

APRIL 2018 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS WPKZ 105.3 FM & AM 1280

TUESDAY APRIL 2ND

7:40-8:00am

Fitchburg Fire Lt. Phil Jordan joined Travis and Shermand to talk about fire prevention in the City. Lt. Jordan spoke about brush fire season, and some of the conditions that fuel brush fires. Lt. Jordan also talked about safety regarding fire pits and grill use. He also spoke about solar panels and codes changing. Lt. Jordan also talked about their involvement in terms of redevelopment projects in Fitchburg, bringing them up to code and dangers of vacant buildings. He also talked about working with marijuana grow facilities. He also spoke about fire alarms and extinguishers in businesses and houses.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 3RD

7:10-8:00am

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau began the conversation talking about a recent community engagement event with his officers and the public for Easter. Martineau spoke at length about community engagement. He also talked about expanding the school resource officer program and emergency response drills and preparedness throughout the school system. Martineau also spoke about the department's involvement in providing a safety perspective with the city in the planning process regarding licenses for marijuana facilities in Fitchburg. Martineau spoke about being proactive and trying to figure out ways to deal with potential issues that may arise with legalization. He also talked about how crucial

THURSDAY APRIL 5TH

7:10-8:00am

Mary and Kathy from the Fitchburg Republican Committee began their conversation talking about the announcement that President Donald Trump is planning to meet with Kim Jong Un of North Korea. They spoke about concerns over the meeting whether it will lead to meaningful changes or will it be used by both sides to pander to their respective bases. They spoke about the southwestern border and the use of the National Guard. They spoke about President Trump's desire for a wall, and whether or not we will see immigration reform. They spoke about using trade agreements to get Mexico to cooperate. They also weighed in on recreational marijuana in Fitchburg. They wrapped things up talking about their latest episode of Your Right To Know on FATV,

WEDNESDAY APRIL 11TH

7:10-8:00am

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale began his conversation talking about the cooperation between local and state police and the Worcester county DA's office with the ongoing Stony Brook Road investigation. He also spoke about the need for the public to be patient and understand that only so much information can be released without jeopardizing ongoing investigations. DiNatale also spoke about recreational marijuana in the City and echoed the sentiments of others in that a lot of issues that may arise are "wait and see" because so much is unknown. He also spoke about the revenue generating opportunities from recreational marijuana. DiNatale spoke about the City Council's recent meeting

approving the insurance funds for the BF Brown project. He also spoke about the City Hall renovation project and the gift of the Bank of America Bank to the City which will become a part of the City Hall complex. He also mentioned the upcoming Patriot Day 5K in the City and the work that Michele Marino and the Fitchburg Veterans Council does for the area.

THURSDAY APRIL 12TH

7:10-8:00am

Leominster State Representative Natalie Higgins began her conversation talking in depth about the House version of the Budget. She spoke about the increase in the budget without an increase in taxes. Higgins talked about specific increases to education which will hopefully help the district. Higgins also spoke about the need for the Chapter 70 overhaul. She also talked about the unfunded mandate to reintroduce civics into the classroom. Higgins also spoke about the money that has been set aside for addiction and mental health services and treatment in the upcoming budget. She also spoke about the student loan borrowers' bill of rights legislation.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 18TH

7:10-8:00am

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella began the conversation talking about the housing market in Leominster, and how it was recently listed as one of the hottest in the state. He spoke about the changing needs of residents and the changing makeup of people moving here. Mazzarella talked about work on the City budget, and having to produce a balanced budget. He referenced the school department budget problems last year, the problems with the Chapter 7 formula and how this problem is popping up in communities across the area. Mazzarella answered a listener question about bringing city maintenance to private ways no longer maintained by the developers. He also spoke about several projects in the City and the preliminary work that needs to be done before final paving can be completed.

8:00-9:00am

State Senator Dean Tran came in for his monthly visit and started talking about the criminal justice reform bill recently sent to the Governor's desk. He spoke about the changes and costs associated with the bill. Tran also talked about a bill he filed to allow municipalities the ability to own their own electric company and acquire the necessary infrastructure. He spoke about the recent bond bill which would allow for the creation of affordable housing throughout the district. He also spoke about the need to modernize the foundation budget formula for chapter 70 funds for schools across the Commonwealth. He also spent time talking about the student loan borrower's bill of rights. He also spoke about the need to protect students from sexual assault on campuses and the need to protect victims and their rights.

