#### WJZ-TV

# Baltimore, Maryland CBS Television Licenses LLC

# QUARTERLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS REPORT

Third Quarter July 1- September 30, 2021

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

8/3: Baltimore police and the mayor meet with neighbors for national night out against crime.

8/6: Baltimore's mayor blames unvaccinated people on having to bring back the mask mandate in the city.

9/20: Baltimore's mayor, police commissioner and state's attorney come together to launch a new program to stop shootings in the city.

# **EDUCATION**

# WJZ News

- 7/1: There's a growing nationwide teacher shortage that could extend into the fall. WJZ reports on how local districts are dealing with the impact.
- 7/2: The University of Maryland is starting a "Vax For Maryland" contest. Students, faculty, and staff will have the chance to win a \$250 gift card to the University's book center by confirming their vaccination status and using the hashtag Vax For Maryland.
- 7/21: A new study says that Loyola University is the safest campus in the state. According to "your local security" 70 percent of parents say campus safety is critical when choosing a college for their child.
- 7/28: Morgan State University is the first historically black college or university in Maryland to be designated as an americorps school of national service.
- 8/2: Towson University is trying to encourage more students to get vaccinated. Those who prove they're vaccinated will be entered into drawings to win \$1,000 scholarships.
- 8/3: One organization rally's calling for the resignation of Baltimore City schools CEO, Dr. Sonja Santelises. People Empowered By The Struggle is frustrated with what they call a failing curriculum in city public schools.
- 8/5: Johns Hopkins University is requiring people to start wearing masks again immediately regardless of their vaccination status.
- 8/6: Baltimore County schools will host mass vaccination clinics all throughout this month to get students who are eligible vaccinated.
- 8/9: Baltimore County is reminding parents to make sure their children are registered for school with the start of the school year around the corner.
- 8/13: The state department of education is strongly recommending everyone wear masks in schools but they stopped short of mandating them just weeks before the school year begins.
- 8/13: Montgomery and Prince George's county schools are now mandating vaccines for all teachers and staff.
- 8/20: 18 Midshipman have been kicked out of the Naval Academy after a cheating scandal investigation.
- 8/23: Morgan State University welcomes students back with the start of classes for the new school year.
- 8/23: Students at the University of Maryland are helping to fight climate change. This summer students worked with the Department of Natural Resources to develop architecture and landscape design plans to adapt to Assateague Island's increasingly dynamic conditions.

9/8: Thousands of students head back to school today in Anne Arundel, Carroll and Harford Counties.

9/13 and 9/14: More than 20 Baltimore City schools are closing early due to the heat outside and they don't have air conditioning.

9/20: Anne Arundel County public schools are now requiring employees and high school student athletes to be vaccinated or get tested for Covid weekly.

9/21: The school bus driver shortage is being called a crisis in Anne Arundel County.

9/28: The Harford County school district is reducing the quarantine period from 14 days to 10 days.

**CONSUMER: HOUSING** 

WJZ News

7/7: The city is looking to address the homeless crisis among LGBTQ plus youth in Baltimore. Mayor Brandon Scott is announcing that Baltimore's continuum of care is receiving more than \$488,000 in federal funding to go towards a new transitional housing project that will provide shelter for homeless youth.

7/28: The federal moratorium on evictions is expected to end this Saturday but here in Maryland the state moratorium doesn't end until August 15th. The state is also providing legal help for anyone who can prove they had a drop in income during the pandemic.

8/9: The housing authority of Baltimore is now the city's first government related agency to require its employees to get the Covid vaccine.

8/13: Governor Hogan's executive order prohibiting residential evictions expired Sunday, leaving many families worried about their future.

9/7: Mayor Brandon Scott and other Baltimore community leaders are raising awareness about the homeowner's property tax credit. It's for those with a gross household income less than \$60,000.

9/20: The Baltimore City council approves a bill that creates a security deposit grant program for low-income residents.

**CONSUMER: ECONOMY** 

WJZ News

7/8: Howard County restaurant week kicks off on July 12<sup>th</sup> with more than 30 participating restaurants.

7/12: Restaurants in Baltimore County are once again allowed to sell mixed drinks to go extending the Governor's executive order through 2023.

7/16: Starting tomorrow it's all about buying products that were made right here in Maryland. Governor Hogan declaring July 17<sup>th</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup> "Buy Local Week."

