

WJZ-TV
Baltimore, Maryland
CBS Television Licenses LLC
QUARTERLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS REPORT
First Quarter
January 1 – March 31, 2019

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 and 6pm 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 newscasts.

SPECIAL REPORTS

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

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OUTREACH

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

LOCAL POLITICS

WJZ News

1/10: Baltimore County residents got the chance to share their thoughts and concerns with the new County Executive. WJZ is live at Loch Raven High School with more on the issues discussed and one on-going controversy in White Marsh.

1/16: History is made in Annapolis today. For only the second time in the last 50 years, a Republican governor is inaugurated for a second term. Governor Hogan was sworn in at the State House this afternoon. WJZ is live in Annapolis with the thousands of supporters who were there celebrating the governor.

1/29: A major policy decision from the Baltimore City State's Attorney. Marilyn Mosby says her office will no longer prosecute cases of marijuana possession... but the city's top cop says officers will still be making arrests. WJZ is live with reaction to the move.

2/18: 18 or 21? A battle of ages is brewing in Maryland as some advocates are pushing to raise the legal smoking age to 21. Six other states and the District of Columbia have already made the change. WJZ is live with reaction from those for and against the age change.

2/26: The calls for Democrat Mary Ann Lisanti to resign are getting louder even after she apologized for her use of racial slurs. Tonight, WJZ has an exclusive with the Harford County delegate. WJZ tracked her down to try to get answers.

2/27: The calls for a Maryland delegate to step down after her use of a racial slur are growing. Governor Larry Hogan and the leader of her own party say Harford County delegate Mary Ann Lisanti should resign. WJZ's investigator has reaction from her constituents and others who are calling for the lawmaker to step down.

2/28: Delegate disciplined. Tonight, Harford County delegate Mary Ann Lisanti is refusing to resign – after the House voted unanimously to censure her for using a racial slur. WJZ is live with reaction from Delegate Lisanti – and what this means for her in the future.

3/1: The firestorm surrounding Delegate Mary Ann Lisanti will not die down. A coalition of citizens, activists and lawmakers believe she should be forced from office. WJZ's investigator is in Annapolis with the fallout.

3/1: A legislative fight to keep the Preakness in Baltimore is at the starting gate. Mayor Catherine Pugh led a rally today in support of a bill to advance a plan to rebuild Pimlico. WJZ's political reporter has more on two competing bills in the General Assembly.

3/4: A bill that would expand the use of food stamps in Maryland restaurants is moving through the state legislature. It would allow people with disabilities, those who are homeless or over 60-years-old to use food stamps at participating restaurants.

3/18: Baltimore City's mayor resigns from the University of Maryland Medical System Board of Directors. WJZ reports—her departure comes after questions were raised about profits she made from her children's book sales.

3/20: The fight to keep the Triple Crown's second jewel in Baltimore will go to the courts. Mayor Pugh has filed a lawsuit against Pimlico Race Track's owner, the Stronach Group, hoping to block the company from moving it to Laurel. WJZ explains what the suit means for Pimlico.

3/27: Publically punished—Delegate Jay Jalisi is unanimously reprimanded by the House today. It comes after an ethics panel found a pattern of bullying and abusive workplace behavior... accusations the Delegate denies. WJZ is live and sat down with the Delegate tonight.

3/28: On the same day she was released from the hospital, where she was treated for pneumonia, Mayor Catherine Pugh apologies for her business dealings with UMMS. WJZ is live at City Hall and reports—the mayor revealed documents in an attempt to answer questions.

3/29: More elected officials are reacting to Mayor Catherine Pugh's business dealings with the University of Maryland Medical System... during the time: she served on its board of directors. WJZ has what Maryland's US Senators had to say today.

EDUCATION

WJZ News

1/8: Controversial decision... the Baltimore City School Board votes to close five schools. WJZ is live outside School Board Headquarters where some people started crying after the decision.

1/22: Baltimore City school leaders firmly agreed they don't want to see school officers armed inside schools anytime soon. The decision comes after a heated school board meeting where the public got their chance to weigh in on the issue. WJZ is live at City Schools Headquarters with more on the vote.

1/29: We're learning more about a violent incident inside Loch Raven High School. Police say a student punched a teacher in the face – and that teacher's injuries were so severe, he had to be treated at a hospital. WJZ's investigator has details on how the incident unfolded and what's being done about it now.

