

DX Corner for June 30th, 2026 =====W2SRA

Settled in last Tuesday night after sunset in Oswego County and dialed around the AM & SW bands. MW conditions were not the best early on, the dial was pretty quiet, esp below 1000 khz.

June 23rd – Oswego County

21:20 – 1370 WKMC Roaring Spring PA with Classic Country music – ‘Hank FM’, weak but copyable with 38 watts of night power.

21:35 - 920 CKNX Wingham Ontario with country music, 1kw, but also heard Hudson Valley Renegades baseball game underneath, turns out it was from WGHQ Kingston NY with 36 watts night power – 165 miles TX to RX.

23:00 – 5450 USB – RAF Volmet weather from Inskip, Lancashire UK – female voice with automated military aviation weather. Nice copy!

23:15 – 5910 AM - Alcaravan Radio – Punta Lleras, Columbia with american music and spoken word program in English. 1Kw domestic service!

23:25 – 6065 AM – Adventist World Radio – Talata-volonondry, Madagascar - female in unknown language

23:30 – 6130 AM - Radio Europe – Alphen aan den Rijn, Netherlands – pop music program in English – 1kw – weak with QRM but managed to pull it out. 1Kw!

00:15 – 1440 WMKM Inkster MI with automated Urban Gospel music ‘Gospel 1440’ – 1kw, well over local WSGO.

00:30 – 1300 WOOD Grand Rapids MI with Joe Pagliarulo Show to bottom hour ID ‘Newsradio 1300 & 106.9”, 20kw - mixing with WAVZ New Haven CT (ESPN Sports) , and unid spanish station.

00:45 – 1380 WSYB Rutland VT with classic hits “Rutland’s Greatest Hits FM 100.1” , 25 watts, 170 miles.

01:00 – 1510 WOCQ Salem NJ – Daytimer station on at night, Spanish contemporary music “Maxima [104.1]” mixing with WLAC Nashville - verified via webstream. 2.5kw

All with the Mlite-880 and 100’ long wire

The BBC permanently shut down its historic Radio 4 Long Wave (LW) service today on June 30, 2026 after discontinuing regular programming on June 27th. The long wave service from three transmitters in England and Scotland on 198khz had been in service since the 1930’s. Programming ended early on June 27th with the shipping forecast, a long running 15 minute weather broadcast for all mariners in waters of both the northeastern Atlantic, as well as intercoastal waters of the UK, along with current conditions from coastal and island weather stations.

This is a continuation of the BBC’s effort to shutdown what they deem “outdated analog technology” entirely, in favor of digitally delivered content via the web, and DAB radio along with existing FM transmitters. The BBC is also shutting down MW transmitters carrying Radio 5 Live, the national talk

radio network, which operates primarily on 693 and 909khz from multiple locations around the UK. The first transmitter was closed in March 2026, and more are slated to be silenced this week, and the remained by the end of 2027. Commercial broadcaster TalkSport is also turning off it's MW transmitters, most of which operate on 1053 and 1089 khz in 2027.

I was actually able to hear Radio 5 on 909 once, oddly while driving up the Northway on a cold winter night around midnight, and it was that same night I was able to hear TalkSport on 1089. Both had the giveaway 1khz het, being off frequency from North American stations. That was the only time I ever received any of those stations here in NY, but I used to be able hear Virgin Radio on 1215 from London on occasion, as well as other European MW station like 1206 near Paris France and the venerable old NRK transmitter on 1314 khz from Norway with it's 1.2megawatts of power, using a barefoot Realistic DX-440 back in the 1990's. 1215 London was shutdown in 2023, 1206 from France was closed at the end of 2015, and NRK Norway has closed all of it's MW stations down by 2017, migrating all of it's radio services to DAB. However, there is one privately owned MW in Norway, operating from the historic Bergen Kringcaster transmitter site with 800 watts on 1314 khz.

Last week, there was a question posed about the low power channel 6 transmitter near downtown Syracuse, and whether it co-existed with full power Channel 5, WTVH from their big tower up in Sentinel Heights. The answer is yes, both stations co-existed in the analog TV days when Ch 6 came on the air, originally as a religious broadcaster in the 1990's. That operation was converted to digital TV when the FCC outlawed analog LPTV's and translators. Channel 6, which is now WQSE-LD (which is short for 'Cuse, the nickname of Syracuse, and operating in ATSC 3.0 with additional authorization for FM/6 operation, has been on the air since the beginning of 2024. The station is owned by the same company the operates several commercial broadcast stations including "The Dinosaur", the regional oldies station, 96.5 The Beat, and Fox Sports Radio WOLF on 1490. The WQSE-LD antenna is located on the WOLF tower near downtown Syracuse, and the FM side of it was originally used to rebroadcast WOLF AM on 87.7. The new music format only started up this Spring, is fully automated, so it doesn't cost anything to run it, hence the current lack of advertising, though I expect that to change. For those wondering, analog FM/6 operation, which is possible with ATSC 3.0 transmission, can operate as a commercial venture.

Syracuse has long been a confusing market to follow, as FM translators were more widely used there since the late 80's and 1990's, due to some terrain shadowing issues in the city proper, and rimshot signals desiring a cleaner metro signal.

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