THURSDAY APRIL 19TH

7:40-8:00am

Tom Skwierawski from the Fitchburg Community Development Office spoke about the BF Brown fire and the art community project planned for the building. He talked about

state support from officials regarding the creation of the art community in terms of expanding housing availability in the city and expanding an art and cultural footprint in the City. Skwierawski spoke about changes to ordinances to allow for easier redevelopment of older properties in the City. He also spoke about the down payment assistance program the City is now offering. He also talked about Fitchburg being selected by Governor Charlie Baker as having two opportunity zones which would allow for incentives and funds to be created at the federal level in the census tracts. He also provided an update on the Smart Growth initiative.

TUESDAY APRIL 24TH

7:40-8:00am

Democratic Candidate for The Worcester 3rd District Congress seat, Patrick Littlefield came in to talk about his campaign. Littlefield talked about his business background and talked about the three major issues being jobs, healthcare, and education. He spoke about the need for treatment options and ending the stigma around opioid addiction. He spent time talking about healthcare for our veterans. Littlefield spoke about universal healthcare and a single payer system. He also spoke about the recent tax reform passed in Washington D.C. Littlefield spoke about his past work on veteran legislation and his work with legislators in D.C. Littlefield also talked about building relationships and finding common ground across party lines.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 25TH

7:10-8:00am

Gardner Mayor Mark Hawke started his monthly conversation talking about an event he recently had speaking to realtors about “selling Gardner.” Hawke talked about the features and amenities within the City. He also talked about the sellers market the City is currently in the midst of, and investments in industrial sectors of the City. He spoke about Governor Baker labeling Gardner as having opportunity zones and the advantages and incentives which come with investing in those areas of Gardner. Hawke also talked about the budget process in Gardner, and the possibility of a proposition 2 ½ override to invest in the school system and Chapter 70 funding. He also spent time talking about plan design authority and keeping healthcare costs under control in the City

MAY 2018 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS WPKZ 105.3 FM & AM 1280

TUESDAY MAY 1ST

7:40-8:00am

Fitchburg Fire Chief Kevin Roy spoke about the end of burning season and how folks can dispose of yard waste. He also spoke about fire pits, keeping combustibles away and using proper materials. Roy spoke about draining gas from snowblowers and getting them stored properly. He also spoke about the safe storage of gasoline with proper containers and ventilation, especially in heated weather. He talked about keeping mulch 18 inches away from buildings and the combustible concerns especially relating to cigarettes outside public buildings. Chief Roy gave some safety tips in terms of placement of grills, and usage, as well as checking gas tanks. Chief Roy also talked about the upcoming DPW Day in Fitchburg.

WEDNESDAY MAY 2ND*7:10-8:00am*

Fitchburg Police Chief Ernie Martineau spoke about attending the Three Pyramid and Minority Coalition Stand Against Racism event. The Chief spoke about the need to continue working to address racism and stereotypes throughout the community. He also took about recent attacks on police officers including the one on Cape Cod. He talked about the dangers of responding to calls like warrant apprehensions and the constant dangers officers face. Martineau also spoke about stress and mental health on the job. He talked about having to decompress and being able to engage the community on a human level while keeping situational awareness up in case of an emergency. He also spoke about the upcoming DPW Day.

FRIDAY MAY 4TH*7:10-8:00am*

State Representative Jen Benson began talking about the House version of the budget sent to the Governor. Benson addressed the education portion of the budget and needing to begin incorporating recommendations that have been made to the foundation budget with Chapter 70 funding. She also spent time talking about money set aside for programs for combating addiction and expanding access to treatment to be more effective and cost effective than locking individuals up. She also talked about the challenges in putting together a budget and the need for the public to advocate for line items and things that are important to them. She also spoke about revenue projections and how that impacts the budget throughout the fiscal year.

