WJZ-TV

Baltimore, Maryland CBS Television Licenses LLC

QUARTERLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS REPORT

Fourth Quarter October 1- December 31, 2020

Station WJZ-TV, licensed to CBS Television Licenses LLC, is responsive to the principal issues in its community of license, Baltimore, Maryland on a continuing basis. A variety of program elements, including regularly scheduled news and public affairs programming, reports on breaking news events, documentaries, specials, and public service announcements of concern to the community are included within our regular programming service. WJZ-TV's coverage of news stories, our employees' participation in community affairs, and regular interviews with community leaders have led to the determination that the issues listed are ones of importance to the Baltimore community. Our most significant programming, which dealt with current community issues during the preceding three-month period, are set forth in this report. WJZ-TV broadcasts both locally produced and network programming. Although we include only local programs herein, WJZ-TV also broadcasts several network broadcasts including FACE THE NATION, 60 MINUTES, CBS REPORTS and 48 HOURS.

PROGRAM INDEX

CONSUMER WATCH WJZ reporters cover consumer interest topics. These reports air in the 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm newscasts.

HEALTHWATCH WJZ's reporters discuss health issues and interview experts and patients to deliver information on the latest advances in health for our 4pm, 5pm and 6pm, 7pm newscasts.

SPECIAL REPORTS Locally produced special reports, focusing on community issues, local lifestyle trends and local personality profiles. These air in the 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm and 11pm newscasts.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OUTREACH Relevant projects launched by WJZ and community organizations to benefit area residents...

LOCAL POLITICS WJZ News

- 10/1: State election officials are also warning voters to pay close attention to all of the instructions on MAIL-IN ballots.
- 10/5: Maryland voters will decide if sports betting will be legalized in this state as it appears on the November ballot.
- 10/6: Governor Hogan responds on twitter to President Trump ending negotiations on a new covid stimulus bill.
- 10/8: Less than a month from election day, more than 149,000 Marylander's have returned their mail in ballots. That is only a fraction of the more than one million that were sent out.
- 10/12: Governor Hogan is apparently well liked. The latest Goucher College poll finds he has a 71 percent approval rating in Maryland. Many polled say they believe the state is headed in the right direction.

- 10/13: Today is the final day to register to vote online for the November election. You can still register to vote during early voting in person or if you vote in person on election day.
- 10/16: Governor Hogan voted by mail and we now know he voted for the late President Ronald Reagan. Hogan and President Trump have sparred multiple times this year over the federal response to the pandemic and national protests.
- 10/16: Rapper Kanye West wants to remind Marylander's that he is an official write in candidate in our state. He sent out a tweet saying 'Vote Kanye' with a link to the state board of elections website explaining how to vote for a write in candidate.
- 10/22: Baltimore County is adding 31 more drop boxes for the November election ballots. That's more than double the 13 boxes already out in the County.
- 10/22: Baltimore Mayoral candidates make their pitch to voters at a virtual forum ahead of the November election. Community leaders submitted questions as part of a virtual forum that was hosted by the NAACP Baltimore branch.
- 10/24: Early voting in Maryland begins today. Eligible voters can cast ballots at any authorized voting location in their jurisdiction. In Maryland, roughly 80 early voting centers will be open from 7am until 8pm through November 2nd. A record number of Marylander's turned out breaking the record set in 2016.
- 10/25-11/2: In the time leading up to election day WJZ continued to update viewers on early voting numbers here in Maryland while also promoting election night coverage.
- 11/2: More than 2 million Marylander's have already voted either in person or by mail. That's record turnout for early voting in Maryland and it's expected to continue into election day.
- 11/2: The three candidates running for Mayor of Baltimore make their final pitches to voters ahead of election day. The race is down to Democrat nominee and City Council President Brandon Scott, Republican nominee Pastor Shannon Wright and Independent Bob Wallace.
- 11/3: Local election coverage with winners in all the races people are watching like Baltimore Mayor, 7th Congressional seat, Sports betting, and other congressional districts around the state.
- 11/3: Local election coverage throughout the night during network election coverages.
- 11/4: Demonstrators all around the country and here in Maryland rally demanding that states count all of the legal ballots cast in the election.
- 11/8: Governor Hogan says he hasn't seen any evidence of widespread voter fraud and that President Trump should concede. He said on CNN he thinks it's time to get behind the winner of the race and to respect the democratic process.
- 11/13: There may soon be an easier way to test for Coronavirus antibodies and it's all thanks to a new test developed by researchers at Johns Hopkins.
- 11/16: Students and teachers all over Maryland are getting some of the PPE they need thanks to a local company. Hardwide LLC got a \$100,000 grant from the state back in May to churn out 200,000 face shields. They are made with specialty foam that resembles a sponge and are designed to last 7 years.
- 11/23: City Council President Elect Nick Mosby says traditional inaugural festivities are canceled saying it would be irresponsible. The incoming council members are now coming up with an alternative swearing-in ceremony for December 10th. It will likely be something that is virtual and not open to the public.

