



WBOS 92.9 FM
Public Affairs Programming
First quarter, 2015

Compiled by George Knight
WBOS Public Affairs Director

Greater Boston Radio, Inc.
WBOS-FM is licensed in Brookline Massachusetts

WBOS-FM

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The following is the **Quarterly Issues Report** for **Radio 92.9/WBOS-Boston** for the First quarter of 2015.

The report includes a synopsis of programs of importance and public service announcements, which aired from January 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015.

WBOS has identified the following issues of importance to its community of listeners:

- **Public Safety**
- **Racism / Race Relations**
- **Public Health / Mental Health**
- **Health Care**
- **Economy, including Taxes**
- **Education / Parenting Issues**

SUNDAY MORNING RADIO 92.9 PUBLIC AFFAIRS LINEUP

6:00-6:30AM *Greater Boston Today* – a weekly look at issues affecting our listening audience, consisting of interviews and Public Service announcements, produced and hosted by George Knight. Length: 30:00

6:30-7:00AM *Viewpoints* – a weekly magazine style program that addresses a wide variety of issues of concern to our listening audience. Length: 30:00

IMPORTANT ISSUES

Here's a sampling of how WBOS covered important issues during the First quarter of 2015:

PUBLIC SAFETY

- February 22, 2015: Greater Boston Today: To say we have received a lot of snow this winter is a gross understatement. It is been a winter like most of us can't remember, and with a new major snowstorm upon us we thought it would be a good idea to check in with Peter judge of the Massachusetts emergency management agency. Peter talked about ways to **prepare for a big snowstorm**, supplies that you need in your home, and what to do when you find yourself in the middle of a blizzard. He talked about some of the dangers that can come with a heavy snowfall, including damage to the roof, and blocked vents that can cause carbon monoxide to get into the living space. He talked about safe responses to loss of electricity, loss of heat, and what people can do to help out their neighbors. 15:00.
- March 8, 2015: Greater Boston Today: With the tremendous amount of snow that has fallen the season, and the frigid temperatures, we keep hearing about the **dangers of ice dams and roofs collapsing from excessive snow**. We have also been hearing about people getting injured trying to deal with those ice dams, and the excessive snow on roofs. We brought in builder Bramwell Young, to explain to us exactly what an ice dam is, and why it's a dangerous thing to have on the roof of your house. He talked about ways they can be prevented, and what role the design of a roof has on whether or not ice dams become a major problem. He also discussed recent incidents of people falling off roofs and getting into trouble while trying to clear them, and offered help on safe ways to deal with excessive snow on the roof. 15:00
- February 22, 2015: Greater Boston Today: This winter has been tough enough for those of us who have a home to go back to every night, but the **dangers facing the homeless population** of Boston have grown exponentially. We checked in with Sue Marsh, Executive Director of Rosie's Place, who went over how extreme weather affects the homeless, talked about what Rosie's Place is doing to help, and gave information on other resources that are available around Boston. She went over ways the public can help in making sure Boston's homeless population stays safe during winter, and talked about the very real threat of hypothermia. 15:00

- January 11, 2015: Viewpoints: Super Storm Sandy was a devastating event that caused death, destruction and billions of dollars in property damage in its wake. One fact that was brought out during the onslaught of that huge hurricane was the need to update our nation's weather **forecasting and emergency management systems**. We talk to a journalist and author who conducted research on the storm, the systems that tracked it and found out how our weather forecasting, tracking and evacuation protocols and equipment need to be modernized to deal with the extreme weather that climate change will bring us in the future. Guest: Kathryn Miles, journalist and author of "Super Storm: Nine days inside Hurricane Sandy," 15:00