WEDNESDAY MAY 9TH*7:10-8:00am*

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale started his discussion talking about the survey results regarding the one way Main Street. He also spoke about the latest City Council meeting addressing the situation and ways to tweak the current deficiencies in terms of flower boxes, bike lanes, and possibly traffic light patterns. DiNatale spoke about Massworks and Complete Streets as two grant opportunities to help develop a permanent solution to the main street traffic problems. He spent time talking about redevelopment of Main Street, initiatives that have helped and the involvement of Fitchburg State University. DiNatale also talked about the upcoming retirement of Superintendent of Schools, Andre Ravenelle.

THURSDAY MAY 10TH*7:10-8:00am*

Leominster State Representative Natalie Higgins began talking about legislation that just passed to raise the age of tobacco purchases to 21 in an attempt to keep cigarettes and tobacco products away from high school campuses. Representative Higgins spoke about the Embrace Your Voice event focusing on survivors of sexual assault. Higgins talked about the House version of the budget

WEDNESDAY MAY 16TH

7:10-8:00am

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzeella began his conversation talking about the \$10,000 the City recently paid to hackers after the school's digital infrastructure was hit by ransomware. Mazzeella spoke about the school and city computer systems and moving forward from an incident like this. He also spent time talking about the upcoming school budget and medicaid reimbursements that are traditionally allocated to transportation for the schools. The Mayor spoke about exceeding net school spending and the need to fix the foundation budget formula at the state level. He also talked about the North Street project, a collaborative effort between Leominster, Fitchburg, and Lunenburg. He also talked about his petition as a private citizen to rezone the land he owns on Mechanic Street.

THURSDAY MAY 17TH

8:10-8:20am

Tom Skwierawski from the Fitchburg Community Development Office began talking about Mass Development designated the downtown Fitchburg area as a TDI District leading to a great opportunity for grants, loans, investment opportunities and more for the area. The area is one of 4 to be designated and one of only 2 to receive the award for the next 3 years. He also talked about a former plant on Westminster Street that was deeded to the City which has been hit with another environmental fine for the bits of oil that continue to leak into the Nashua that are picked up by booms. He talked about a plan to fully re-mediate the site. Skwierawski finished up talking about the City Council's recent decision to revert back to a two lane one way main street and how this might impact the work being doing to transform the downtown district.

WEDNESDAY MAY 23RD

8:10-8:30am

Tim Deschamps, Executive Director of the Central Mass Mosquito Control Project, told Sherman about the work being done by the organization to protect the public from mosquitoes. He talked about the threats of West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis which mosquitoes can cause. Deschamps also talked about how people can reduce their chances of mosquito bites through wearing DEET and eliminating standing water in their surroundings. He also explained the process of their spraying for mosquitoes in communities.

TUESDAY MAY 29TH

7:40-8:00am

Democratic Candidate for Congress for the MA 3rd District, Rufus Gifford, came in to talk about his candidacy. Gifford spoke about his experience as Ambassador to Denmark during the Obama Administration. He talked about his desire to run following the Trump election, and how his political experience and perspective sets him apart from others running for the seat. Gifford talked about his experience advocating for Obamacare and the need for universal healthcare through a single payer system. He also spoke about the need to increase infrastructure and public transportation resources, and address the opioid epidemic. He also talked about the need to find balance and compromise by finding

common ground on immigration and climate change. In terms of gun laws, he talked about using Massachusetts as a model for national change.

WEDNESDAY MAY 30TH

7:10-8:00am

State Representative Stephan Hay began his monthly visit talking about his participation in the White Cross Ceremony and Memorial Day Ceremony in Fitchburg. Hay also spoke about recent legislation pertaining to veterans. Hay also spoke about the House 4517 Red Flag Bill for guns that was passed by the House. Hay gave his reasons for why he supported the bill and talked about wording changes that made him more comfortable with voting in favor. Hay talked about the need to balance the 2nd Amendment with public safety. Hay spoke about the House version of the budget. He spoke about the increases in Chapter 70 and 90 funds. He also talked about the recent purchase of Mount Ida by the UMASS system.

