

**WIBG-FM ISSUES & PROGRAMS QUARTERLY**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER APRIL-MAY-JUNE 2021**  
**By Enrico S. Brancadora, Licensee**

WIBG-FM Issues categories come from listener feedback on issues critical to their communities and the relevance they convey. Issues programming are heard each day at :20 past and :20 before the hour as a special feature issues. The average segment is between 1:30 and 2:45. In addition to the Issues programming, WIBG-FM airs Public Affairs and Service features every hour following our local news and information segments.

**APRIL-2021**

The controversy over Black Lives Matter was the subject of a three part Issues program featuring Atlantic City Activist Steve Young and Mayor Marty Small. Smalls contention is that BLM marchers are peaceful and have no ill intent. Young maintains there needs to be better communication between police and community leaders. The three part series aired April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The segments ran 2 minutes each.

April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, WIBG-FM Issues provided listener input over the Covid 19 and controversial masking of kids as they start back in classroom. Atlantic City school board member John Devlin was the guest . He took questions from listeners who emailed and texted him on how the School Board allegedly failed to keep parents informed on changes in school policy. The two part series ran 3 minutes and 1minute 45 seconds. On April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, WIBG-FM presented Issues dealing with tax filings this month.

Tax expert Jim Petrucelli fielded questions regarding the new tax laws . Historic Ventnor Square Theatre opened this week, and it represents a landmark rebuild.

WIBG-FM listeners had many questions of Mayor Beth Holtzman on the rebuild and the importance to the Ventnor community. This segment aired April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, with lead comments on the issue from managing partner Brett Denafó.

The dangers of drugs and increasing crime in Atlantic City were the issues strategy as WIBG-FM listeners asking questions regarding the rapid increase in violence. Special guest was Atlantic City Officer in Charge James Sarkos. The three part series aired April 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and

27<sup>th</sup>, average air times were 2 minutes per segment. April 28<sup>th</sup>, WIBG-FM Issues programming on new plans for Route 55. Fielding emailed questions from listeners was Congressman Jeff Van Drew. He has bills proposed to finally complete the construction of the busy highway.  
Program length 2:23.

### **May- 2021**

May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> featured listeners specific questions regarding the upcoming primary elections in Atlantic and Cape May Counties. Featured guests to answer questions was GOP Atlantic County Chair Kieth Davis and Atlantic County Democratic Chair Mike Suleiman. The two part series answered listeners questions about how have the polling places changed in light of the new vote by mail programming. Each segment was 2 minutes in length.

Transparency is a major concern for Atlantic City parents regarding the teaching of critical race theory in the public school. It was the subject of a 3 part investigation report and featured several leaders of the South Jersey educational community. The series aired May 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Featured guests outlined a plan to get information from the school board president to provide details. School Board member Al Herbert responded to the publics demands for transparency.

The segments timed at 1:45, 2:21 and 3:03 each respectively. Growing tension in the Cumberland, Atlantic and Cape May region over pedophile rings knowingly operating in the area. WIBG's Lynda Cohen provided issues background and details as to what is being done to crack down on them. This was a 5 part series on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Lynda reached out to community leaders Peophile rings have been discussed widely by Atlantic County Prosecutor Tyner on WIBG-FM. Listener questions derived from emails and texts on the subject.

May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, WIBG-FM Issues centered around the ever increasing issue of rebuilding the Wildwood boardwalk. Issues special guest was Wildwood Mayor Pete Byron who fielded questions from our audience. This issues program ran 3:22, and a rebroadcast the next day.

## **JUNE-2021**

WIBG-FM listeners responded to our coverage of the proposed expansion of the commercial properties in Hamilton Township. Featured Issues guest was Mayor Charles Cain. The three part series ran June 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Questions concerning overdevelopment, a rise in property tax rates and others dominated the Issues program. Program lengths are 2:12, 3:05 and 1:55. Cain exhaustively covered all aspects of Hamilton Township governance.

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, WIBG-FM Issues programming centered around the increasing number of drive-by shootings in Atlantic City and Vineland. Freeholder Jim Quinn was a featured guest, who talked about what the global community is doing to reign in the violence and terror. He called into play, the weak support of police by certain segments of the local community, and took local leaders to task for failing to stand behind the police. The Issues segments ran 2:20, 1:48 and 3:06 in length respectively.

June 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, WIBG-FM Issues programming looked into angry parents confronting Governor Murphy on the nature of his dictates regarding face mask wearing. WIBG-FM parents responded to the calls for an investigation of his practices, highlighted by featured guest Senator Michael Testa. Testa maintains there is widespread concern that because of the alleged failure of Murphy to protect nursing homes patients, more than 8,000 died of Covid related illnesses because untreated outsiders were permitted in the nursing homes.

Testa fielded questions from a litany of emails on the subject. June 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, WIBG-FM provided Issues information on the elimination of the needle exchange program on the streets of Atlantic City. Council President George Tibbitt introduced the legislation banning the practice of needle exchange, saying it was an archaic program institutes during the height of the AIDS crisis in the 1980's.

### **WIBG –FM PUBLIC SERVICE AIRINGS**

WIBG-FM airs our Public Service Community News 24 minutes each day, seven days a week. This provide community groups and organizations the opportunity to air their event announcements free of charge.