RACISM / RACE RELATIONS

- January 18, 2015: Greater Boston Today: It is a very tense time in our country in regard to race relations. The problem has been compounded with the recent incidents in Staten Island and Ferguson Missouri. The need for understanding the causes of racial tension is even greater. We spoke with Dr. Pamela Lightsey of Boston University to get background on the **relationship between American communities and law enforcement** in the United States. She talked about ways that both sides can work to make it less of a contentious relationship. She went over the ways in general that race relations have improved, and the many areas that still need a lot of work. 15:00
- January 25, 2015: Greater Boston Today: The tragic incidents in Ferguson, MO, Staten Island, and Los Angeles have made the need for understanding more about the relationship between the African-American community and police critical. One of the major issues has been the practice of **racial profiling** by law-enforcement. We talked with legal expert Paul Batista about where guidelines for racial profiling stand, and how recent rulings by the US Attorney General have changed what Police departments can and cannot do in the course of law-enforcement. 15:00

PUBLIC HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH

- January 11, 2015: Greater Boston Today: The news headlines continue to make it very apparent that we are dealing with a substantial **opiate addiction** problem in Massachusetts. There are many reasons for this, and they include prescribing of opiate painkillers, and the availability of illegal opiates that are both potent and relatively inexpensive. We learned more about how serious the problem is by speaking with Joanne

Peterson, founder of the organization Learn to Cope. Joanne talked about her family's experience with opiate addiction. She discussed how people fall into the trap of opiate addiction, how they can overcome it, and what resources are available. 15:00

- March 22, 2015: Greater Boston Today: **Suicide** is an issue that is not easy to bring up in conversation, and yet is so important to talk about. We took some time to speak with Bob Gebbia, CEO of the American Foundation for Suicide prevention. Bob help us understand what drives someone to suicide, and what resources are available to help prevent it. He went over some statistics on just how prevalent the problem of suicide is. He also talked about resources for families of suicide victims, and ways that families can be on the lookout for signs that someone has suicidal thoughts. 15:00
- March 15, 2015: Viewpoints: Many people remain in bad situations because they are afraid to quit, but they shouldn't. Our guest says that if you take the time to carefully plan just how and when you'll walk out the door, it's easier to deal with the anxiety, fear and depression that can follow such a big decision. We'll hear about steps anyone can take – and those they shouldn't – when it's time to quit and move on. Guests: Peg Streep writes non-fiction, is a blogger at Psychology Today.com and the author of the book, "**Quitting: Why we fear it, and why we shouldn't**, in life, love and work," now out in paperback. 15:00
- March 15, 2015: Viewpoints: A few weeks ago, veteran news anchor, Brian Williams, was suspended from his job on the Nightly News because he had embellished a story about his involvement in an event in the Iraq War. Did he purposely lie? Or could it have been a matter of "misremembering"? We talk to a psychologist and a news veteran about the issue of **compulsive lying**, how it can happen and what the future may hold for Williams. Guests: Dr. Frank Farley, psychologist, professor at Temple University in Philadelphia and a former president of the American Psychological Association; Al Primo, creator of the "Eyewitness News" format for television; producer of *Teen Kids News* and a the recipient of an Emmy, a Peabody Award and an Edward R. Murrow Lifetime Achievement Award, among many others. 15:00
- March 29, 2015: Viewpoints: We're always hearing about how everyone is stressed these days, that we have too much to do and too many people asking for a moment – or more! – Of our time. What can we do to keep our bosses happy, our clients' needs fulfilled and ourselves from pulling out our hair? Extreme stress is a real problem. We talk to two men who have found that **meditating** can help workers become more productive,

less stressed and happier overall. Guests: David Gelles, business reporter, NY Times, author of “Mindful Work: How meditation is changing business from the inside out.” Allan Lokos, founding and guiding teacher of the Community Meditation Center in NYC, author of “Through the Flames: Overcoming disaster through compassion, patience and determination.” 15:00

