

WJZ-TV
Baltimore, Maryland
CBS Television Licenses LLC
QUARTERLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS REPORT
First Quarter
January 1 – March 31, 2022

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 Morning, 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 Morning, 9am, 4pm, 5pm and 6pm newscasts.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Locally produced special reports, focusing on community issues, local lifestyle trends and local personality profiles. This airs in the 9am, 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

1/13: After months of a federal investigation, Baltimore City State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby is charged with perjury and making false statements on mortgage applications. WJZ has team coverage with the impact, the investigation and community reaction.

1/13: For years, many in Maryland have been pushing for paid time off to care for their new babies and loved ones. WJZ reports, this legislative session, there's new momentum and pressure on state lawmakers to pass the Time to Care Act, which would give up to 12 weeks of paid leave to Marylanders who need to care for a newborn or a family member who is ill.

1/14: A day after federal charges against her were announced in a fraud case, Marilyn Mosby is speaking out. WJZ was the first to bring you this story yesterday. Tonight, the Baltimore City State's Attorney is proclaiming her innocence. WJZ's investigator has Mosby in her own words.

1/16: Baltimore City State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby addresses a congregation at a Northwest Baltimore church today, after being indicted by a federal grand jury last week. WJZ has more on how some people are showing their support.

1/17: For the first time, the lawyer representing Baltimore City State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby is answering questions about the federal case against her. Mosby, the city's top prosecutor, is facing four felony charges related to her personal finances. WJZ's investigator has the latest developments.

1/19: Governor Hogan unveils his budget proposal, which includes billions of dollars in spending for schools and transportation. WJZ breaks down all of the details, including a big tax cut for seniors.

1/20: A controversial bill was introduced in the Maryland State House today. It would force businesses in an area of downtown Baltimore known as “The Block” to close earlier under a new curfew. WJZ takes a look at the bill and what those on both sides of it are saying.

2/1: In a shocking early court appearance, Baltimore City State’s Attorney Marilyn Mosby is processed in federal court. She’ll appear before a judge later this week. WJZ’s investigator reports, Mosby is pushing hard... demanding a quick trial before her re-election bid.

2/4: Baltimore State’s Attorney Marilyn Mosby faced a judge today for her first court appearance in a federal case related to her personal finances. Mosby entered a not guilty plea and continues to push for a speedy trial. WJZ’s investigator breaks down what happened in court and what’s next in this case.

2/15: Legalizing marijuana is an issue that’s been talked about in Maryland a lot in recent years and now voters could get the chance to decide if it should go through. WJZ has the latest on when that could happen and explains why some say this push doesn’t go far enough.

3/14: It’s an effort that’s been gaining more attention in Maryland—legalizing recreational marijuana. According to a new Goucher Poll, most Marylanders approve of it... and there’s a bill going through the Maryland legislature that would put the issue on the ballot for voters to decide in November. WJZ breaks down the latest on the bill, where it stands and what people think about it.

3/15: There’s a bill currently moving through Annapolis that a lot of people have an opinion on—Daylight Saving Time. Our lawmakers are currently pushing to make it permanent—so that we wouldn’t have to adjust our clocks. WJZ reports on the bill and has both sides of the issue.

3/25: It’s back to the drawing board for Maryland’s Congressional district map. WJZ explains, a judge ruled the new map unconstitutional... so now lawmakers will have to try again.

3/28: A new bipartisan plan includes the largest tax cut in state history for Marylanders. The cuts will come over the next five years. WJZ explains who will benefit from the tax cut.

3/29: A bill that was named in honor of Officer Keona Holley, a Baltimore Police officer who was killed in the line of duty, has a lot of people talking. The bill initially would eliminate the possibility of parole for criminals who targeted officers... but now, the bill has changed dramatically. WJZ reports on the changes and has reaction from both sides of the aisle.

3/29: Ghost guns could soon be illegal in Maryland. The bill that would do so passed through Annapolis and is now headed to Governor Hogan’s desk. WJZ explains what’s in the bill and the impact this will have.

3/30: Reaction is pouring in after the state House of Delegates passes a bill that would help EZ-Pass customers struggling to pay massive bills. WJZ has what the bill aims to do.