JUNE 2018 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS WPKZ 105.3 FM & AM 1280

TUESDAY JUNE 5TH

7:40-8:00am

Fitchburg Fire Chief Kevin Roy started his segment talking grill safety in terms of placement, storage of propane, and grilling with charcoal. He also spoke about handling a situation where you believe there is a propane leak. Chief Roy also talked about an update in the state code for recreational fires. Roy spoke about safe disposal of cigarettes and keeping mulch away from the edge of properties. Roy spoke about being involved in the DPW days, and about community engagement with events at schools. He also spoke about the statewide SAFE program aimed at educating children about the dangers of fire. He also talked about the upcoming Firefighter Memorial event.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 6TH

7:10-8:00am

Fitchburg Police Chief, Ernie Martineau started his conversation addressing the recent vandalism at the Police Officers' Memorial in downtown Fitchburg. He talked about continuing to strengthen bonds with the community and the department, and provided some history on the monument. He talked about the upcoming Mayor's budget and working on the Department's budget. He also spoke about working to continue to increase numbers on the force. Martineau also talked about the benefits of having officers who are Fitchburg natives or who currently live in the area. He spoke about the civil service hiring process and wrapped up talking about DPW Day.

THURSDAY JUNE 7TH

7:10-8:00am

Mary and Kathy from the Fitchburg Republican City Committee sat in for the hour. They talked about President Trump rescinding the invitation to the White House for the Philadelphia Eagles. They talked about how it was handled on both side, and whether or not the tradition should be scrapped all together. They also talked about how the

President presents himself on the world stage versus the national stage and how it is a departure from what we have seen in the past. They also talked about its impact on how others speak in national and local forums. They also talked about the upcoming North Korea meeting and whether or not it will lead to long term change. Mary and Kathy also talked about the President's announcement about enacting tariffs and changing NAFTA. The two of them spoke about the recent crime report for Fitchburg and what that decrease means for the area and the current local administration. They also discussed the changes coming to Main Street and talked about their latest episode of "Your Right To Know" on FATV.

FRIDAY JUNE 9TH

7:40-8:00am

Democratic Candidate for Congress for the MA 3rd District, Dan Koh, came in to talk about his candidacy. Koh provided some insight into his experience working for Boston Mayor Marty Walsh and how it has prepared him for a run for Congress. Koh spoke about a need for comprehensive healthcare reform through a single payer system. He talked about combating the opioid crisis by funding local programs and not using a cookie cutter approach. He also talked about repealing the President's recent tax reforms. He spoke about focusing on jobs and incentives for those who invest in the District. Koh also spoke about free Community College opportunities and investing in people's education. He also talked about defense spending and redirecting those dollars to our veterans. Koh talked about common sense gun reforms, and immigration reform.

FRIDAY JUNE 8TH

8:10-9:00am

Cannabis Control Commissioner Jen Flanagan came in to talk about her new role. She talked about the difference between her new role and her former role as State Senator for the District. Flanagan spoke about how her prior committee work has helped prep her for her role as a commissioner. She spoke about how much work still needed to be done after the passage of the law in terms of crafting the specific aspects of the law, how it will be regulated and how to raise awareness. She also spoke about some of the challenges with marijuana still being illegal on the federal level. Flanagan also took the time to explain the laws and regulations and to talk about some of the awareness efforts coming down the pipeline.

TUESDAY JUNE 12TH

8:10-8:30am

Democratic Candidate for Congress for the MA 3rd District, Jeff Ballinger, talked about how corporate interests on both political sides has spurred his desire to run. Ballinger spoke about his involvement fighting for workers' rights overseas with the AFL-CIO and how that has helped him to build relationships and learn to negotiate in Washington D.C. Ballinger spoke about the importance of term limits. Ballinger spoke about bringing back jobs to the United States and the District. He also spoke about the amount of spending that continues for the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan and how we have allowed local corruption to continue overseas without seeing results and without seeing any economic development over there. Ballinger also talked about issues with the Southwestern border

and the need for a bipartisan solution, and corporate interests that are preventing a resolution. Ballinger also spoke about fighting for workers' rights

TUESDAY JUNE 19TH

7:40-8:00am

Fitchburg's Deputy Commissioner of Wastewater, Jeff Murawski came in and talked about how yesterday's storm impacted the City's piping system. Murawski talked about how heavy period of rain over a short time can create back ups and flooding. He also spent time talking about runoff and explained the status of the sewer separation project and why it is crucial. He also talked about capital projects and planned rate increases to help cover the projects.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 20TH