12/8: Longtime Maryland lawmaker Senator Paul Sarbanes is remembered. The democrat passed away in Baltimore at the age of 87. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1970.

EDUCATION

WJZ News

- 10/1: Bowie State and UMD adding courses on the fight against social injustice as a tougher hate crime law goes into effect in Maryland.
- 10/5: The Anne Arundel School Board decided elementary school students will return to the classroom next month. Meeting tonight to talk about bringing school sports back.
- 10/7: The Anne Arundel County School Board votes in favor of a hybrid reopening plan for elementary school students. Students will be split into two groups and attend class in person two days a week and do three days online.
- 10/8: The Naval Academy will have a longer winter break than originally planned. There will be no spring break this year and commissioning week will be held right after final exams. The later start date will allow for the brigade to return in phases.
- 10/9: Students in Howard County will continue with virtual learning until at least next semester. The Howard County Superintendent says the district will stick to its original plan approved by the board back in July.
- 10/12: The University of Maryland is adding a new 2 credit course for the upcoming spring semester. "Designing your life after college" will help juniors and seniors prepare for working life by teaching them practical skills. Most of the class will be focused on financial literacy.
- 10/13: Baltimore County teacher's union holds rally outside of a school board meeting with their concerns about bringing students and teachers back into the classroom.
- 10/14: The Carroll County school board delays the start of hybrid learning at high schools until November 12th. Elementary and middle school will continue forward with plans to start hybrid learning on October 19th.
- 10/14: Baltimore City schools will start bringing more students back into the classroom in November. 25 schools which have demonstrated that they can safely educate the students inside the buildings will be opening their doors.
- 10/14: Amazon donates \$100,000 to The University of Maryland. The money will go to the college's engineering school for diversity initiatives and robotics programming.
- 10/15: Less than a day after Baltimore City School leaders announced some students will be back in the classroom in November, the Teachers' Union has a stern response. A virtual town hall was held where the district says it's supplying millions of dollars in PPE and will enforce social distancing and keep students in strict classroom 'pods.'
- 10/19: Carroll County schools partially reopen today. Elementary and Middle schools will start with a hybrid plan, which involves some in-classroom work with virtual learning from home. The hybrid plan for high schools will begin next month. Some Harford County students return to the classroom today as well.