1/30: Surprising reversal. University of Maryland College Park President Wallace Loh will not retire this year as expected... instead he will stay on through June of 2020. The decision was made today by the University System of Maryland Board of Regents and now they're searching for a successor.

1/30: Rebuilding bonds and creating a conversation. Tonight Anne Arundel County parents, teachers and students are coming together to have a candid discussion about recent racially-charged incidents in schools. WJZ is live and reports students' concerns were front and center.

2/5: Concerns are raised tonight at a Baltimore County school board meeting as dozens of Baltimore County teachers and staff protest \$81-million dollars' worth of budget cuts. Part of the plan includes cutting planned pay raises for school employees. WJZ is live with who was at the board meeting tonight.

2/5: Disturbing message. A student in Anne Arundel County is accused of posting a racial message online just because her school lost a tight basketball game. WJZ has more on what it said and how the district is reacting.

2/6: The graduation requirements for Anne Arundel County schools have just changed. It is in response to multiple hateful and racist acts within schools district-wide. WJZ is live and explains the decision made by board members.

2/7: A political battle that impacts almost every Maryland student involves the governor's executive order that mandates all schools start after Labor Day. For years, the order has angered some lawmakers who are now pushing a bill to give control to local school boards. WJZ's investigator explains how Governor Hogan vowed to fight the legislation at the polls.

2/22: Two weeks after he came face to face with a shooter inside a West Baltimore high school and survived two gunshots, a school employee blames failed security measures. WJZ reports he blames a lack of protocols for allowing the accused gunman to enter the school.

2/26: An about face from the Baltimore City school board tonight. It now supports a bill that allows city school officers to be armed inside schools. WJZ reports the reversal comes two weeks after a shooting inside a West Baltimore high school.

3/7: Promoting a powerful message with robots. NFL Hall of Famer Ray Lewis is switching gears from football to robotics. Tonight, he joined local companies for a battle bots-style competition all to promote STEM education. WJZ is live and speaks with the Ravens legend about his message.

3/11: A march for money... thousands of teachers take to the streets of Annapolis calling for more school funding and higher teacher salaries. More than 170 buses brought in educators calling on lawmakers to give billions of dollars to public school education. WJZ was at the march and has the story.

3/13: Actress Lori Loughlin faces a federal judge in a hearing on criminal charges for allegedly bribing her two daughters' ways into college. She was released from federal custody in Los Angeles on one million dollars bond this afternoon. Prosecutors say she was among several celebrities and wealthy families who made illegal payments so their children could gain admission to elite universities. WJZ's investigator has more on another Maryland connection to the case.

3/25: Second stabbing—another Baltimore City student is hurt after an incident on or around school grounds. There is growing concern over safety and security while the high school student is in the hospital tonight after today's stabbing. Students at Patterson High School tell WJZ it happened in the middle of the school day. WJZ is live with an update from a member of the victim's family.

3/26: Video on social media appears to show what led to a stabbing at a Baltimore City high school yesterday. And tonight a student has been charged as an adult in the case. WJZ's investigator speaks to that young man's family.

3/30: Montgomery County Public Schools are issuing new guidelines and expectations regarding student athletes. The changes come in the wake of an incident inside a locker room at Damascus High School last fall.

3/31: A change could be coming to Anne Arundel County schools... the county's board of education is considering a new policy that would eliminate class ranks including valedictorian and salutatorian. The proposed changes would take effect with the 9th grade class starting high school in 2021.

CONSUMER: HOUSING

WJZ News

1/2: Water main issues—tonight more than two dozen homeowners in a Dundalk neighborhood are without water because of a broken water main. WJZ is live in the neighborhood with a look at the damage and the latest on repairs.

1/9: Baltimore City approves a plan to raise water rates. The Board of Estimates passed a three-year rate hike proposal from the Department of Public Works. The new rates start July 1st.

2/7: In a drastic reversal, Howard County leaders say parts of Ellicott City's historic Main Street may be preserved instead of being torn down. Last year, the former county executive released a controversial plan to demolish 10 buildings as part of a flood prevention plan. WJZ explains how that may now change.

2/25: Clean-up continues tonight after strong winds blow through Maryland. The powerful gusts brought down trees and power lines cutting electricity to thousands. At last check about 250 customers are still out in Baltimore County. WJZ's investigator reports on the impact across the region.