7:10-8:00am

Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella weighed in on the talk of tariffs on the national level, and talked about how it could impact local small and industrial businesses. Mazzarella gave an update on the Main Street paving project near the train bridge, and the eventual redesign of the intersection. He also provided an update on the North Street project, and talked about the frustrations the community has had with the condition of the road in the interim. Mazzarella spoke at length about the school committee budget for the upcoming school year. He recapped the \$5 million budget shortfall last year, and then explained the increases to the budget this year which falls short of what the department is requesting. He wrapped up talking about the upcoming Pink Flamingo Party the City is holding.

THURSDAY JUNE 21ST

7:40-8:00am

Tom Skwierawski from the Fitchburg Community Development Office came in for his monthly visit talking about an update about a federal increase in CDBG nationwide and the increase Fitchburg sees. Skwierawski talked about the business loan pool, grants for ADA accessibility, and park projects which are sustained through CDBG funding. He also spent time talking about the Choose Fitchburg program aimed at people looking to buy homes in Fitchburg in assisting with a down payment. He also discussed the partnership with Harvard's Business Development Group and their recent Water Street study which aims to enliven the corridor and introduce Fitchburg through a redesign.

FRIDAY JUNE 22ND

7:40-8:00am

Bruce Coulter and Tracy Sladen of the local group, Dining Out for Hunger, came in to talk about hunger in the area. They spent time talking about hunger among school age children and food insecurity throughout the local community. The two of them also talked about food waste among the restaurant industry and at home. They talked about how their group plans to hold a series of events to raise awareness including a fundraising dinner for Ginny's Food Pantry and the Spanish American Center next week. Sue Chalifoux Zephir came in to talk about her role in addressing hunger with Ginny's Food

Pantry in Leominster. She also talked about Ginny's partnership with the Spanish American Center in Leominster and the free meals they provide weekly?

FRIDAY JUNE 22ND

8:10-9:00am

State Senator Dean Tran began his discussion talking about an award he received from the American Legion. He also spoke about the American Legion and their community efforts. Senator Tran talked about the 12 projects he was able to get into the capital improvements bill, and highlighted some of them. Tran talked about working on a bipartisan budget from the Senate and the process of working on his first budget as a freshman senator. Tran talked about the recommended changes to the foundation formula for Chapter 70 funds, the increases to the circuit breaker account . He also spoke about the Grand Bargain Bill talked about the increase in minimum wage, changes to holiday pay, and paid family medical leave, as well as sales tax holiday weekend.

TUESDAY JUNE 26TH

7:10-8:00am

State Representative Stephan Hay spoke about the recent listening session regarding the planned closures at Burbank and Leominster involving departments at Health Alliance Hospital. Hay talked about the concerns brought up in terms of transportation for those who don't have easy access to get to other facilities, concerns about a lack of an urgent care at Burbank and increased wait times at the emergency room. In talking about healthcare, he talked about insurance coverage and how much it drives local, state, and federal budgets . He also spent time going over aspects of the Grand Bargain Bill including changes to minimum wage and tips, and paid family medical leave in terms of what he thought worked and what could have been done differently.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 27TH

7:10-8:00am

Gardner Mayor Mark Hawke talked about money recently appropriated to pave potholes throughout the City. Hawke talked about road conditions in the City, the cost for paving projects, and the amount of money the City receives from the State through Chapter 90 funds. Hawke also talked about the potential impact of the marijuana industry in the City of Gardner. He also spent time talking about the budget for the upcoming fiscal year and talks the city council is having regarding the school funding. He talked about the funding formula and how money needs to be better distributed to communities across the Commonwealth.

WPKZ Radio Fitchburg, Massachusetts

K-Zone Lunch Box Second Quarter Issues 2018

This report covers April 1 through June 30, 2018.

The program airs Mondays 12 noon to 1:00 pm, and air time is adjusted for our baseball coverage during the season.

All interviews are 20 minutes in length unless otherwise noted. The Monday program is hosted by Sherman Whitman.