3/30: Maryland lawmakers have redrawn the state’s Congressional district map after a judge ruled a new map unconstitutional earlier in the week. WJZ breaks down what happens next.

EDUCATION

WJZ News

1/2: As COVID cases rise among children, Baltimore County announces 17 schools will be returning to virtual learning. In an email to parents, the district cites the rise of positive cases in several schools. WJZ has a list of all the schools on our website.

1/5: Both parents and school leaders remain concerned on how to better protect our kids after recent COVID outbreaks at schools. That’s why a panel of Maryland lawmakers is moving to keep masks on inside classrooms at least for the next 180 days. WJZ has more on today’s vote and what they say could change the timeline.

1/7: As the pandemic wages on, there is an ongoing debate over masks in schools and whether students should be learning in-person or virtually. Late this afternoon, as WJZ reports, Baltimore County public schools made the decision to go back to virtual learning for certain schools depending on COVID transmission rates – but all schools will be closed Monday and Tuesday next week in order to prepare for virtual learning again.

1/10: 60 of the 155 public schools in Baltimore City went back to virtual learning today... and in Baltimore County, schools were closed today and will be tomorrow—to get ready to go back to virtual learning. WJZ's investigator looks at the impact this is having on students and parents.

1/13: WJZ gained exclusive access to two Baltimore City schools where COVID-19 continues to cause major issues. At one school, at least five teachers were out. Just days ago, 60 schools had to go virtual at the last minute because of high COVID cases.

1/14: Some students in Baltimore City schools are questioning an update in the school district's quarantine policy. WJZ reports, City Schools have now reduced the quarantine time to five days for all students and staff.

1/19: Just days away from the start of the spring semester, colleges and universities throughout the Baltimore region are doubling down on their mask mandates. They're now requiring high-grade masks like K-N 95s... some are even requiring double masking... all to help stop the spread of COVID-19. WJZ has the latest changes and what students are saying about them.

1/27: A violent fight breaks out at a Baltimore County high school and it's caught on video. WJZ reports on what's being done and how parents of Perry Hall students are reacting.

2/8: 45 minutes after school was dismissed, shots rang out in the parking lot of Catonsville High School. One student was shot and taken to the hospital. There are still many unanswered questions, though. WJZ has team coverage from the scene and updates the investigation.

2/9: One day after shots rang out at Catonsville High School—a major break in the case. Police have made several arrests. WJZ has the very latest information.

2/16: A local school board makes a major decision about masks in the classroom. Anne Arundel County schools is now the first county in Maryland to get rid of the mask mandate. WJZ was at that school board meeting and has reaction from parents and students.

2/17: Leaders of the nation's historically Black colleges and universities are speaking out after another series of bomb threats against the schools. Morgan State University's president was one of those to testify before a Congressional hearing about violence on HBCU campuses. WJZ has what he had to say to House lawmakers.

2/22: Masks in schools have been up for debate for some time now. Now, the Maryland board of education says it will leave it up to school districts to decide when the masks can come off. WJZ has reaction from those for and against the masks.

2/25: After months of debate, the state lawmakers vote in favor of rescinding the school mask mandate for public schools. This comes after the state school board made the same decision earlier this week. WJZ reports on what's next for schools and how parents feel about it.

2/28: A big announcement from one school district—Harford County Schools votes unanimously to lift the mask mandate. Harford County is now one of the first to do so, and that list is expected to get longer. WJZ was at the school board meeting and has all the details.

3/10: Brutal fights, pepper spray attacks, even a shooting—these are some of the violent incidents seen in Baltimore County schools recently. Now, parents get a chance to take their concerns straight to school leaders. Baltimore County's school board held a hearing for parents. WJZ was listening in on that meeting and has what parents want to see done.

3/22: A new report highlights the impact of the pandemic on students—and how virtual learning has impacted them. The results are alarming. WJZ breaks down the report and explains what's next for students and teachers.

3/24: A gun is found inside a Baltimore City school—and a 15-year-old is in custody. This is part of a disturbing trend in city schools. WJZ has reaction to this and explains what's next in the investigation.

CONSUMER: HOUSING

WJZ News

1/20: As dangerous cold grips the region and temperatures drop into the 20s, WJZ reports on ways to keep your home warm.