3/7: Outrage over sub-standard housing for some military families in our state. From broken pipes to black mold to rodents several families at Fort Meade have had enough. Today top military leaders told Congress they're fixing the problem. WJZ's investigator reports from Fort Meade in Anne Arundel County with the action they're taking.

3/23: Tonight five families have the keys to new homes after a long process that required them to help with the construction. We spoke with one of those homeowners in West Baltimore and he called it a blessing.

CONSUMER: ECONOMY

WJZ News

1/18: As the government shutdown continues, it is putting a strain on family budgets and kitchen pantries. The Maryland Food Bank, for example, is seeing higher demands from furloughed workers. WJZ goes inside the pantry to hear the stories of Maryland families whose cupboards are bare.

1/20: The effects of this government shutdown are now expanding to BWI. For yet another night, a TSA security checkpoint is closed. WJZ tells us how the government shutdown is affecting travel.

1/21: At airports across the country, travelers are beginning to see the ripple effects of the on-going government shutdown. WJZ reports from BWI Airport where a security checkpoint closed this weekend and again this afternoon.

1/23: In Maryland, the effects of the government shutdown continue to make an impact... Baltimore's mayor and four county executives came together in Annapolis pleading with the White House and congressional leaders to reopen the government. The state's tax collector reports, 12,000 Marylanders have taken some kind of financial hit and as of last Friday, more than 3,700 people have filed claims for unemployment insurance through the state.

1/25: The deal to end the government shutdown is welcome news for tens of thousands of federal workers who live or work in Maryland. That includes TSA agents and air traffic controllers at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport. WJZ has worker reaction.

1/26: Despite the government being open – at least for now... more than 170,000 Marylanders are still feeling the shutdown's effects as they wait to be paid. WJZ explains how some workers are getting by.

2/1: Business at the Port of Baltimore may be booming, but not everyone is enjoying the ride. Truck drivers have been protesting long wait times for cargo to be loaded onto their trucks. WJZ has the impacts this is having.

2/2: The holiday shopping season may be over, but City Councilman Zeke Cohen is challenging Baltimore to continue shopping local. WJZ has more from shop owners and why the initiative is so important.

2/3: The biggest game of the year – the Super Bowl – the excitement of Super Bowl Sunday goes far beyond the field. Local businesses see an uptick in sales as fans celebrate the most popular day in sports.

3/28: A budget airline suddenly shuts down operation as passengers at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport were in the process of boarding one of the company’s flights. WOW Air left many of the travelers stranded... some even overseas and many are asking what happens now.

CONSUMER: JOBS

WJZ News

1/7: As the partial government shutdown enters week three, people are getting more anxious about their paychecks and even their tax returns. WJZ is live and tells us how this shutdown is affecting thousands of people in our area.

2/3: With 12 days and counting to another potential government shutdown, stress and anxiety looms for federal workers many here in Maryland who are just getting back on their feet. But for some federal “contract” workers – who don’t get back pay another shutdown could mean financial ruin.

3/3: Hundreds of workers at four General Motors plants slated to close later this year, including one in White Marsh, Baltimore County will have to decide if they want to work at another factory possibly hundreds of miles away, or stay home and risk losing their jobs.

3/20: One step closer to reality – the Maryland General Assembly passes a bill requiring all businesses in the state to pay a \$15 minimum wage by 2025. It’s now headed to the governor’s desk. WJZ is live and tells you some people are praising this move, but others say it will be bad for business.

3/28: Maryland officially becomes the 6th state to approve a minimum wage increase to \$15 an hour... it comes after the General Assembly voted to override Governor Hogan’s veto of the measure. The state’s minimum wage will gradually increase by 2025.

ARTS & CULTURE

WJZ News

1/1: A joyous new year for a local family. WJZ reports from Medstar Harbor Hospital where the first baby of the New Year was born.

1/10: A new name will take the field at Camden Yards this summer. WJZ reports, while it’s not a high-priced free agent for the Orioles, it is one of the best performers in the world. Billy Joel’s summer tour is making a stop in Camden Yards, making his concert the first for Oriole Park.

1/21: Every year on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, St. Bernardine Church in West Baltimore holds a prayer service. As WJZ reports, today the leader of this Archdiocese, Archbishop Lori, attended the service to talk about a new pastoral document dedicated to eradicating what he calls the ‘sin of racism’ in the Catholic Church.

1/22: A former Oriole receives the call that every major league ball player dreams of. Mike Mussina has been elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame. WJZ has details on the announcement and a look back at Mussina’s career.