- 10/21: Parents in Baltimore County hold a rally calling for schools to reopen. They want to know if their kids will eventually be back in the classroom even with a hybrid model.
- 10/22: Dorchester County schools rolls back reopening plan due to rise of Coronavirus cases in the county. School buildings were closed and they will return to their phase one virtual learning schedule.
- 10/26: The Maryland State Board of Education voted symbolically to encourage local districts to reopen schools using the guidance put forth in August. Next month, 14 school systems will be in some type of a hybrid instruction model. Districts across the board are facing many of the same challenges.
- 10/28: Many teachers in Anne Arundel County are demanding a written commitment to safety before returning to the classrooms. The current reopening plan would allow kindergarten students to go back to school by November 16, with students grades 3 through 5 scheduled to return two weeks later. Students would attend classes in-person two days a week.
- 10/29: Baltimore City schools holds a virtual forum where school leaders walked through the safety measures they have in place as schools get ready to reopen. But many teachers and advocates are worried the district is moving too fast.
- 11/2: Johns Hopkins plans to welcome back undergraduate students to campus this spring for both living and learning. The university will require students be tested twice a week and many faculty, staff and graduate students will be subject to mandatory weekly testing. Mask wearing, physical distancing and symptom-monitoring will also be required.
- 11/2: 44 Baltimore City schools are reopening their doors mid-November. School officials showed off classrooms demonstrating how schools will work to keep students safe during a virtual town hall meeting. School buildings will have air filters, desks will be socially distanced with shields and temperatures will be taken at the door.
- 11/5: Two local school districts make changes to their reopening plans as Coronavirus cases rise in Maryland. Baltimore County schools will not reopen four of its separate day schools as planned in November. The Anne Arundel County school board decides not to move ahead with a hybrid plan in November and continue with virtual learning for the remainder of the semester.
- 10/5: The University of Maryland is going all virtual after Thanksgiving break. School officials made this decision as Covid cases surge. The university says students who travel home for the holiday should stay home.
- 10/8: Due to rising Coronavirus cases St. Mary's County public schools will not hold in-person instruction this week. In Allegany County on Monday all student will return to remote learning because of a shortage in staff due to the Coronavirus.
- 11/9: Harford County students will return to all virtual learning starting Friday. Coronavirus cases in that county continue to rise with the positivity rate above 5 percent in Maryland.
- 11/10: Baltimore City schools scaling back reopening plans. The district will now open 27 schools instead of the original 44 schools in light of rising Coronavirus cases.
- 11/12: Carroll County schools welcome back high school students today for in person learning. They will begin an approved hybrid plan that allows students to return two days a week in established cohorts.
- 11/13: Because of the spike in Coronavirus cases all undergraduate classes at the University of Maryland are going virtual. Classes were initially supposed to go virtual after thanksgiving but that is starting earlier. School

officials urge students to make plans to return home and get a test before leaving campus.

11/19: Carroll County schools goes back to virtual learning today. This is because of the rising number of Coronavirus cases in that county along with staffing challenges. The school board will revisit the issue at a meeting on December 2^{nd} .

11/19: Baltimore City schools will pause in-person learning and meal sites the week after thanksgiving. Students will learn virtually during that time. In-person learning and meal sites will pick back up December 7th.

11/25: One of Maryland's largest school districts is crippled by a cyber attack. Classes in Baltimore County were forced to be canceled and teachers and administrators were locked out of accounts.

12/8: The Maryland State Board of Education met virtually to discuss the next steps in school reopening plans. The state's superintendent of schools says new data research shows schools are not super spreader sites of Coronavirus. WJZ reports she's calling for students to return to the classroom.

12/9: The first two weeks of classes at The University of Maryland are set to begin on January 25th and they will be held entirely online. The university will then shift to a hybrid learning model but only about 25 percent of classes will be held in-person. All students are required to submit negative Covid tests before coming back to campus.

CONSUMER: HOUSING

WJZ News

10/8: Governor Larry Hogan and the Attorney General announce that nearly \$12 Million is being directed to the Maryland legal services corporation to provide legal services for families facing eviction and other housing insecurity issues.

10/24: Douglass Homes Resident Advisory Board and Peoples Power Assembly demonstrates to show the Baltimore housing authority their opposition to evictions during the pandemic.

11/23: Governor Hogan awards just over \$19 million dollars in Maryland eviction prevention partnership grants across 17 local jurisdictions. Baltimore City will receive \$2 million of that total with Baltimore County getting \$3 million.

12/29: The national moratorium on evictions expires in two days. Democratic lawmakers and housing advocates in Maryland are considering legislation to keep people in their homes.

CONSUMER: ECONOMY

WJZ News

10/5: Regal cinemas to temporarily close all of its theaters including locations in Hunt Valley, Bel Air, Laurel, Columbia, and Frederick Maryland.