REMEMBERING MARTIN April 2nd, 12 noon

We used the entire hour to mark the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through his words. Kenisha Coy, Executive Director of the My Care Initiative, shared her thoughts on this day and the changes this nation has seen since his passing. We recalled the words of Robert F. Kennedy when he told Indianapolis, Indiana about Martin dying and his cries for peace. We recalled how a concert at the Boston Garden by James Brown that would be carried live on WGBH-TV would help Boston remain at peace. We discussed King's message to young people about education, and how Dr. King tried to reach people's hearts and minds and the challenges the nation is facing 50 years after his passing.

RESILIENT VILLAGES AT SCALE: A NEW PATH FORWARD April 9th, 12:30 pm

Susan Bucholz and Irene Hernandez, Co-Chairs of the Joint Coalition on Health; previewed a conference on helping people face the day-to-day challenges of life. The conference is aimed at helping people develop better skills to cope with the challenges, and learning what are called "resilience skills" which are learned by people in the Armed Forces and how we apply them to combatting stress, addiction and other challenges that face our daily lives.

"WHEN GRIT ISN'T ENOUGH" April 23rd, 12:00 noon

Linda Nathan joined us for the hour to discuss her book. She says her work questions whether young people are prepared for the challenges they will face in college. She says educators need to face how poverty today and inequality are threatening the promise of college for all. She argues that the costs of college have grown dramatically while funding for students has failed to keep up with those costs. She also suggests that educators and students should also take a more serious look at technical and vocational education, and the skills they provide students to meet challenges in today's world.

END OF AN ERA April 30th, 12:00 noon

Dr. Andre Ravenelle, Superintendent of the Fitchburg Public Schools; spent the hour to talk about his decision to announce his retirement after serving 13 years. He discussed the road he traveled before coming to Fitchburg, the open interview for the job, and why people felt "he was right for the job." He talked about the challenges he faced when he began serving, and he thought the biggest challenge was the negative perception that people had about the Fitchburg Schools. He shared what he thought were his greatest accomplishments, and things he would like to complete before he steps down. He talked about his dedication to urban youth, and what he would like to do next.

FOSTERING CHANGE INC. May 7th, 12 noon

Lindsey English, founder of the organization; said it the organized was influenced by her growing up in a foster home. She recalled how her foster parent gave her the room to make mistakes and grow as a person, with the most important being that she would be there for her no matter what. But don't ever say the word "wicked" in her presence or you faced detention. She thanked her foster parent for giving her the structure she needed, and her organization is her way of saying thank you and giving back. She also told our listeners about projects they're working on, including school supplies, field trips and Christmas gifts for kids.

CROSSING OVER NIGHT OF COMEDY May 7th, 12:30 pm

A 15-minute conversation with Donald Flagg about the Sober House for men that is there to help men who are taking steps to start their life again after struggling with addiction. Flagg shared his story, and said one thing that helped him was being held accountable for his actions, and patience because there are times when people stumble. He talked about how peer support helps in the recovery. He also told us about an upcoming night of comedy where people come together to celebrate life, celebrate their lives, and the victories that come in life.

YARD SALE SEASON BEGINS May 7th, 12:45 pm

The Yard Sale Season has begin in Central Massachusetts. Valerie Daigle of the Bresnahan Community Center joined us to tell our listeners about the town-wide yard sale for the town of Ashburhham. She discussed how it all began, how it has grown to a point where at least 50 residents are taking in this event, what people are searching for and finding at yard sales, and how it brings people together.

MENTAL ILLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH May 14th, 12 noon

Paul Richard, Executive Director of the SHINE Initiative, told our listeners about the conversations that led to the forming of the organization, how it emerged from conversations with bank executives, how their mission changed from making people aware of mental illness and making them comfortable in discussing it to removing the stigma that is associated with mental illness. He also discussed the stresses people are facing today, the fact that people who are confronting mental illness are younger than we

expected and the importance of talking about issues through classroom education, learning about asking for help and realizing that mental illness is not a sign of weakness.