1/23: Some Ravens fans may find themselves cheering for the Rams come Super Bowl Sunday. That’s because four players on the team have Maryland roots. WJZ has more from their families and coaches and their Charm City connections.

2/21: The film, 'The Green Book' is up for 5 Oscars including best picture. It's the story of a Black musician and his white body-guard traveling the Jim Crow south in the 60's. They use 'the green book' to navigate. It catalogued where a black person was and was not welcome to stop to eat or sleep. The green book was real and as WJZ reports, Baltimore was among the cities where it was useful.

2/22: A Black History project has revealed the racist past of the Maryland Institute College of Art. WJZ reports, that past was literally put on display.

2/24: For decades, our station has proudly sponsored the "WJZ Black History Oratory Competition". Today, the finalists presented speeches featuring quotes from significant figures in the African American community.

3/9: It might as well be a sanctioned a Maryland holiday. Today is National Crab Meat Day! And to celebrate, the office of tourism is offering a new tool for seafood lovers. WJZ introduces you to the Maryland Crab and Oyster Trail.

3/10: It hasn't opened yet, but a new children's museum that's in the works for Northwest Baltimore is hoping to shed light on a sometimes forgotten chapter of Black History. WJZ takes you behind the scenes of the Sankofa Children's Museum.

3/24: Community members in Howard County have a colorful way to learn thanks to a new art program. The library system is using art and culture to inspire and expand their minds by loaning framed artwork both prints and photographs. The Art Education Collection is available at the Central Branch and is checked out just like books, CDs, DVDs and other materials.

Public Affairs Outreach

2/24: WJZ's promotion of the 27th Annual Black History Oratory Competition begins January 1 and runs through mid-March. The three phases of the campaign start by encouraging all high school students in Maryland to write an original essay based on a designated quote by former First Lady Michelle Obama, artist Romare Bearden or NFL Hall of Famer Ray Lewis. In the next phase, judges select 20 semi-finalists out of the 200 submitted essays. In the last phase, 20 semi-finalists present their memorized orations at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum on February 24 where judges select the top three winners. Prizes include cash, scholarship gift cards and prizes from the oratory sponsors, Toyota Financial Services, Enoch Pratt Free Library, and the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture. All phases of the competition are promoted on WJZ through public service announcements and on social media platforms. Morning News Anchor Nicole Baker served as emcee.

COMMUNITY

WJZ News

1/2: Out of service. Two fire trucks in Baltimore City are out for repairs. One of those trucks in Northwest Baltimore has been offline since last week and the union representing firefighters says it will affect response times. WJZ's investigator reports on the concerns.

1/3: Dozens in Northeast Baltimore County come together to try to find a way to crack down on a recent spike in crime in the area. WJZ is live at County Police Headquarters with details behind one of the most recent incidents that has the community outraged.

1/5: The microphone was in voters' hands this morning at a public input meeting over police commissioner nominee Joel Fitzgerald. Though the meeting went on without Fitzgerald present Baltimore residents did not mince words. WJZ is live at City Hall and explains what went on inside the meeting.

1/17: Overhauling the entire department as Mayor Catherine Pugh seeks to bring a new police commissioner to Baltimore, the city is still in the midst of a consent decree. As WJZ reports sweeping reforms are being made and today in Annapolis, political leaders were briefed on the status.

1/19: In Baltimore, thousands came together for the local rally and march for women's rights at the War Memorial Plaza. WJZ was there and has more.

1/19: Taking a stand against violence. Today community members joined the mayor and Congressman Elijah Cummings to address the city's homicide rate and promote employment and other resources. WJZ is live and has more on the message.

1/26: Funding organizations that support Baltimore's diverse community. For eight years, MECU credit union has been giving out awards that promote various outreach events. WJZ explains what this means for our city.

1/28: By now you've likely seen them - electric scooters humming past crowds of people or parked along city streets. Now Baltimore is in the process of figuring out a long term solution in dealing with these popular rides. WJZ is live breaking down the details and clarifying some confusion over a penalty calling for jail time.

1/31: Risking their lives in the middle of a government shutdown... thousands of Coast Guard members were left defending our nation for 36 days without getting paid a single dollar... the only branch of military to not get paid... this—while their families were at home struggling to make ends meet. WJZ sits down with a Coast Guard wife in Annapolis who talks about the devastating ordeal and her fears – it could all happen again.