1/26: In the wake of the deaths of three Baltimore firefighters, who died fighting a fire in a vacant row home, WJZ continues to investigate the issue of vacant buildings in Baltimore. WJZ spoke with the newly sworn-in housing commissioner about what's being done and what's next for the property where the firefighters died.

1/31: The state fire marshal tells WJZ the investigation into the fire where three Baltimore firefighters died is now complete, but Baltimore mayor Brandon Scott has issued a new directive—looking into the city's vacant buildings. WJZ reports on what that new directive entails.

2/7: An update on a story WJZ has been investigating—the issue of vacant housing in Baltimore. Today, city council members introduced a new plan that would tackle the problem. WJZ has more on what they want to see done.

3/3: An explosion at an apartment complex in Silver Spring is under investigation—and several people are unaccounted for. WJZ reports from the scene on the investigation and how this is impacting those who lived there.

3/6: The dos and don'ts of recycling – that's the mission of Baltimore's Department of Public Works – they want to make it easier for residents to figure out what goes where. WJZ breaks down what they want city residents to know.

3/11: Tens of millions of dollars from the American Rescue Plan will go toward tackling the on-going issue of vacant housing in Baltimore. This is a problem WJZ has been highlighting for months. WJZ reports on how many vacant buildings will be addressed with this money.

CONSUMER: ECONOMY

WJZ News

1/3: Rising meat prices are a concern and now the White House is stepping in. President Biden says he plans to distribute one billion dollars of the American Rescue Plan to increase the nation's meat processing capacity. Beef prices are up more than 20% compared to this time last year.

1/11: Governor Larry Hogan announces a major tax relief package. He plans to cut taxes and extend pandemic relief—part of his plan is the Retirement Tax Reduction Act—which he says will eliminate 100% of retirement taxes. WJZ explains who this impacts and how.

1/18: If you'll be taking a flight anytime soon, there could be major disruptions to both commercial and cargo flights. This stems from the 5-G technology set to rollout tomorrow. WJZ walks you through the concern about the new system and how it could interfere with the device planes use to land.

2/1: Helping Maryland's tourism industry. Today, state leaders are urging Governor Hogan to give an additional two million dollars to the tourism coalition. WJZ reports, this is to help the industry bounce back after suffering so much during the pandemic.

2/8: It's no secret the supply chain crisis has caused massive problems across the country—and especially for ports on the West Coast—where delays keep happening. But at the Port of Baltimore, that's not the case—in fact, they're ahead of the game. WJZ got rare access to see the inner workings of the port and what it's doing to keep this crisis from getting out of control here.

2/10: Place your bets. For the first time, Maryland bettors can cash in on the Super Bowl. Sports betting was approved in Maryland back in December for casinos—but now many are asking about online options and even mobile ones, too. WJZ breaks down the questions and has answers on when some changes could be coming.

3/4: WJZ continues to follow the latest developments with rising gas prices in the wake of the war in Ukraine. In just one night, gas prices jumped the highest amount since Hurricane Katrina back in 2005.

3/7: The war in Ukraine is impacting industries and businesses all over the country and right here in Maryland. It is especially impacting gas prices. WJZ continues to report on the impact and what people can do to get some relief from the high prices at the pump.

3/10: Prices at the gas pump continue to rise and it's only going to get worse with the war in Ukraine and inflation. But, Maryland's comptroller has a plan that will save many of us money—instantly. WJZ breaks down that plan and explains how it could work.

3/11: WJZ continues to follow the latest developments with gas prices. Maryland lawmakers are working on a plan that would lower prices immediately. WJZ explains how much longer we may have to wait, and that some people say they are willing to endure the high prices for a little bit longer.

3/16: Maryland lawmakers continue to work to pause the state's gas tax – which would lower prices at the pump for all of us immediately. WJZ has an update on the timeline of the bill.

3/17: A WJZ update—Maryland lawmakers pass legislation to pause the state's gas tax—which will lower gas prices by 36 cents per gallon. The bill will now head to Governor Hogan's desk where he is expected to sign it into law.

3/18: Governor Hogan signs into law a pause of the state's gas tax—impacting prices at the pump immediately. WJZ has reaction to the move from drivers who have been waiting for relief.