7/19: There's now an app called "Maryland Craft Beverages." It's to help people keep a list of the local breweries, wineries and distilleries they've visited.

7/21: Howard County Executive Calvin Ball introduces an emergency bill that would allow restaurants to keep their extra seating until November 15<sup>th</sup>.

7/26: Tax free shopping week is returning to Maryland for the week of August 8th to the 14th. during that week, any article of clothing or footwear priced \$100 or less, will be exempt from the state's 6 percent sales tax.

8/3: Vegan restaurant week starts in Maryland this week. There are more than 35 participating restaurants.

9/7: Maryland Restaurant Week is coming back for a second year. It starts September  $17^{th}$  and runs through the  $26^{th}$ .

9/21: Residents and business owners question the future of the inner harbor's gallery mall.

9/28: Frontier airlines announces flights from BWI airport to Cancun will begin in December.

**CONSUMER: JOBS** 

WJZ News

7/3: The extra 300 dollars in federal unemployment benefits will continue to be paid out in Maryland. A judge's ruling reverses a decision made by Governor Larry Hogan to end the pandemic program.

7/15: M&T Bank Stadium is hosting a job fair this Sunday. They are looking for gameday staff to join their team ahead of football season.

8/5: Morgan State University is boosting minimum wage to 15 dollars an hour.

9/21: The post office is holding a job fair at locations all over Baltimore.

#### ARTS & CULTURE

WJZ News

7/3: The Baltimore Museum of Industry is officially back open after being closed last March because of the pandemic.

7/9: Universoul circus is back in Maryland after being cancelled due to the pandemic last year. It will take place at National Harbor through September  $6^{th}$ .

- 7/14: Garth Brooks is coming to Baltimore. He will perform at M&T Bank Stadium this October.
- 7/21: The national aquarium is about to celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A big party is set for August 3<sup>rd</sup> with local leaders.
- 8/3: Garth Brooks is reassessing where to continue his stadium tour with rising Coronavirus cases including his show that is supposed to take place in Baltimore in October.
- 8/6: Broadway is returning to Baltimore this fall. Tickets for the hit show "Waitress" go on sale today.
- 8/9: If you want to hear the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra you will need to be vaccinated. The ASO's opening night is set for October first.
- 8/13: AFRAM returns this weekend with both in-person and virtual events.
- 8/26: The Maryland State fair returns after being cancelled last year. The fair opens today at noon for the 12 best days of summer.
- 9/7: Disney on Ice is returning to Baltimore this October. Tickets go on sale September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 9/20: The Charles Street promenade returns this weekend. That means Charles Street will be closed to cars and transformed into a pedestrian mall.
- 9/28: The Hippodrome theater is celebrating the final phase of renovations for it's performing arts center.

# PUBLIC AFFAIRS OUTREACH

- 7/13: WJZ Anchor Vic Carter was the emcee at the Howard County Circuit Court courthouse dedication ceremony.
- 7/17: WJZ Anchor Vic Carter was the guest speaker for mentoring male teens in the hood group meeting.
- 8/7: WJZ Sports Director Mark Viviano was the emcee of the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Casey Cares 5k Walk/Run.
- 8/15: WJZ Anchor Vic Carter was the keynote speaker for Men's Day at St. James Episcopal Church. 8/15-8/22: WJZ's Vic Carter, Ava-joye Burnett and Tim Williams were virtual emcees for the AFRAM festival. There also was an on-air PSA featuring Tim Williams.
- 8/21: WJZ Traffic Reporter Kristy Breslin is the emcee for Rally Against Parkinson's music on main.
- 8/25: WJZ Meteorologist Meg McNamara is the special guest speaker for the Nature Unleashed Summer Camp at Celebree School of Carney.

