFSCME and Harvard Trade Union Program.

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein & David Goodman
GUESTS: Kada Crockford/Mass. ACLU & Dave Zirin/sports reporter/editor
TOPIC: 2024 Olympics in Boston
AIRED: Sunday, June 14th
DURATION: 60 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Ms. Crockford and Mr. Zirin discussed the overall efforts to bring 2024 summer Olympic games to Boston area. The pluses and minuses, who will benefit from the event and who are the losers.

PROGRAM: Radio With A View
HOSTS: Marc Stein & David Goodman
GUESTS: Andrew Zimbalist/author and economist
TOPIC: Boston 2024 Olympics Bid
AIRED: Sunday, June 28th
DURATION: 35 minutes
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

Mr. Zimbalist, who authored, "Risky Business or Economic Boost: The Real Cost of the Boston Olympics", spoke about the financial pluses and minuses of Boston holding the Olympics. The challenges to the transportation system, infrastructure and the effects of the citizens, of Boston and all of its neighborhoods. Who really are the winners and losers. And what toll it will have in the community. Will there be housing loses, people forced to "leave" their homes and neighborhoods and what will be the final tally as to what Boston will make as profit and what will be the "red ink" effect.