10/6: Harford County helping people shop during the pandemic holding a libation trail. It features 10 stops including wineries, distilleries and breweries.

10/6: Maryland's 6 casinos reported nearly \$144 million in September which is more than this time last year.

10/8: One of Baltimore's most historic streets will be transformed into a temporary outdoor mall. On October 17th the downtown partnership will host the Charles Street Promenade to allow for outdoor shopping, dining and strolling.

10/8: Annapolis is hosting a sidewalk sale on October 10th. Stores along several streets will be putting out items so people can shop outside.

10/13: More relief is on the way for small businesses in Baltimore County. County Executive Johnny Olszewski announced a \$2.2 million fund to reimburse restaurants and food service places who bought safety precautions due to Covid-19.

10/19: Governor Hogan announces a new \$10 million dollar initiative to help farmers in Maryland. Under the program the Maryland Department of Agriculture will give direct \$1,000 dollar payments per poultry house and up to five houses per farm. It will also offer a 15 percent payment to any Maryland farmer who got federal funding the first time around.

10/22: Governor Hogan announces he will use \$250 million from Maryland's rainy day fund for small businesses hit by the pandemic. He is also calling for all 24 jurisdictions in the state to move to the third phase of reopening.

10/29: The Holiday Inn at the Inner Harbor is closing because of the pandemic. The hotel opened in 1964. The lack of conventions happening and the loss of revenue from Oriole's fans this season played a major roll in the closing.

11/10: Thousands are struggling to pay utility bills during the pandemic but next week companies in Maryland can start shutting off services. Back in October utility companies started issuing termination notices for customers behind on payments.

11/10: Governor Hogan announces the state will go back to 50 percent indoor dining after a 7 day surge in Coronavirus cases in Maryland.

12/8: The pandemic continues to devastate the restaurant industry especially here in Maryland. The state's restaurant and food service industry has lost approximately 1.4 billion dollars in sales and has seen as many as 150,000 employees laid off or furloughed. WJZ reports on how one local non-profit is offering some relief.

12/9: Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott announces new Coronavirus restrictions. Starting Friday at 5pm all indoor and outdoor dining is suspended, carryout can continue.

CONSUMER: JOBS

WJZ News

10/1-10/31: For the month of October WJZ reported on unemployment numbers weekly for the state of Maryland.

10/7: Baltimore City Mayor Jack Young announces more than 60 Department of Public Works employees will be laid off and meter readings will now be in the hands of a third party contractor.

10/8: How airline workers at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport are left in limbo while waiting for covid relief for airlines. Thousands of workers face furloughs and layoffs.

11/2: The Gaithersburg based company that has been working on a Covid vaccine is expanding in Montgomery

County and will add at least 400 new jobs. Novavax says it's planning to build a new research and developing, manufacturing and office facility to accommodate its growing vaccine orders.

11/5: All temporary employees with the Baltimore City sanitation department have been moved to full time positions. Those workers will get an almost 6 dollar an hour pay increase plus health care benefits. All other current full time workers will receive a 500 dollar bonus.

12/7: The pandemic continues to have a devastating impact on the airline industry. Southwest airlines recently announced it's planning furloughs for the first time in the nearly 50 year history of the company. WJZ is at BWI Airport with the possible impacts for employees there.

ARTS & CULTURE

WJZ News

10/1: The BSO is back making music again after being forced to practice virtually. Now 8 musicians can practice together.

10/2: The Baltimore Museum of Art is giving away free art kits for kids.

10/9: The Baltimore Museum of Industry is opening its first ever outdoor exhibit. It's called women of steel and is about the female workers at the Bethlehem Steel Mill in Sparrows Point.

10/12: Jimmy Buffett is spotted in Annapolis and gives an impromtu concert to the Naval Academy sailing team.

10/15: Druid Hill Park to kick off its drive in movie series on October 24th. They will be playing 'Hocus Pocus' for \$10 a ticket.

11/5: Harford County has a new mural trail featuring 25 outdoor paintings. Each mural is painted by a regional artist and celebrates the unique culture, history and destinations found in the county.