PROJECT SOAR May 14th, 12:30 pm

Jerry Beck, Founder of the Revolving Museum invited our listeners to participate in his organization's effort to set a Guinness World Record by build the World's Largest Paper Airplane and their effort, dubbed Project SOAR. He told us what led to the idea of making this airplane, what has happened up to this point, what convinced the Guinness organization to approve their efforts, how the project has drawn the community together, and their hopes of reaching their goal by Tuesday, June 12th.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER May 21st. 12 noon

Mary Maguire and Drew Carlson of AAA Northeast prepared our listeners for the start of the summer driving season. They gave the AAA's projections for travel during the Memorial Day weekend, the costs of gasoline and the factors that influence the price at the pump. They discussed how gasoline prices are affected by global demand for oil and gasoline, geo-political tensions around the globe, the return of sanctions against Iran, changes in gasoline blends for the summer, the prospects for prices at the pump reach \$3.00 a gallon and what consumers can do help keep those prices down. They also talked about how the importance of summer travel to the tourism industry and the US economy.

ANDREAS' LYME-AID STAND May 21st, 12:30 pm

Andreas Glimenakis told us about his Lyme-Aid Stand, and how he is bringing attention to Lyme Disease. Andreas and his mother Holly talked about his struggle since he was bitten by a tick at the age of 3. They didn't realize that he had Lyme Disease until he was 6. Andreas and his family decided they wanted to start the Lyme-Aid stand to raise awareness and to raise money to cover the costs for the accurate testing of Lyme Disease, which runs \$2,000 and is not covered by medical insurance. He also offered suggestions for what to do if your are bitten by a tick...including catching it, and where to send it for testing.

REMEMBERING BOBBY June 4th, 12 noon

We marked 50th anniversary of the assassination of Robert Francis Kennedy with the re-airing of our conversation with Larry Tye, the author of "Bobby Kennedy: The Making of a Liberal Icon." The book looked back at what influenced RFK, how his life changed from his days working in the office of Wisconsin US Senator Joe McCarthy, to his search for the Democratic nomination for President in 1968. Tye said Bobby's life was a reflection of how America was changing from the days where people were concerned about the Soviet threat to the United States and, to where people questioned our role in Vietnam and sought social justice. He also talked about how Bobby brought people together, whether he was campaigning for his brother Jack, or when he spoke the day Martin Luther King died.

SUMMER SAFETY June 4th, 12:40 pm

Chris Besse of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency discussed the recovery process still underway for some parts of the state from the Winter of 2018, and preparations for the summer season. He said preparations include tornadoes which now happen year-round, the beginning of the Atlantic Hurricane season with the best chances of hurricane or tropical storms reaching Massachusetts and the need for cooling centers when temperatures reach the 90's. He also discussed the need for improving structures that are damaged by storms, and how families should prepare for emergencies no matter what the season may be.

AT THE ZOO June 11th, 12 noon

Betsey Brewer of Southwick's Zoo in Mendon told our listeners about their family-owned business that first opened its doors more than 50 years ago. She discussed the challenges in taking care of more than 800 animals on an annual basis, having kangaroos and lion cubs in the house on a daily basis and the challenges in taking care of the animals all year round. She credits their involvement in the community for their success, and discussed how the zoo has become a leader in environmental education.

FITCHBURG ROTARY CLUB June 11th, 12:30 pm

Bill Lakso, Past President of the organization, told our listeners about the organization, how the international organization was formed, why do people become rotarians and their motto of "Service Above Self." He discussed what made him join, how the organization has made a difference in Fitchburg over the years, looked ahead to their 100th anniversary celebration and his hopes for their second 100 years.

SUICIDE June 18th, 12 noon

Barbara Nealon of the Massachusetts Suicide Prevention Task Force spent the hour discussing what has become the tenth leading cause of death in the United States today. We learned that for every person who commits suicide there are 25 people who try to take their life. We discussed why people feel that suicide may be their only option, or have lost hope, and she says suicide can be prevented. She said domestic violence, bullying, how we treat and mistreat one another can be factors, and that people give warning signs that they may attempt suicide and it's important to take those statements seriously. She said that while it may take the loss of Anthony Bourdain, Kate Spade or Robin Williams to get our attention, she said people in our listening area are dying and they need our help.