2/4: One step closer. A week from today – the Baltimore Police Department will have a new acting commissioner. And the public will have multiple opportunities to meet with him one-on-one. WJZ is live at City Hall and tells you some City Council members are looking closely into his background.

2/11: Meeting the public. Tonight, Baltimore's new acting police commissioner stands in front of hundreds... telling people in the city why he's the one who will drive crime down. Acting Police Commissioner Michael Harrison took over today... but the City Council must still give final approval. WJZ is live and explains – the public did not hold back.

2/20: A war of words breaks out between Baltimore's mayor and the owner of Pimlico Race Track. WJZ reports, at stake is the future of the track and the Preakness.

2/23: A sharp spike in violence in Baltimore in the last 48 hours keeping police very busy – at least four people have been killed. Now, the acting police commissioner is addressing community concerns. WJZ is live at police headquarters with his message.

2/27: Smart investment or financial starvation? A Canadian company is spending millions of dollars more on Laurel Race Track than it is on Pimlico. WJZ runs the numbers and the reasons.

3/4: The background investigation into Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh's selection to be the city's next top cop is now complete. WJZ has more on the long process.

3/6: One step closer. The acting Baltimore City Police Commissioner makes his case to City Council member in an attempt to get the job permanently. But before he got his turn, others spoke in favor and against his confirmation. WJZ is live at City Hall with more on how the Commissioner reacted at tonight's hearing.

3/7: A major change begins tomorrow at White Marsh Mall. Anyone under 18 will now need adult supervision on the weekends. WJZ reports, the permanent and controversial change comes after a brawl last August.

3/8: For the first time, a curfew officially goes into effect at White Marsh Mall. Tonight, security was posted at entrances as guards checked identification for anyone who might be under 18-years-old. WJZ spoke with kids and parents about the new rules.

3/14: For years, many have called for change. Safety concerns at the Inner Harbor have become a top priority for city officials. WJZ reports on the changes now being made.

3/19: Concerns over safety are growing tonight as Baltimore City's Fire Department battles staff shortages. According to their union some city firefighters are filling in on medic shifts to keep up with call volume and staffing requirements. WJZ's investigator reports that the department has already spent the money budgeted for overtime.

3/21: The Baltimore Washington Parkway is plagued with problems from traffic congestion to serious potholes. Now, Governor Hogan is stepping in to try to fix the situation on the federally operated road. WJZ is live with details on the proposal.

3/24: Using music to heal. A local church hosted a 90-minute concert today as a way to honor Baltimore's murder victims and send a message to the city. Some of those victims' parents were also part of the tribute.

3/30: It was a rise from the ashes in Sandtown-Winchester this morning as a long-time community church, destroyed by fire, celebrated its return. WJZ brings you the celebration from the New Bethlehem Baptist Church.

3/31: The Baltimore Washington Parkway is finally getting the attention many drivers say it needs. Crews began working on patching up the potholes this weekend on parts of 295 North and South as part of the greater plan to eventually pave over the parkway. WJZ is live with what drivers think of the fix.

3/31: A Baltimore non-profit has made prom a reality for dozens of girls for its 15th year. WJZ takes you to the Priceless Gown Project's annual event.

HEALTH

WJZ News

1/11: Governor Larry Hogan wants to up the money in the fight against the opioid epidemic. WJZ reports, it's a struggle that's brought state and local governments together, as well as private businesses.

1/15: Deadly and still on the rise - today the Maryland Department of Health releases a new report breaking down the number of fatal drug and alcohol overdoses in the state. While the trend shows a decline in some areas, there's a clear increase in opioid-related deaths. WJZ is live and breaks down the numbers for us.

1/18: Millions of people are already being impacted by the flu this season according to new numbers put out by the CDC, at least 30 states reported widespread activity last week. WJZ reports local hospitals here in Maryland are now on high alert.

2/15: Though not as severe as years past the current flu season is still one to take notice of. Health officials say this year's flu vaccine appears to be more effective but that doesn't mean people aren't getting sick. WJZ has the details.

2/23: Each year, thousands of men are at risk to develop prostate cancer. In 2019, over 164,000 men were diagnosed and now a local group of men is doing everything it can to change the outcome.

3/28: An important milestone is reached at Johns Hopkins Hospital. For the first time, a person living with HIV donated a kidney to a transplant recipient also living with HIV. WJZ has the story.