11/9: The Maryland Zoo is getting into the Christmas spirit. It started to hang its lights for its annual Zoo lights event. You can either do a drive-thru experience for \$45 or walk thru for \$20. The event runs from November 20 to January 3.

11/24: The Baltimore Museum of Art and The Walters Art Museum have both decided to close down for the rest of the year citing the rise in Covid-19 cases.

12/20: The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra is bringing their holiday performance to audiences at home. WJZ reports on how you can see it.

Public Affairs Outreach (ASK JEANIE)

In October WJZ did a "Women of WJZ" Breast Cancer PSA with on air personalities Linh Bui, Denise Koch, Chelsea Ingram, Meg Mcnamara, Ava-joye Burnett, Nicole Baker, Rachael Cardin, and Kelsey Kushner encouraging women to sign up for LifeBridge Heath's Mammothon.

10/3 WJZ Anchor Max McGee appeared virtually in the Potomac River Chapter's Art Brunch.

10/8 WJZ Anchor Denise Koch appeared on Maryland Public Television's Teacher of the Year Awards show.

10/10 WJZ Anchor Denise Koch appeared in the University of Baltimore Virtual Gala.

10/16 WJZ Traffic reporter Kristy Breslin appeared at the boys and girls club of Harford and Cecil Counties drive-thru Halloween event.

10/18 WJZ Anchor Denise Koch appeared virtually in the Phi Beta Kappa Women's Sufferage Celebration.

10/20 WJZ Anchor Denise Koch appeared virtually in the Center Club's Viewpoints celebration of the 19th Amendment.

10/22 WJZ Anchor Denise Koch appeared virtually in the United Way's Women's Forum.

10/24 WJZ Traffic Reporter Kristy Breslin appeared virtually in the Harford House's "Ghouls and Ghosts" Fundraiser.

11/13 WJZ Traffic Reporter Kristy Breslin appeared virtually in the Crohns and Colitis Foundations You Can't Stop the Beat.

11/14 WJZ Traffic Reporter Kristy Breslin appeared virtually in Pathfinders for Autism Un-Gala.

11/19 WJZ Traffic Reporter Kristy Breslin appeared virtually in Harford Family House's purse auction.

11/1-11/30 WJZ Anchors Vic Carter, Nicole Baker, Rick Ritter, and Denise Koch appear in festival of trees PSA.

11/27-11/29 WJZ Anchors Bob Turk, Nicole Baker, and Rick Ritter emcee virtual festival of trees online portal.

12/1-12/31 WJZ Anchors Linh Bui and Tim Williams appeared in LifeBridge Health Mental Health PSA.

12/3 WJZ Anchor Denise Koch does a virtual interview with the new president of The University of Maryland Baltimore.

12/7 WJZ Reporter Rachael Cardin is guest speaker at Baltimore County Fire Department's PIO Training.

COMMUNITY

WJZ News

10/5: Baltimore County council takes steps to reform its police department by passing a series of changes after the death of George Floyd.

10/6: National night out which is usually held in August took place tonight, postponed due to the pandemic. Kelsey Kushner is live with a recap of events held across Maryland.

10/7: Carroll County gives the okay for trick or treating this Halloween. Officials say families should stay within their communities, social distance and children must wear masks with their Halloween costumes.

10/8: Baltimore City recreation and parks announces its fall 2020 plans for indoor and outdoor recreation programs and they begin next week.

10/15: Chick-fil-a celebrating its third annual pajama day which benefits Casey Cares. If you donate a pair of

new pajamas you'll get a digital offer for a free chicken sandwich. Casey Cares is a local non-profit which helps critically ill children.

10/18 Cancer survivors, family, and friends painted Mt. Airy pink as they drove their decorated cars through neighborhoods. It's the annual 'making strides against breast cancer' event. Making Strides Central Maryland is going virtual with a 5-k walk and scavenger hunt. WJZ is a proud sponsor for making strides against breast cancer.

10/19: The Baltimore City Police Department activates four new speed cameras in school zones. For the first 30 days drivers caught speeding will receive warnings. Speed cameras operate Monday through Friday from 6am to 8pm.

