

WJLP Issues/Programs List
2016 First Quarter

WJLP in Middletown, New Jersey has determined that the following issues are matters of importance to its community of license:

- 1) Pensions
- 2) Property Taxes
- 3) Hurricane Sandy Insurance Fraud
- 4) Governor Chris Christie
- 5) Education –PARCC Testing
- 6) Atlantic City
- 7) Surprise Medical Bills
- 8) Apple vs. FBI
- 9) Alzheimer's
- 10) Poverty

These issues were addressed in the following programs aired on WJWP:

Jersey Matters - this 30 minute discussion program airs Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. and re-airs Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and tackles issues of importance to the citizens of New Jersey.

Another Thing with Larry Mendte - this 30 minute program airs Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and re-airs Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and addresses issues of importance throughout the service area through conversations between host Larry Mendte and guests.

WJLP News Breaks- Run Monday - Friday at 11:45 p.m., 1:45 p.m., & 3:45 p.m. WJLP, in conjunction with The Asbury Park Press, covers the top stories of the day in three one-minute news breaks.

Treatment of specific topics was provided as follows:

Program: *Jersey Matters 146*

Date: March 19th & 20th, 2016

Time: 5:00 P.M. & 9:00 A.M.

Duration: 5 minutes

Topic: State Budget & Pensions

Description: Host Larry Mendte speaks with Thomas J. Healy, coordinator of the New Jersey Pension & Health Commission. The commission was put together by Governor Christie to address New Jersey's pension and financial crisis. The state pension is underfunded by a substantial amount. The pension with health benefits currently is 11% of the state budget. If the finances are not addressed that will go up to 27% by 2025 which will have an adverse affect on all state programs and the tax payers. New Jersey already has the highest taxes in the country. The conclusion of the commission is to reduce health plan from a premium plan to a gold plan.

Program: *Another Thing 143*

Date: February 20th & 21st, 2016

Time: 5:30 P.M. & 9:30 A.M.

Duration: 5 minutes

Topic: Property Taxes

Description: Host Larry Mendte welcomes Susanne Cervenka, a reporter for the Asbury Park Press to discuss her investigation into New Jersey property tax. She has found that property tax has been a top issue for the people of New Jersey for almost a decade. New Jersey is also ranked last among most tax friendly state according to polls. According to Susanne's research property taxes in New Jersey increase by \$500 million each year. An alarming rate of residents are leaving the state because they can't afford to stay any longer. Susanne and the Asbury Park Press are asking lawmakers to pledge to freeze property tax increases, and then find a solution to cut property taxes by 10%.

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Program: *Jersey Matters 147*

Date: March 26th & 27th, 2016

Time: 5:00 P.M. & 9:00 A.M.

Duration: 5 minutes

Topic: Hurricane Sandy Fraud

Description: Jersey Matters reporter Vanessa Tyler investigated home owners who are taking advantage of Hurricane Sandy insurance payouts. Vanessa spoke to Director of New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice, Elie Honig about how individuals are falsely applying for money for homes that either they do not own, or that they claimed were primary residences when they were vacation homes. There are residents along the shore who have accepted money from the federal government for repairs and construction on their secondary homes which is illegal. Federal payouts can only be used on primary homes. Over 50 arrests have been made so far, and investigations are continuing.

Program: *Another Thing 149*

Date: March 5th & 6th, 2016

Time: 5:30 PM & 9:30 PM

Duration: 9 minutes

Topic: Governor Chris Christie

Description: In February Governor Chris Christie ended his bid for President in 2016. Then Gov. Christie endorsed Donald Trump. Six New Jersey newspapers have called for Gov. Christie to resign. They claim residents of New Jersey are fed up with him, and if he doesn't resign the citizens should initiate a recall effort. Randy Bergmann, The Editorial Page Editor from Asbury Park Press sits with Larry to discuss Gov. Christie. The Governor has spent a considerable amount of time, over 200 days, out of the state campaigning. And now Gov. Christie is campaigning for another candidate. The residents of New Jersey feel like the Governor has been ignoring his home state. Randy Bergmann also feels like Gov. Christie has been very combative towards the media and his constituents. In a recent Asbury Park Poll Gov. Christie received failing grades across a number of topics.

