

WIBG –AM Issues and Programs Report  
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Quarter 1 January-February-March 2020

WIBG provides Issues reports at the top and bottom of the hour. These reports average 65 seconds each, in addition to the composite total of more than 150 minutes a week of listener information response to critical issues concerning the Atlantic City-Cape May Market. Additionally, our in depth issues reports are structured within our 3 minute hourly composite local news and information segments aired each day. Additionally massive Veterans issues with huge listener impact are heard Saturdays at 2pm, including hundreds of minutes of airtime devoted to the issues that most effect veterans.

JANUARY-2020

January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>h</sup>, WIBG provided local feedback and information regarding the new year and the distribution of EBT cards in Atlantic City, and a special report from listeners troubled by the reported selling and trading of cards for cash. The interview featured Atlantic City Councilman William Marsh. He chastised the state administration . The reports on January 4<sup>th</sup> were 2:20 in length and the January 8<sup>th</sup> was 1:34 in length. January 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, WIBG conducted a two part investigative report on monies that were planned to be used for the Atlantic City School Boards move to Boardwalk Hall. Board President John Devlin was our featured interviewee, as he explained the circumstances and the conditions with which the revenue was generated. January 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, WIBG Issues and Programs provided details of the ongoing financial issues that several Atlantic County municipalities are facing. These include Galloway and Hamilton Townships. Interviews on the detail subject included interviews with Galloway Committeeman Tony Coppolla, and Hamilton Townships Committeeman Charles Cain. January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, WIBG Issues programming provided full spectrum report on the budget shortfalls, and how the state has failed to live up to its financial promise to these towns. January 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, WIBG scoped a full report on the ongoing crisis of school government in Pleasantville, with an indepth report on alledged corruption in voting processes there. Featured interviewee was Jerome Page, a member of the board. Predictably, leadership on the school board refused to speak with reporters about the calamity. January 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, WIBG provided a full issues report on the plight of the homeless veteran in Cape May and Atlantic Counties. The interview was conducted by Joe Griffes our Director of Veterans Affairs. The program aired on all stations, but the live report was featured on his Welcome Home Show this coming Saturday at 2pm.

FEBRUARY-2020

February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, WIBG produced a two part series on the concerns that the Atlantic City Rescue Mission is having with the case load in the city. Since Sister Jeans Kitchen ceased operations last November, the Mission has been

struggling to meet the demands of the indigent . Interview with Director Dan Brown on the severity of the problem. February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, WIBG Issues provided full spectrum coverage of the growing menace of crime going upward in Atlantic City and Wildwood and what the individual towns are doing to help circumvent the problem. Interviews with Mayor Marty Small and Mayor Peter Byron. Both said the problem is being dealt with through combined efforts of local and State Police. Listener reaction was strong on our WIBBAGE 20-20 Local News, and additional 45 minute up front discussion with Host Larry Trulli on his Saturday program at 12 noon. The feature ran 33 minutes and featured some of the areas most notable law enforcers. February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, WIBG Local provided full issues coverage of the transition potential of a new form of Atlantic City government. A vote was anticipated in last March on the issue. Listener response was swift as several said they were concerned the need for increased police presence in their towns would be justified and warranted. Special interviewees included Wildwood Commssion Antonelli, and Atlantic City Councilm Moesses Delgado. February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, we featured a major issues report on the drug epidemic in some area schools and what local superintendents are doing to mitigate the problem. Interviews included Atlantic City School Board member Mason Williams and an additional guest Mayor Marty Small. February 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, Health Director Pat Diamond discusses the dangers of the Coronavirus which started infecting people in California. Diamond told WIBG Issues and Programs that the virus may become greatly enhanced as it originated in China. Local health officials in Atlantic and Cape May Counties reaffirmed that state and local health agencies are monitoring the situation. February 30, a formal request for an interview with Wildwood Mayor Peter Byron was granted and we conducted a thorough review of the procedures and policies he is enacting as the newly minted mayor to help rebuild the Wildwood boardwalk. This item has been the most widely acclaimed issue by many of our listeners during this month.

#### MARCH- 2020

March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, WIBG Investigative report on late trains into and out of Galloway, with a special report by Lynda Cohen on the extent of the problem and what local commuters are doing to engage dialogue with NJ Transit on the bad service. This was a two part series detailing the impact it has had on area commuters. March 8<sup>th</sup>, WIBG Radio Issues News provided full spectrum coverage of the local health reactions starting to be heard across our region in light of the Coronavirus. These two part series programs provided e mailed questions to local health agencies of what an epidemic could mean for residents of this region. March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, WIBG Issues report detailing the extensive nature of the virus, and how local businesses are coping with the loss of customers if the problem becomes larger. We interviewed Mayor Marty Small, Ventnor Mayor Beth Holzman and Ocean Ciyu Councilman Keith Hartzell on the impact of the virus as it progresses. March 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, we provided wall to wall issues coverage of the Cvirus and what it will mean

As officials are moving to curtail local business operations. WIBG Issues did followup interviews on the impact in Atlantic City, Mays Landing and North Wildwood, as all officials reaffirmed that a sustained closure would lead to giant economic losses for the region. March 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, WIBG provided hour by hour issues update s on the coronavirus and how it is now rapidly changing the complexion of our local region. Special issues reports on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> on the dangers that now lurk as to what other measure that may be needed as the crisis becomes a pandemic. WIBG full spectrum coverage of the impact to the educational process. Live updates with Pleasantville, Atlantic City and Ocean City officials on the rollout of the pandemic and how many case have been discovered in New Jersey. March 26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> coverage continues as to how Atlanticare and Shore Medical Centers have a thorough gameplan as to how to mitigate the serious nature of this virus. Interviews with Dr. Manesh Travidy Chief of the Infectious Diseases Department at AtlantiCare. He described the impact this could have on the rest of society. Meanwhile, Dr. Tomas Brabson outlines the newly constructed Triage Center at their Galloway and Atlantic City campuses.