10/19: The Maryland Zoo is letting the public help name its newest family member. People can cast their vote for the name of the 6 week old chimp on the zoo's website.

10/24: Baltimore furniture company Anything Wood and Metal is helping with the school desk shortage. They are creating beautiful school desks out of the same reclaimed material they use for their custom furniture. To help offset the cost, they're selling larger desks. For every one purchased a school desk will be gifted to a Baltimore city student.

10/26: The Pratt library will start offering appointment only computers at three locations. People can sign up for a 45 minute appointment at either the Central, Southeast anchor or Pennsylvania Avenue branches.

10/28: Baltimore City will not resume recycling in November like originally planned. Curbside recycling halted in September and due to overwhelming demand for trash pickup and a shortage of workers DPW can't bring recycling pickup back at this time. They are expected to give another update December 15th.

10/29: The Baltimore Ravens team up with the Red Cross to encourage people to donate blood. A blood drive is being held at Mother's Grille in Federal Hill. This comes as the country deals with a blood shortage that experts worry could get worse at the height of flu season.

11/6: The Christmas village will not return to the inner harbor until next year. Organizers of the German style market say it was a difficult decision but it's in the best interest of everyone's safety. They say there is no way to make the village Covid-friendly.

11/9: Another honor for the late Baltimore sports super fan Mo Gaba. He's getting a street named after him here in Baltimore. Soon you'll see signs for Mo Gaba Way near Oriole Park and M&T Bank Stadium.

11/16: No fans will be allowed at this coming Sunday's ravens game. The team says due to the increase in Covid cases they believe it's the right decision to help protest everyone's health.

11/19: Former Baltimore Raven Ed Reed is making sure families have a thanksgiving meal. His foundation donated 250 meals to families at Booker T Washington Middle School. Reed has been supporting this school and its community for nearly 2 decades.

11/24: The Baltimore County public library is collecting toys and other items for the community. Now through December 8th you can donate new and unused toys, coats, gloves and scarves along with books and baby items.

11/24: The festival of trees is a crucial fundraising event for Kennedy Krieger Institute and this year it's going virtual. It typically raises over \$1 million dollars a year. There are 30 different trees to view this year. As part of our community connection WJZ is a proud sponsor of this event.

11/25: As Santa Claus gears up for his yearly trip around the world, he's had to get creative coming up with safe

ways to interact with children. WJZ caught up with the big man himself in Essex to find out how he's making his list and checking it twice all from a safe distance.

11/26: A local homeless shelter is helping senior citizens have a nice Thanksgiving. The BEA Gaddy Family Center in East Baltimore handed out bags of supplies and boxes of food to hundreds of seniors.

12/3: The 49th annual monument lighting will not be held in person, instead it will be virtual. Viewers can watch the monument lighting as well as musical performances and local celebrities on WJZ's holiday spectacular tonight.

12/16: Baltimore City cancels the New Year's Eve Spectacular due to Covid-19. But WJZ will still bring in the New Year with its own special New Year's Eve.

12/31: WJZ's New Year's Eve special takes place from 11pm to 12:30am. WJZ brings the celebration into your home with virtual fun, fireworks, and a much needed look ahead into the New Year.

HEALTH

WJZ News

10/1-10/31: For the entire month of October, WJZ reported on the Coronavirus pandemic in Maryland every day. Coverage included running an informational crawl in all of our newscasts with the daily update on the number of cases, hospitalizations, deaths, the positivity rate and how many people have tested negative.

10/7: Anne Arundel County medical center releases its 1,000th Covid patient. Caregivers lined up and clapped as she left the hospital following a one night stay.

10/8: The Baltimore County health department is holding a drive-thru flu shot clinic at the fairgrounds October 17 and 18.

10/9: A Baltimore City health department employee has died from Coronavirus. It's the first death in the department caused by Covid-19.

10/9: Two Baltimore County library branches are closing for the next week after employees test positive for Coronavirus. The Essex and Towson branches will get a deep cleaning and should reopen by Friday. Curbside service will continue as usual.

