

WKMK-WTHJ Thunder 106
JERSEY SHORE MATTERS
FOURTH QUARTER 2023

10/01/23 DAVE ROBINSON, NEW JERSEY STATE CLIMATOLOGIST, discussed the impacts of climate change and the extreme changes in weather globally and in New Jersey over the last several years, how storms are becoming more frequent and getting more powerful, hotter temperatures, wildfires, tornadoes, and floods, and the impacts to the state's four seasons.

10/08/23 BRITTA FORSBERG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SAVE BARNEGAT BAY, discussed the appeal the environmental agency has joined with Toms River Township over the former Ciba Geigy superfund site. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection accepted a deal with current owner BASF which the appeal seeks to overturn and recoup higher monetary damages estimated in the billions.

10/15/23 SHANNON CUTTLE, CHAIR OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTI-BULLYING TASK FORCE, discussed concerns expressed by parents, students, educators, and others during two public hearings this month on how the state's Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights can be improved, the role technology plays in compounding incidents of bullying, resources for more information, and the next steps in the process.

10/22/23 KEITH KRIVITZKY, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF OCEAN COUNTY, discussed a fundraising campaign the organization kicked off to help raise \$150-thousand-dollars for the people of Israel impacted since the October 7th terrorist attacks by Hamas, how the Federation is offering to match every dollar donated up to \$50-thousand-dollars, and what it is like in Jerusalem, where he was visiting for the Jewish holidays and remains after his flight back to the United States was cancelled.

10/29/23 JESS LEVY, FOUNDING CEO AXELROD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER IN DEAL, discussed tonight's benefit concert for the people of Israel impacted by the October 7th Hamas terrorist attacks with Israeli pianist and composer Guy Mintus and his wife, vocalist and actress Naama Nachum, how the organization is partnering with the Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey to donate 100 percent of the proceeds to the Jewish Federation's \$2-million-fundraising campaign for recovery and rebuilding efforts, dignitaries who will speak at the benefit, and how to purchase tickets in advance.

11/5/23 DR. TARA CHALAKANI, CEO PREFERRED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GROUP IN TOMS RIVER, discussed teen mental health, factors causing a nationwide increase in anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts in children and teens, signs parents can look for, ways adults can help their children, preventative measures and tools for kids dealing with mental health issues, and resources to seek help.

11/12/23 BRIAN REYNGOUDT, VICE PRESIDENT AND CO-FOUNDER OF OPERATION K-9 BEETHOVEN, discussed how the nonprofit started in January, 2020, how it has been able to match 18 veterans with psychiatric service dogs for free to help those suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, the cost of sponsoring a therapy dog, how the dogs also are used to visit V-A homes, hospitals, and schools, and how a person can apply for a pet therapy dog.

11/19/23 MAJOR JOSH LYLE, SALVATION ARMY OF ASBURY PARK, discusses the kick-off of the organization's traditional "Red Kettle" donation campaign at stores nationwide and in New Jersey, how

much they hope to raise this season for Asbury Park, how local businesses and the community can get involved in Giving Tuesday, adopt a family Angel Trees, other programs the Salvation Army provides year-round, and how people can volunteer or donate.

11/26/23 KASEY VIENCKOWSKI, MONARCH HOUSING ASSOCIATES, discussed the 17-percent increase in homelessness in New Jersey in 2023 based on a one-day count it conducts every January, the rise in the number of children 18 and under and adults 55 and older who are homeless in Ocean, Monmouth, and Middlesex Counties, reasons why, and trends expected to continue into 2024.

12/3/23 ED PARZE, FOUNDER OF THE STEPHANIE NICOLE PARZE FOUNDATION, discussed two vital donations the Foundation is making to the New Jersey State Police to help locate missing people faster: a Live Search and Cadaver K-9 dog and a Portable X-Ray machine, how they named the K-9 "Sparze" after his daughter, as well as other programs and services the Foundation offers to help spread awareness and prevent domestic violence abuse. The Foundation is named after a 25-year-old Freehold woman who was killed by her boyfriend in 2019.

12/10/23 JULES CALLANO, CO-FOUNDER OF ANGEL AND JULES NOT SO ORDINARY FARM IN FARMINGDALE, discussed the nonprofit she runs with her husband offering everything from homeschooling programs to goat yoga and riding lessons, different ways the farm teaches sustainability and life skills, how the animals help children with autism, anxiety, and behavioral issues, and other ways the organization gives back and helps local police.

12/17/23 VANESSA ANATAINES, MANALAPAN HOMEOWNER, discussed their annual "Lights on Glendale" fundraiser in which she and husband Nick transform their home into a Christmas spectacular with animatronics synched to music. They wanted to give back to the community that rallied around them when Vanessa had cancer four years ago. They raise money for two charities every year. One is a local nonprofit, "We Are Loved," that provides holiday boxes for foster children and the other this year is St. Jude. The holiday display raised about \$5-thousand last year and will remain up until January 7th.

12/24/23 ZAC LEVY, AUTHOR OF PROJECT UNHOUSED, a High School senior from Ocean Township, Monmouth County discussed how encountering a homeless teen girl on a trip to Boston with his father opened up his eyes to the issue and prompted him to investigate homelessness in New Jersey and his community by interviewing eight people, nonprofits and groups that provide services for the homeless, dispelling myths and stereotypes associated with the types of homeless people, and learning that several of those over age 70 who did not have mental health issues are addiction problems do not qualify for local housing programs, and is using proceeds from his book to set up monthly stipends to help those he interviewed for the book.

12/31/23 BARBARA JO CREA, OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, discussed 2024 goals as the governing body's new Commissioner Director, being only the third female in the county's history to hold the position, the Homelessness Trust Fund she created and how it works, other accomplishments she's proud of, why she wants to provide more services for senior citizens and look at ways of alleviating traffic throughout the county.