# **COMMUNITY**

# WJZ News

- 7/1: It's official "Maryland, My Maryland" is no longer the state song. The song is a civil war era call to arms for the confederacy against then-president Abraham Lincoln. Governor Hogan called the song outdated and out of touch.
- 7/1: The Orioles are no longer requiring vaccinated fans to cover their face at the ballpark. The Orioles will continue offering free Covid testing and vaccinations at the ballpark.
- 7/7: U.S. gas prices are skyrocketing across the nation including here in Maryland. WJZ reports on what drivers here can expect.
- 7/9: Maryland food truck week kicks off today. Each day there will be food trucks set up in different locations around central Maryland.
- 8/6: Baltimore County says its 'Lawyers In The Library' program was such a success it now wants to bring the law office to you and is launching its mobile library law center next week.
- 8/11: The Ravens are following the city's new mask mandate. You will need to wear a mask in all indoor spaces at M&T Bank Stadium.
- 8/11: Anyone 12 and older can get their first or second dose of the Pfizer vaccine at the National Aquarium downtown. You will get a free admission voucher for the aquarium just for getting the shot.
- 8/20: Governor Hogan announces the new 'Connect Maryland' initiative to expand broadband internet access.
- 9/20: Hoehn's bakery in Highlandtown closes after 95 years in business.
- 9/27: New speed cameras are now up in running in Baltimore County school zones.

# **HEALTH**

#### WJZ News

- 7/1-7/31: For the entire month of July, 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.
- 7/1: The state of emergency in Maryland is now over. Masks are no longer required in any setting including schools, camps, and childcare facilities except where required by local rules.
- 7/3: If you catch a show at Merriweather Post Pavilion you can now get a shot while you're there. Howard County EMS staff and health department nurses will be at the venue during concerts offering all three approved vaccines.

- 7/6: Middle schools in Anne Arundel County have been transformed into vaccination sites. Starting tomorrow and for the rest of the summer kids can head to one of four schools to roll up their sleeves. Children under 15 need a parent or guardian to get the Covid vaccine.
- 7/6: Governor Hogan is launching a new initiative aimed at helping care for new mothers and children. It will help with prenatal and postpartum care as well as child health visits for early prevention and possible intervention.
- 7/9: The mass vaccination site at Six Flags is closing. At its peak more than 5,000 people a day were getting vaccinated there.
- 7/15: Maryland hits another vaccine milestone. The state has administered over 7 million shots and more than 3 million residents are fully vaccinated.
- 7/26: Baltimore City's health commissioner is pleading with people to get the covid-19 vaccine as some city neighborhoods only have 30 percent of people vaccinated and Covid cases are ticking upwards.
- 7/28: Ravens Gus Edwards and Lamar Jackson miss the beginning of training camp after testing positive for Coronavirus. This is the second time Jackson has contracted the virus.
- 8/1-8/31: For the entire month of August, 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.
- 8/2: Anne Arundel County will require masks in all county buildings along with testing or vaccinations for county employees starting August 5.
- 8/2: Governor Hogan announces \$6 million in grants to address the state's heroin and opioid crisis.
- 8/2: Baltimore County public libraries are now doing free eye exams teaming up with the non-profit Vision to Learn.
- 8/5: Governor Hogan announces new covid requirements for some state employees. They will be required to get vaccinated or wear masks and get tested regularly. This will begin on September 1st.
- 8/5: Baltimore City Mayor Brandon Scott is reinstating the indoor mask mandate in the city starting August 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 8/5: Time is running out to register for insurance through the Maryland Health Exchange. Uninsured Marylanders have until August 15<sup>th</sup> to take advantage of the Coronavirus special enrollment period.
- 8/9: Governor Hogan is launching a new vaccine campaign aimed at protecting children. The campaign is focusing on vaccines for diseases like the measles, mumps and chicken pox.
- 8/13: Maryland's Coronavirus state of emergency that's been in effect since March of 2020 expired at midnight.

- 8/20: There is an outbreak of the Coronavirus at a Montgomery County high school. 16 students and some staff members at Quince Orchard High School have tested positive.
- 8/24: Starting Thursday you can get vaccinated while waiting for your flight at BWI Airport. First call medical center will open a full-service clinic right inside the main terminal.
- 8/25: Three of Governor Hogan's staff members tested positive for Coronavirus after being fully vaccinated.
- 9/1-9/30: For the entire month of September, 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.
- 9/7: Governor Hogan announces that 95 percent of Marylanders 65 and older have gotten at least one dose of the Covid vaccine. More than 80 percent of Marylanders 12 and older have also gotten the vaccine.
- 9/27: There is a Covid outbreak at Cherry Hill Elementary Middle School in Baltimore City. There are 14 positive cases including a 12 year old who is currently hospitalized and fighting for her life.
- 9/27: Almost 9,000 fully vaccinated people in Maryland have gotten the Pfizer booster shot since the state approved it last week.