10/22: A new landmark study at the University of Maryland, School of Medicine found that COVID-19 patients taking a daily, low-dose aspirin to protect against cardiovascular disease significantly lowered the risk of death and complications from COVID-19. The study found that COVID-19 patients taking aspirin were nearly 50% less likely to die in the hospital and much less likely to be admitted to the ICU and put on a ventilator.

10/26: Maryland is getting more than 1.8 million rapid Covid tests. They are coming in from the department of health and human services and Governor Hogan will be in charge of where they go.

10/27: Five employees at Baltimore City's Wabash Courthouse test positive for Coronavirus. Union officials are calling for a 72 hour closure of the building and a slew of other safety precautions. Those five employees are now in quarantine and contact tracing is underway.

10/29: It's about to get tougher to get a Coronavirus test in Baltimore City. The test site at Pimlico is closing. City officials say this comes as they get ready to shift testing operations to prepare for winter weather.

- 11/1-11/30: For the entire month of November, WJZ reported on the Coronavirus pandemic in Maryland every day. Coverage included running an informational crawl in all of our newscasts with the daily update on the number of cases, hospitalizations, deaths, the positivity rate and how many people have tested negative.
- 11/2: Baltimore City's health department gives two restaurants the all clear to reopen after they were shut down over Halloween weekend for violating Covid-19 rules. The popular Federal Hill spots Banditos and The Charles were shut down for customers and staff not wearing masks, lack of social distancing and people standing and drinking at the bar.
- 11/6: The Baltimore City Mayor is imposing new restrictions as Coronavirus data trends in the wrong direction. Starting November 12th at 5pm all public spaces including restaurants, retail, indoor and outdoor entertainment venues will be limited to 25 percent of capacity and all restaurants will be required to close indoor dining at 10pm.
- 11/16: Nearly one million people have signed up for the Maryland Covid alert contract tracing app. It used bluetooth technology to tell you if you've been exposed to someone with Covid.
- 11/18: As the search for a Covid treatment continues researchers at John's Hopkins School of Medicine are currently testing one in clinical trials. WJZ has a look at how the therapy works and how the public can actually help.
- 11/19: Anne Arundel County health officials are urging residents to take proper actions as Covid cases skyrocket. WJZ reports as officials say some health inspectors trying to do their jobs are being met with hostility and harassment.
- 11/23: Howard County is adding more Coronavirus restrictions starting Friday. They are limiting gatherings to 10 people indoors and 25 people for outdoor events like weddings, recreational sports and any social clubs.
- 11/23: Ahead of Thanksgiving the state is cracking down on enforcing Covid restrictions. Governor Hogan announces an all hands on deck operation in partnership with Maryland State Police which will begin Thanksgiving eve. There will be visible patrols in business districts statewide. The Governor also announced the state is launching a hotline for people to give tips about violations.
- 12/1-12/31: For the entire month of December, WJZ reported on the Coronavirus pandemic in Maryland every day. Coverage included running an informational crawl in all of our newscasts with the daily update on the number of cases, hospitalizations, deaths, the positivity rate and how many people have tested negative.
- 12/1: The University of Maryland Medical Center is opening a new facility tomorrow to help with the state's latest influx of Covid-19 patients. The 8,000 square foot space used to be a parking lot but will now be the modular care unit. The facility has 16 beds and more than 100 staff members.
- 12/8: Governor Hogan announces the Coronavirus vaccine could be ready to distribute in Maryland December 14th. First responders, hospital health care workers, long-term care residents, and staff will be the first to get it.
- 12/11: The FDA approves Pfizer's Coronavirus vaccine for emergency use. WJZ reports The University of Maryland Medical System, Medstar and other hospitals are making special preparations to get it out as fast as possible.
- 12/14: Some of the first vaccine doses arrive at The University of Maryland Medical Center. WJZ talk to the first person to get the shot here in Maryland.
- 12/23: Covid vaccinations start at nursing homes across Maryland today. Governor Hogan marked the occasion at Franklin Woods Center in Baltimore. This is part of phase one in the state's vaccine roll out.