- March 1, 2015: Viewpoints: Millions of Americans are addicted to alcohol and drugs, and many of them end up unemployed, broken away from their families and homeless. We talk to a psychologist about the causes of addiction, and why some people are more likely to fall to it than others, and find out how an author who is battling **alcohol and drug addiction** made his journey to sobriety, and the lessons he learned on the way. Guests: Ryan LaLumiere, psychologist, Assistant Prof. in the Psychology Dept., University of Iowa, and a specialist on addiction; Bob Allison, recovering addict, author of “Saved by the Prince of Peace: Dungeon to Sky.” 15:00
- February 22, 2015: Viewpoints: Conflict is part of life, but it doesn’t have to be a negative experience. We talk to two experts on conflict about how to make disagreements with a spouse or other family member, or with colleagues at work a positive and productive learning experience. Guests: Dana Caspersen, mediator, teacher and author of, “Changing the Conversation: The 17 principles of **conflict resolution**.” Dr. Judith Wright, author, coach, corporate consultant and founder of the Wright Graduate University for the Realization of Human Potential, where she also teaches. 15:00
- January 25, 2015: Viewpoints: Sometimes talking about serious subjects, even with friends and family, can cause **anxiety**, arguments and bad feelings. But just as Mary Poppins said, “...A spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down,” humor can make the discussion of serious subjects go down easier. Our guests are two very talented and funny people who use humor, satire and irony to make their points about women in science, and the immigrants’ experience. Guests: Aasif Mandvi, actor, award-winning playwright, cast member on Comedy Central’s “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart,” and author of the book, “No Land’s Man,”; Megan Amram, comedian, writer on NBC’s comedy “Parks and Recreation,” and author of “Science...for Her!” 15:00

HEALTH CARE

- February 8, 2015: Greater Boston Today: Open enrollment is going on

- now for Massachusetts residents who want to sign up for the **Affordable Care Act** (Obama Care) and we thought it wise to check in with Jason Lefferts of the Massachusetts Health Connector. Jason went over what open enrollment means, what the ACA offers, and how Massachusetts differs from other states in what's available to residents. He went over the process of enrollment, and gave deadline dates for when open enrollment will be over. 15:00
- March 1, 2015: Greater Boston Today: Health care is tricky enough for those of us with steady jobs and incomes, but for the homeless population it takes it to whole other level. We spoke with Dr. David Munson from Boston **Health Care for the Homeless**. He talked about what challenges homeless people face in making sure they stay healthy, and what the public can do to help. He also talked about Boston's annual Homeless Census, which Dr. Munson recently helped out with. He talked about how the homeless picture has changed in Boston, and discussed the ramifications of the recent shutting down of a major homeless shelter on Long Island in the city of Boston. 15:00
 - February 1, 2015: Viewpoints: It's amazing that in the 21st century, science knows so much about all of the organs of the body save one: the brain. We talk to a scientist and author about the unbelievable abilities of the brain, how memories help us predict the future, where dreams are located, how brain injury can sometimes make someone a genius, and how research into **brain function** is opening up new areas of understanding the mind and its possibilities. Guest: Dr. Michio Kaku, physicist, professor of theoretical physics City College and City University of New York, co-founder of string theory, and author of *The Future of the Mind: The scientific quest to understand, enhance, and empower the mind*. 15:00

ECONOMY / TAXES

- March 15, 2015: Greater Boston Today: With the April 15th **tax deadline** getting closer, we thought it would be helpful to check in with tax expert Andrew Schwartz to make sure we have our ducks in a row. He talked about what we need to be aware of as we do our tax returns – or have them done – to avoid paying more than we need to in taxes. He went over deductions, how healthcare expenses factor in, and how the tax code is different this year. He also gave very helpful information for those who have already done their taxes, and went over some things to be thinking about for the next tax year. 15:00

- January 25, 2015: Greater Boston Today: If you are trying to buy a home or a car you know how crucial it is to have a decent **credit rating**. There's a lot that is unknown about what these credit ratings are, how they come about, and how you can fix a bad credit rating. We spoke with financial expert Ross Kenneth Urken about just how much weight these credit ratings have when it comes to getting approved for a loan. Ross talked about things you can do to make sure that your credit rating isn't damaged, and traps that people can fall in that they may not be aware of, that could lead to a bad credit rating. He went over common sense ways to keep your credit rating in good stead, and also give out information on how to learn more about your particular credit rating. Ross also discussed how use of credit cards can affect your credit rating in positive and negative ways. 15:00