3/22: Baltimore County Police issue a warning for the community—as the weather gets nicer, there are different ways for criminals to target you. WJZ explains the warning and what police say you can do to avoid becoming a victim.

CONSUMER: JOBS

WJZ News

2/4: One of the industries still hoping to bounce back after the major job market losses during the pandemic, is the tourism industry. There is good news for them in Maryland—as Governor Hogan announces the Department of Commerce and Tourism will get \$9.6 million from the American Rescue Plan. WJZ reports, that money will go to city tourism departments, along with restaurants and other businesses.

3/7: For the past two years, people across Maryland have been sounding the alarm about issues with unemployment benefits and getting them. These benefits have gone unpaid for many people. Now, there is a new push to get those benefits into the hands of the people who need them. WJZ reports, the Unemployed Workers Union is making a second attempt at suing the labor department.

ARTS & CULTURE

WJZ News

1/1: It's not uncommon for many of us to set a goal – or even a resolution – in the New Year. WJZ set out to find out some of the most popular ones this year.

1/20: Honoring the memory of late Congressman Elijah Cummings. A new portrait was unveiled at Henderson-Hopkins Elementary in Baltimore. WJZ gives you a look at the portrait and has more on Cummings' legacy.

2/5: As we continue to mark Black History Month, the pandemic has made it a little harder for many people to celebrate in person. WJZ shows you what they're doing in Baltimore County to bring Black History Month events to you in the comfort of your home.

2/6: We are almost a week into Black History Month, and local businesses are finding ways to celebrate. WJZ takes you to Baltimore's Second Chance—where they will be highlighting local Black-owned businesses and organizations all month.

2/26: The CIAA tournament crowned two new champions—Lincoln University's women's team and the Fayetteville State University Broncos for the men. WJZ reports, this historic tournament, which has been in Downtown Baltimore for days, included more than just basketball.

3/13: The Maryland Army National Guard Best Warrior Competition wrapped up today with an awards ceremony. WJZ has the winners and explains why it means so much more to the competitors.

3/20: WJZ celebrates Women's History Month and features stories about women making a difference. WJZ has the story of a woman who worked her way up at Amazon, all while running a non-profit.

3/28: After Will Smith slapped Chris Rock on stage at the Academy Awards, WJZ speaks with a local doctor about the medical condition Smith's wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, suffers from and how this story has a surprising local connection.

Public Affairs Outreach

2/24: WJZ anchor Vic Carter attended a virtual speaking engagement for Radford High School's Black Awareness Club

2/26: WJZ's Kristy Breslin was the emcee for Harford County Special Olympics

3/1: Executive Producer Grover Murrell spoke to students at Archbishop Curley High School

3/5: WJZ's Kristy Breslin was the emcee for Harford County Habitat for Humanity event

3/8: WJZ anchor Denise Koch was the moderator for a Women's History Month panel at Notre Dame Prep

3/11: WJZ's Kristy Breslin was the emcee for the "Off the Streets" event at Ripken Stadium, benefitting Harford Family House

3/20: WJZ's Kristy Breslin was emcee for a fashion show at the State Theatre in Havre de Grace, benefitting the Community Foundation of Harford County

3/29: Executive Producer Grover Murrell spoke with a journalism class at the University of Maryland College Park

COMMUNITY

WJZ News

1/22: As temperatures dip across the region, the Salvation Army is working to ensure Baltimore's homeless population has warm coats and gloves to make it through the winter. WJZ shows you how they're helping people in Baltimore County.

1/24: WJZ has team coverage of the tragic deaths of three Baltimore City firefighters who died fighting a fire in a vacant row home in Southeast Baltimore. WJZ reports on the investigation into the fire, the impact these firefighters had on the community and their families and the issue of vacant housing in the city and the on-going concern these buildings present.

1/24: A community in Baltimore's Little Italy neighborhood is in mourning after a popular general manager at La Scala, a restaurant there, was shot and killed after leaving work. WJZ reports on the investigation and the impact the general manager had on the community.

1/27: A recent uptick in crime in the Towson area has community leaders and businesses taking action. WJZ reports on an increase in security and the new plan to keep people safe.

2/3: After a months-long investigation, Howard County police are closer to solving their case after an alarming number of break-ins last year. A 19-year-old is now in custody. WJZ reports on what he's accused of and the impact these crimes have had on the community.