Program: *Jersey Matters 142*

Date: February 6th & 7th, 2016

Time: 5:00 P.M. & 9:00 A.M.

Duration: 7 minutes

Topic: Education – PARCC Assessment

Description: Susan Caldwell, Executive Director of Save our Schools New Jersey, joins Larry to talk about the problems with the PARCC test. She believes students should have the right to opt out of the test. Some issues with PARCC are loss of instruction time to test prep, narrowing of the curriculum, and teaching students how to take a test rather than teaching them subjects and problem solving skills. The test also is costly for each school district. They also are concerned with PARCC results. If students and schools don't perform well they can lose funding, teachers can lose their jobs, and schools can close.

Program: *Jersey Matters 140*

Date: January 23rd & January 24th

Time: 5:00 P.M. & 9:00 A.M.

Duration: 13 minutes

Topic: Gambling & Atlantic City

Description: Larry Mendte interviews Atlantic City mayor Don Guardian about how Atlantic City is going through a financial crisis that affects the entire state. Atlantic City is a major source of tax revenue for the state of New Jersey. Gambling revenues are way down, and the city is in desperate need of revitalization and stabilization. In recent years several casinos have closed, costing the state millions in revenues and thousands of jobs. Mayor Guardian with help from the Governor are working hard to turn Atlantic City around. There are several projects in the works including Stocking University building an Atlantic City campus.

Program: *Jersey Matters 146*

Date: March 19th & 20th, 2016

Time: 5:00 P.M. & 9:00 A.M.

Duration: 10 minutes

Topics: Surprise Medical Bills

Description: Jersey Matters and host Larry Mendte travel to Trenton, New Jersey to talk to State Senator Joe Vitale of Middlesex County about surprise medical bills. The problem is with emergency and inadvertent billing. A patient goes to their in-network doctor or hospital thinking their insurance will cover the cost of their visit and/or procedure. However the patient gets a bill because another doctor or specialist who took part in the procedure was out of network. The patient is responsible and at no fault of their own. Senator Vitale wants to pass legislation that would allow an arbitrator to determine a fair amount for the provider to charge and for the insurance company to pay, and therefore cease billing the customer for the balance.

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Program: *Another Thing 151*

Date: March 19th & 20th, 2016

Time: 5:30 P.M. & 9:30 A.M.

Duration: 10 minutes

Topics: FBI & Encryption

Description: Correspondent Ellen Kolodziej talks national security vs. privacy with lawyer Rick Grimaldi who thinks FBI vs. Apple was the most important case in the country at the time. Rick says the public is split down the middle on this issue and we have to find a balance act to allow both privacy and law enforcement to do their job. Larry continues the conversation with David Opderbeck, a Seton Hall University law professor. Professor Opderbeck says the FBI had proper legal authority to order Apple to help them unlock the phone. However he does not take a stand or pick a side. The professor then goes on to explain how they had the proper authority to do so.

Program: *Another Thing 148*

Date: February 27th & 28th, 2016

Time: 5:30 P.M. & 9:30 A.M.

Duration: 3 minutes

Topics: Alzheimer's Disease

Description: Correspondent Dawn Stensland-Mendte talks to Dr. Carol Lippa, who says an Alzheimers pill is possible, and that researchers are very close. Dr. Lippa goes on to explain how the pill would work. Dawn also speaks with Clair Day, Senior Vice-President of Alzheimer's Association. Clair goes into detail about what options there are for support and information.

Program: *Jersey Matters 141*

Date: January 30th & 31st, 2016

Time: 5:00 P.M. & 9:00 A.M.

Duration: 5 minutes

Topic: Poverty

Description: Chief researchers Allan Lichtenstein & Shivi Prasad from the Poverty Research Institute of New Jersey join host Larry Mendte to discuss the poverty rates in New Jersey. There are approximately 2.8 million people living in poverty, or about one-third of all New Jersey residents, including 800,000 children. The federal poverty level is an inadequate measuring stick for New Jersey because of New Jersey's high cost of living.