EDUCATION / PARENTING ISSUES

- March 29, 2015: Greater Boston Today: School is something many of us take for granted. For many of us, the traditional role and set up of school works just fine. However, not the truth is that not every student responds well to the “traditional” school setup. We talked with Jill Walker, who along with two friends founded her own school. She discussed the very complicated process of starting a school from the ground up. She talked about different **ways that children learn in school**, and different strategies a school can use to get the most out of kids who may not respond well to the traditional school setting and curriculum. 15:00
- February 22, 2015: Viewpoints: All of us drew pictures as children, but as we grew older, we saw that we either did or did not have real talent. Those of us who were *not* skilled gave it up and went on to do other things. Our guest says that we shouldn't have dropped the pencil or paintbrush, and He'll tell us how we can all **benefit from drawing** on a daily basis – both in developing skill in art, and creativity and confidence in other parts of our lives. Guests: Danny Gregory, artist, teacher, founder of the Sketchbook Skool, and author of “Art Before Breakfast: A zillion ways to be more creative no matter how busy you are.” 15:00
- January 25, 2015: Viewpoints: Kids are always on their phones, tablets or computers – even when they're sitting across from one another at the lunch table! Does **communicating via screens** hurt kids? Guests: Patricia Greenfield, Distinguished Prof. of Psychology, UCLA, Dir. of the Children's Digital Media Center, Los Angeles, CA Susan Pinker, psychologist, journalist, author of “The Village Effect” 15:00

- February 8, 2015: Viewpoints: Civics classes in many grade schools and high schools aren't the same as they were back 20 years ago, when teachers lectured on "how a bill becomes a law" to a roomful of bored students. These days, kids are more likely to discuss and debate some of the most pressing issues of the day. We talk to two researchers about how some schools are **teaching students how to debate correctly**, how discussion of hot topics can foster understanding of diverse points of view, and the long-term benefits for students who engage in thoughtful, civil, debate. Guests: Diana E. Hess, Senior VP of the Spencer Foundation, Prof. of Social Studies Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Paula McAvoy, Assoc. Program Officer of the Spencer Foundation and philosopher of education. Both guests are co-authors of the book, *The Political Classroom: Evidence and ethics in democratic education*. 15:00

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WBOS encourages non-profit groups to send material related to their organization to the radio station. **WBOS** makes every effort to publicize announcements on behalf of these groups.

The following is a list of public service announcement topics aired within the **Greater Boston Today** shows during the First quarter of 2015. **WBOS** also airs additional public service announcements at various times throughout each week.

PSAs run during Greater Boston Today First quarter 2015

Autism education	High blood pressure
Belle of the Ball program	Honor our Veterans
Big Brother Big Sister	Humane Society Land Trust
Buzz Off for Kids with Cancer	Hypothermia awareness / homeless
Buzzed driving prevention	Kids and nature
Caregiver Assistance	Kimball alumni college workshop
Child Fund	Lead poisoning prevention
Child passenger safety	Library of Congress
College Access	Lifelong Literacy
Compact fluorescent recycling	National Campaign for Foreclosure Prevention
Credit card fraud awareness	Pan Mass Challenge
Don't drive buzzed	Pet Plates
Dangers of opiate addiction	Radiation facts
Doctors of the World / Ebola	Ready for college
Don't text & drive	Recycling
Double Play program	Red Cross blood donation
Emergency wireless alerts	Right Turn Recovery / Berklee College
Energy efficient light bulbs	Rosie's Place
Energy Savers	Safe food handling
Fight Arthritis Pain	Small Business Association
Financial Planning	Smoking cessation tips
Firearm Safety	Stroke early warning signs
Food safety education	Suicide prevention
Health care for the disabled	Women and heart issues
Healthier cooking oils	

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

WBOS is always looking for opportunities to help the community and worthy organizations.

Below is an example of ways **WBOS** was involved in community events during the First quarter of 2013.

- During Q1 of 2015, Radio 92.9 was a sponsor of the Pan Mass Challenge. The PMC donates 100 percent of money raised by participants to cancer care and research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Radio 92.9 provided announcements over the air in promotion of the event.