2/3: Brazen ATM thefts have been happening all over Baltimore City and Baltimore County. These smash-and-grab thefts leave businesses destroyed... communities on edge... and the thieves are rarely caught. WJZ's investigator looks into this issue and what's being done to keep people and businesses safe.

2/4: A series of smash-and-grabs caught on video at several businesses in Baltimore County. Now, police are releasing some of that video, hoping you will be able to help them solve the crimes. WJZ has that video and who police believe they are searching for.

2/7: It's something that has drivers talking... speed cameras being installed along a stretch of I-83 in Baltimore. Just during a test period, the cameras caught one driver going 173 miles per hour. It's a move that could bring big bucks to the city—and will hopefully keep drivers safer along part of the expressway. WJZ explains where these cameras will be and the impact they are expected to have.

2/7: As debate continues over a controversial curfew law for businesses along The Block—a section of downtown Baltimore—businesses owners are fighting back. WJZ reports on what they want to see change... instead of having to close down early.

2/14: An update on a problem that seems to be never-ending—the USPS mail delivery issues throughout the Baltimore region. Federal lawmakers grilled Baltimore's new executive postmaster about those delivery issues and missing mail issues. WJZ reports on the latest with the problems and how they've continued to impact the community.

2/18: A deal appears to be on the table for businesses on Baltimore's "the Block" – after a state Senate bill was proposed – asking for them to shut down at 10:00 p.m. This is a story WJZ has been following from the beginning and now tells you what lawmakers want club owners to do in order to avoid the curfew.

2/20: Six young people are arrested after chaos at the Towson Town Center mall. The violence was caught on video and shared on social media. WJZ reports on the investigation and the impact to the community.

2/20: As much of the world is wondering if Russia will invade Ukraine, Ukrainian Americans here in Baltimore are left worrying about their loved ones who are there. WJZ goes to a Ukrainian church in Southeast Baltimore where they continue to pray for a peaceful solution.

2/21: WJZ is learning more about the violence that erupted over the weekend at Towson Town Center mall. Several people in the community say they're concerned about the uptick in violence in the area. WJZ reports on what's being done.

2/21: After a weeks-long protest in Canada, a group of truckers in the U.S. is now making its voice heard. The caravan is heading across the country for Washington, D.C. and will stop in Maryland on its way there. WJZ reports on their message and the impact this will have if you live in the community where the caravan will be stopping.

2/23: An update on a story WJZ has been digging into for months—those piles of EZ-Pass bills so many of you are dealing with. Now, the MTA is set to hold a meeting to discuss helping customers pay the bills—which includes a payment plan.

2/24: As explosions rock eastern Ukraine, Baltimore's Ukrainian community remains on edge. WJZ reports, many are worried about their loved ones abroad... and are coming together to do what they can to help.

2/24: An update for those of you with unpaid EZ-Pass toll bills. The MTA says it will waive the civil penalties, but only if the toll bill is paid in full. WJZ reports on reaction to this change.

2/27: The war in Ukraine continues to touch people around the world, and in Baltimore. Baltimore's Ukrainian community continues to come together to support their loved ones, and each other. WJZ reports, Archbishop William Lori attended a Catholic Ukrainian Church mass in Southeast Baltimore, where he prayed for peace with the community.

2/28: Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott announces a big investment for the city's parks. WJZ reports on where more money from the American Rescue Plan will be going.

3/2: Help for Ukraine continues to pour in from communities across the state. Governor Hogan held a vigil to stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine. WJZ was there and explains how you can still help. Businesses across the state are also doing what they can. Several bars in Fells Point stopped selling Russian vodka and instead switched to Ukrainian vodka. WJZ speaks with bar owners and patrons.

3/5: Neighbors in Baltimore are coming together to show their support for the people of Ukraine. Hundreds of donations were collected in Baltimore today. WJZ shows you how these donations are helping those struggling to get the essentials they need.

3/5: Truckers from across the nation—who have been heading to Maryland on their way to D.C. – finally made it to Hagerstown today. This convoy is part of one that's been making international headlines after protesting COVID mandates in Canada. WJZ reports on the group's message and the impact on the community.

3/6: As people across the world call for peace in Ukraine, a group in Baltimore is rallying together with the same message. They gathered in Patterson Park, across the street from St. Michael Ukrainian Church in Southeast Baltimore. WJZ reports on the show of solidarity with the people of Ukraine from Baltimoreans.

3/8: Two of Maryland's largest healthcare systems are coming together in a new way to offer aid to those in Ukraine. Many are calling it a humanitarian crisis. WJZ reports on what's being done and how you can also help.

3/9: Congress is now stepping in to help with the on-going issues with USPS that have been plaguing communities in Baltimore. WJZ reports, part of the plan includes an online dashboard where you can track your mail and packages by your zip code.

3/12: Hundreds of people came to St. Michael Ukrainian Church in Southeast Baltimore to help support the people of Ukraine. WJZ reports, the church held a pierogi sale that raised money for the people who need it most.

3/17: As violence continues through Baltimore, people in a Northwest Baltimore community—touched by an increase in that violence recently—are coming together to do something about it. WJZ attended a community meeting and heard from those who are trying to keep their neighborhood safe.

3/19: A paintball tournament was held in Curtis Bay – all to benefit families of fallen or disabled service members. WJZ has more on the event and the organizations trying to make a difference.

3/24: Governor Hogan announces millions of dollars to go toward fighting crime in Baltimore. The uptick in violence has several communities on edge, wondering what will happen next. WJZ explains where the money is going and how it is expected to help keep people safe.

3/25: The Target store at Mondawmin Mall has been empty for years and now, it has a new owner and soon-to-be new tenants. WJZ explains who will be taking over the space and how it'll impact the community.

3/26: 60 families were given Chromebooks as part of a donation from the Enoch Pratt Library. WJZ was there for the donation and explains what this means to those who got them.

3/27: A rally in support of the people of Ukraine was held in Baltimore. They made several calls to action including streamlining the process of getting refugees into the U.S. WJZ was there and has their message.

HEALTH

WJZ News

1/1: A COVID surge to kick off the New Year... new case numbers continue to grow as the Omicron variant rapidly spreads in the U.S. and in Maryland. The state is trying to meet the demand for testing by opening up new sites in two locations. WJZ tells you more about those sites and how Maryland is trying to combat this surge.

1/3: Over the past week, the amount of COVID-related hospitalizations have exhausted our state's health care system. More area hospitals say they are facing a dire situation and the University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center is the latest health care facility to declare a hospital disaster.

1/4: The COVID winter tidal wave health officials warned about is here—shattering single-day records and now forcing Maryland back into a state of emergency. Governor Hogan issued the new month-long proclamation as the COVID surge becomes more severe. WJZ has the latest on what the governor announced and what it means for you.

1/4: While the COVID surge is exhausting our health care system, we've also see it's putting a strain on our first responders. Hundreds of employees in our area are now out coping with the virus. WJZ spoke with officials who are warning they may not be able to get to your emergency call as fast in the coming weeks.

1/7: To assist in Maryland's fight against COVID, hundreds of Maryland National Guard members are in training as the state gets ready to open several new, much-needed testing sites. WJZ's investigator gives an inside look at the preparations.

1/10: An experimental surgery to help save a Maryland man who was suffering from terminal heart disease. Doctors say this medical breakthrough could pave the way for future transplant recipients. WJZ spoke with doctors at the University of Maryland Medical Center about this medical miracle—implanting a pig heart into a human.

1/11: Maryland hits another COVID milestone—more than 850,000 cases since the start of the pandemic. The race is on to get more people tested, as local hospitals continue feeling the strain. WJZ's investigator takes a closer look at the fight against COVID in Maryland.

1/12: The COVID surge continues in Maryland—11,000 new cases reported since yesterday. And we are learning more about last month's ransomware attack at the Maryland Department of Health—that stalled the numbers from updating. WJZ's investigator has more on that and the latest on this omicron wave.

1/17: A potential breakthrough in the fight to protect our children from COVID-19. WJZ walks you through the results of a new study from researchers at Johns Hopkins University that shows rapid tests may be the key to keeping children safe and schools open.

1/18: Experts say masks have been helping to keep COVID-19 numbers down, but the emergency mask mandate in Anne Arundel County is facing a legal battle in court. WJZ has more on that and the reopening of a testing site that everyone was talking about—after a recent batch of samples expired.

1/21: Extreme cold continues to grip the region and temperatures didn't even reach the 20s today. WJZ spoke with a local doctor about how deadly this weather can be and what you can do to be safe.

1/23: As health providers continue to push the vaccine as a way to end the pandemic, Johns Hopkins has launched a free virtual course to teach people how to talk to parents about the COVID-19 vaccine for their children. WJZ explains what the course entails and what it hopes to accomplish.

1/25: Masks will remain on in all indoor spaces in Anne Arundel County. WJZ reports, a circuit judge made the decision after the county's mask mandate came into question and went through the court.

1/31: As the state's COVID metrics continue to improve—the positivity rate continues to remain low and hospitalizations continue to go down—several counties are making the decision to drop mask mandates. WJZ reports on the changes being made and the impact in the community.

2/1: Mask mandates are officially lifted in several counties across the state, as those mandates came to an end today. But, masks are still required in government buildings. WJZ reports on the changes and has reaction to the mandates ending.

2/5: The effort continues to get more people vaccinated against COVID-19. WJZ reports, the Port Discovery Children's Museum in Baltimore is now getting involved.

2/8: Governor Hogan announces he is bringing back the vaccine lottery—a move to encourage more people to get their COVID-19 shots. It starts with a \$500,000 prize and will run for 11 weeks. WJZ reports on this latest move and has the latest on the Coronavirus pandemic in Maryland.

2/9: While masks are dropping in states across the country, that's not the case in Maryland. For some Marylanders, you still need to wear the mask when you go out—and that's stirring up a lot of conversation. WJZ gets reaction to the mask mandates that still remain in place and explains the reasoning behind it.

2/10: Parents are pushing back against mask mandates in schools saying it's time for their children to learn mask-free. Governor Hogan echoed that sentiment—sending a letter to the state Board of Education, urging them to rescind the state-wide mask mandate for schools. WJZ was in Howard County where parents were fighting to see change—and explains both sides of this heated issue.

2/13: As COVID metrics in Maryland continue to improve, some students won't have to wear masks in the classroom anymore. Catholic schools in the Baltimore area will transition to optional masking tomorrow. WJZ reports, that's welcome news for some families who want the mask mandate to end.

2/14: At the end of the month, Baltimore County will be ending its requirement for masks inside. And the state government building mask mandate will be ending, too. WJZ reports on the latest pandemic numbers in Maryland and how it appears there is an end in sight.

2/17: A medical miracle. That's a term we've heard a lot lately. But in a WJZ special report, we hear from a man who certainly is one. WJZ has the story of Christopher Stanley who, at the height of the pandemic, was infected with COVID-19 and suffered a severe cardiac emergency.

2/21: While the fight continues to legalize recreational marijuana in Maryland, medical marijuana has been legal here for years. And for patients like Ian Wright, medical marijuana not only changed his life, but his family's, too. WJZ introduces you to Ian's mother, who is so convinced of the benefits of medical cannabis, that she's enrolled in the first Masters program for it.

2/25: A major update in the pandemic—the CDC says masks are no longer required for 70% of the U.S. WJZ breaks down the latest numbers in Maryland and how this will impact the state.

3/1: A medical breakthrough in treating Parkinson's Disease and the work was done right here in Baltimore. Researchers at the University of Maryland School of Medicine have found a new way to treat Parkinson's. WJZ explains what the treatment involves and what it means for those living with the disease.

3/8: Since the first doses of the COVID vaccine were given out in Maryland, almost 4.5 million Marylanders have been vaccinated. As COVID metrics remain low, some are wondering if the pandemic is finally nearing an end. WJZ speaks with a doctor about where we are right now and what could be next.

3/9: A historic medical breakthrough ends in the loss of a life. The Maryland man who received the first ever pig heart transplant back in January has died. WJZ reports, the man's health began to decline in recent weeks.

3/17: A new report from Johns Hopkins shows a number of public healthcare workers are reconsidering their careers after harassment on the job during the pandemic. WJZ explains the report and the implications it could have for future legislation.

3/23: The CEOs of some major airlines send a letter to President Biden—asking for the government to end the mask mandate on planes and the COVID testing requirements for travelers. WJZ has reaction from travelers at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport.