#### WJZ-TV

# Baltimore, Maryland CBS Television Licenses LLC

# QUARTERLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS REPORT

First Quarter January 1 – March 31, 2017

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 community organizations to benefit area residents.

#### ON TIME

A half-hour, Sunday morning public affairs program that airs at 6:30AM, focusing on leaders, issues and events, affecting the Baltimore community.

## **HEALTH**

- 1/1: In Maryland, more than 1,200 people died from drug overdoses statewide in 2016—a number that is expected to increase in 2017. The concern about the issue continue to grow especially here in Baltimore City. WJZ explains.
- 1/2: Researchers at Johns Hopkins Hospital think they have found a way to link drones with medical care. WJZ reports on this innovate approach to delivering healthcare.
- 1/18: Life-saving drug settlement. Today Maryland's Attorney General announced the \$100-million settlement against a drug company accused of hiking the price of a medication used to treat serious medical conditions and charging thousands of dollars for it. WJZ is live and explains how the settlement could affect the prices of other important medications in the future.
- 1/21: It is a number that continues to spike. Roughly, 1200 people died from drug overdoses statewide last year and close to, half of those were in Baltimore City. WJZ explains, the opioid epidemic has both national and local leaders pushing for changes.

- 1/22: Stopping the consumption of sugary drinks. Howard County is going up against some mega beverage companies and they are using new ads featuring teenagers to get their message. WJZ shows us how students are joining in on the effort.
- 1/26: President Donald Trump and Maryland Congressman Elijah Cummings, unlikely allies, coming together to combat sky-high prescription drug costs. WJZ has more on where these two political rivals found common ground to help those whose lives depend on life-saving medications.
- 2/9: A health warning from doctors tonight. They say cases of the flu are increasing and spreading across the country, including right here in Maryland. WJZ is live with how the virus is affecting local families.
- 2/20: Fighting the flu. A local hospital is restricting some people from visiting after a surge in the number of Flu cases. They say it is a move to prevent the virus from spreading. WJZ has where this is happening as the flu hits thousands of people across the state.
- 3/2: Alarming trend... new research from the American Cancer Society finds a dramatic spike in colorectal cancer among Gen-Xers and Millennials. WJZ reports on the troubling trend.
- 3/10: A bombshell lawsuit filed against the NFL alleges the widespread use of painkillers among players as teams skirted federal law for dispensing powerful drugs. The suit is filed by former players against the league and individual teams, including the Ravens. WJZ's investigator has more on why this is so significant.
- 3/20: Driving danger. AAA says drowsy driving is to blame for one in five fatal crashes in the U.S. The findings now have one government agency calling for a crackdown to put an end to this dangerous trend. WJZ has more on the action they say needs to be taken.
- 3/22: A deadly disease is now being linked to a common cosmetic surgery. Doctors say breast implants could be to blame for a spike in one form of cancer. WJZ has more on the warning from the FDA.
- 3/26: Troubling trend. More and more Marylanders are getting addicted to heroin. Authorities say we are on track to have yet another year of drug overdoses and loved ones dealing with loss. WJZ explains, the epidemic is especially bad in Harford County.

- 1/1: Marcus Washington talks with Traci Kodeck and Jonathan Ortega from HealthCare Access Maryland about the upcoming deadlines to enroll in health insurance coverage for 2017. They discuss the need for everyone to enroll in a health insurance plan that works with their individual situation and budget. January 31 is the last day to enroll for a plan that starts March 1. They discuss how their navigators work with individuals to enroll in a plan. The public can come to one of their three sites for assistance and must bring documents including photo identifications, social security cards, etc.
- 1/1: Dawn Berkowitz tells Marcus Washington about the state's 10 year-old Maryland Tobacco Quitline, a free program offered to residents from 13 years old and up who are struggling with tobacco products including ecigarettes. She describes how quit coaches work one on one to develop a tailored plan to address tobacco issues. The program uses nicotine patches and other methods proven effective in curbing tobacco's appeal.
- 1/8: the Behavioral Health System works to coordinate mental health and substance abuse programs in the metro area. Adrienne Breidenstine and Ronald Fountain tell Marcus Washington about the stigma surrounding both mental health issues and substance abuse. Their organizations are working to break down those barriers. Ronald Fountain shares his story with overcoming his substance abuse addiction and how he is able to relate to others who are trying to quit.
- 1/22: Marcus Washington talks with Dr. Donna Saunders, a clinical psychologist and ordained minister about mental health issues that are behind a surge in violence both locally and nationally. She discusses how to identify mental

health issues and how to effectively deal with those issues before they escalate into major problems. Spirituality has been proven to improve mental health outcomes and she suggests individuals attend a house of worship where they can connect with others. She offers other suggestions and has a phone app that people can download.

- 1/22: Heart disease affects women at astoundingly high rates claiming female lives at the rate of one a minute. Laura Freitag and Christopher Helmrath tell Marcus Washingtown about the American Heart Association's outreach campaigns including the national Go Red For Women day on February 3. Women as well as men should know their numbers blood pressure, cholesterol, blood sugar, and BMI according to the American Heart Association. Proceeds from the upcoming Baltimore Heart Ball will go to local community education campaigns.
- 2/5: Dr. Howard Haft and Ken Day talks with Marcus Washington about the heroin epidemic that is killing hundreds of men, women and children in all areas of the state. They discuss how synthetic opioids like fentanyl are being mixed with heroin to make a deadly cocktail. They discuss the new initiatives that Governor Larry Hogan instituted to combat this health problem. The state has collaborated with MPT to feature a documentary on overcoming heroin addiction. WJZ is one of several commercial broadcasters who will also air the special.
- 2/12: The University of Maryland Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center was recently honored with the "comprehensive" status by the National Cancer Institute indicating that the center offers research to innovative technology to improve patient outcomes. Nurse Todd Milliron explains his role in the cancer center and how he helps to raise funds through the Maryland Half Marathon, founded by Michael Greenebaum and Jon Sevel. They tell Marcus Washington how funds have benefitted research into cancer at the center.
- 3/5: The Elizabeth Dole Foundation created the Hidden Heroes initiative to draw attending to the 5.5 million caretakers' of military service personnel. Steve Schwab, the executive director of the Dole Foundation, tells Marcus Washington how Sen. Dole witnessed firsthand the struggles of young families dealing with physical and mental health issues of service men and women while she was caring for her husband who suffered war wounds. Megan Smith, whose husband choose to return to active duty following his leg amputation, was selected as a 2017 Dole Caregiver Fellow. She explains how she will be working with the foundation to address the needs of families like hers whose husband returned to active duty.
- 3/19: Every 66 seconds, another American is being diagnosed with Alzheimer's and unless something is done to find a cure, that rate will accelerate to every 33 seconds in the year 2050. Ellen Torres explains to Marcus Washington that the disease is more than memory loss and its early warning signs can include behavior changes and cognitive decline. Funding for local programs and research comes from their annual Memory Ball according to cochair Rachael Campbell.
- 3/26: ALS also known as Lou Gehrig's disease is a neurological disease that affects the muscles that results in death, 3-10 years after the initial diagnosis. Chanda Brigance, wife of OJ Brigance, a former linebacker with the Baltimore Ravens, discusses his symptoms at the onset of his diagnosis ten years ago. Because ALS patients require special medical equipment specialized wheelchairs, ventilators, lift machines, etc.; they decided to start the foundation to help other families with these expenses. Dr. Janel Johnson discusses the type of research examining the connection between gene mutations and ALS. She discusses the need for African Americans to be part of the gene sampling and participate in clinical trials.
- 3/26: Edel Blumberg tells Marcus Washington how he survived colon cancer three times. He discusses the warning signs and treatment options that helped to save his life. Since beating the disease, he formed an organization dedicated to making colon cancer awareness their top mission.

## **EDUCATION**

Eyewitness News did a story on...

1/11: An Anne Arundel County teenager is facing charges after police say she created a Twitter account threatening an attack at Arundel High School. The tweet came days after another group of students passed around a racist petition at the school—tonight, administrators met face to face with concerned parents. WJZ is live and speaks with the parents who say they have been afraid to send their children to school.

- 1/17: School bus safety probe. Lawmakers from Maryland and Tennessee push for a possible overhaul of current safety practices due to recent fatal crashes. It comes as the National Transportation Safety Board releases its initial report of the deadly Chattanooga school bus crash that killed six children. WJZ is live in Southwest Baltimore with the proposed changes.
- 1/24: Breach of school security. A Lansdowne High School student is attacked in class by teens who reportedly snuck into the school! The brawl was caught on cell phone video and tonight, three suspects are charged. WJZ is live outside police headquarters and speaks exclusively with the victim and her mother who are demanding answers tonight.
- 1/27: Massive school cuts. Hundreds of teachers and other school employees could lose their jobs in Baltimore City as city schools deal with a bleak financial picture. WJZ's investigator breaks down what is behind the money shortfall.
- 2/14: Allegations of sexual assault at an elite private school in Roland Park. Tonight, we have learned a 15-year-old is no longer enrolled at the school after being identified as a suspect. WJZ is live at Friends School on Charles Street and explains the case involves several students.
- 2/23: A Baltimore County high school student is facing charges after being caught with a gun at school! The incident reignites fear in a community that has experienced a school shooting tragedy before. WJZ is live and tells you how police found the gun.
- 2/23: Closing the gap. Tonight, Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh says she has a plan to get city schools out of a multi-million dollar hole. The announcement coming as thousands gather in Annapolis—calling for action to be taken. WJZ is live with more on the mayor's plan.
- 2/27: School leaders are demanding a way to fix the \$130-million budget deficit facing Baltimore City Schools. This afternoon, leaders from the organization "BUILD" plan to stand with 50 city public school principals in front of City Hall. They will demand state and city elected leaders set a deadline to fix the deficit.
- 2/28: Baltimore City Mayor Catherine Pugh is asking Governor Larry Hogan for help in dealing with schools budget gap. During a speech at City Hall last night, the mayor said she is having conversations with the governor with helping the school system. Meanwhile, the governor told WJZ that the city needs to do a better job at managing money. Baltimore City Schools is among the jurisdictions that receive the most money from the state.
- 3/1: Violent basketball brawl. WJZ obtains video of a fight at a Maryland high school where at least one person was taken to the hospital. WJZ is live with more on what the video shows and its impact at the school.
- 3/1: Bomb threat at a local high school. It comes the same day hundreds of students at the Carroll County school were protesting the removal of pro-diversity posters. WJZ has been covering the story from the start and breaks down what happened today.
- 3/2: Outrage in Baltimore County—after a racist picture surfaces and goes viral. The offensive post is sparking protests at Eastern Tech High School. WJZ has the investigation and controversy.
- 3/3: A large rally outside the Carroll County School Headquarters today in support of students who backed diversity at Westminster High School this week after pro-diversity posters were taken down at the school. WJZ is live with more on the rally.
- 3/3: Another gun scare at a local school. Baltimore City school police receive a tip that a student brought a weapon to school and it turned out to be true. WJZ is live and tells us how the school system and students are responding.
- 3/4: Speaking out. Hundreds of parents and students gather to demand more funding for Baltimore City schools, an education system faced with the largest budget gap in school history. WJZ is live with more on their concerns.

- 3/5: Governor Larry Hogan makes a statement concerning one of the hottest topics in the state, Baltimore City schools \$130-million budget gap. The deficit could force hundreds of layoffs and many people are looking to the governor to save jobs and education in the city.
- 3/16: In this highly charged political climate, advocacy groups tell WJZ they are seeing increased discrimination against Muslims. Just weeks ago, a Gaithersburg basketball player was barred from playing in a game because of her religious attire. WJZ reports the move is stirring up controversy and raising questions.
- 3/21: An about-face from Baltimore County's school board after it votes to get rid of its controversial heat policy. WJZ has more on the change and reaction from those not happy about it.
- 3/23: Immigration controversy at a Maryland high school. Tonight, the school district says it's received hundreds of hate emails and calls. It comes after police say a 14-year-old girl was raped by two teenagers, one who was in the country illegally. WJZ reports on the steps now being taken by police.
- 3/26: Maryland Governor Larry Hogan announces today more than \$23-million proposed for Baltimore City Schools. WJZ has more on the proposal after weeks of negotiations between city and state officials.
- 3/27: A Maryland student is arrested and accused of planning a mass shooting at her Frederick County high school. It was set to happen at Catoctin High School in Thurmont. Investigators say they found a shotgun and bomb making materials at the student's home! WJZ is live with details on how the alleged plot was foiled.
- 3/28: Chilling new information emerges in a Maryland student's alleged plot to carry out a massacre at her high school. Investigators now say the 18-year-old mentioned other high-profile attacks in her diary! WJZ breaks down what police are saying about her plans.
- 3/29: A mass shooting plot is stopped. Days later, a small Western Maryland community is still coming to grips with the would-be massacre. Tonight, a Thurmont honor student remains hospitalized after police say she was planning an attack at her high school. WJZ's investigator has new insight into her foiled plan.
- 3/30: A Maryland school district has now gotten close to a thousand hate calls and emails. It comes after an illegal immigrant was charged with raping a 14-year-old student. Tonight, for the first time, we are hearing some of those offensive messages. WJZ is live with the outcry here in Maryland and across the country.

- 1/1: The College Bound Foundation's CAPS advisors are assigned to work with high school students in 14 Baltimore City High Schools to assist them with the college enrollment and application process. Qiana Cheatham and David LaNore tell Marcus Washington how CAPS advisors hold one on one counseling sessions with students to cover information pertaining to college applications, FAFSA federal form process and NCAA requirements for scholarships. The deadline to submit the FAFSA form is March 1 however, students to apply early as funds are dispersed to those who apply first.
- 1/15: Aisha DaCosta started I AM O'Kah, a mentoring-based program that works with high school students to unlock their potential. Their programs expose students to entrepreneurship and finance and assist with college prep. The program was named in honor of the oldest DaCosta sister who was the first in their family to graduate from college. While at Morgan State University, Kahdine DaCosta, was interested in helping others like her, succeed in the college environment but her life was cut short by breast cancer. Sister Aisha took up her cause and started the program to help others like her become the first in their families attend college.
- 1/29: Maryland's Teacher of the Year is one of four finalists for the National Teacher of the Year Award to be decided in May. Athanasia Kyriakakos tells Marcus Washington about her surprise at winning the state's top teaching award and how she inspires and is inspired by her students at Mervo. Dr. Darla Strouse discusses how Baltimore City teachers have taken top honors for two consecutive years and the state has had six National Teacher of the Years more than any other state.

- 2/5: Vincent James talks with Marcus Washington about the Alpha Achievers program that began 20 years ago at Oakland Mills High School with 18 students and has expanded to all 12 high schools in Howard County, serving 350 students.
- 2/26: Pam Curtis Massey and Marques Dent tell Marcus Washington about their mentoring programs for city girls and boys. They discuss how important it is for city youth to see examples of adults from their communities who have become successful in life. They discuss how they work together to expose city youth to opportunities that allude most in the inner city. During the summer, they hold camps and expose the youth to computer skills.

## **ARTS & CULTURE**

- 1/15: The so-called "Greatest Show on Earth" is folding up its tent forever. Ringling Brothers—Barnum and Bailey Circus will soon close its doors. WJZ explains the decision comes as a surprise to many performers and fans.
- 1/18: Baltimore's two stadiums earn top honors in new nationwide rankings. Both Oriole Park at Camden Yards and M&T Bank Stadium beating out tough competition. WJZ explains how Baltimore hit it out of the park!
- 1/19: Broadway's hottest show is on its way to Baltimore. Hamilton will come to the Hippodrome in the 2018-2019 season. WJZ reports, tickets are not even on sale, but are expected to sell out.
- 2/11: It's 28 days full of history. Black History Month is now in full swing and Baltimore is shedding light on some of the countless contributions of African Americans. WJZ was at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum today and has a look at how some people are celebrating and learning.
- 2/17: It was part of one of the darkest times in world history. The phone used by Hitler to make calls that cost millions of lives during World War II will be auctioned off this weekend here in Maryland. WJZ explains how this phone from Germany ended up in Cecil County.
- 2/18: It's a unique way to connect with people around the world and it's now here in Baltimore. The Downtown Partnership debuts the city's first portal—a chance to interact with someone face to face in real time even if they're in another country. WJZ shows you how it's done.
- 2/24: The Maryland Zoo can now officially introduce their new baby giraffe today. Zoo staff spelled out the winning name. It is Willow! The name got 32% of the online vote! Those who voted for the name thought she looked like a willow tree, which is slender and graceful like the calf, and it represented her playful personality.
- 2/26: Today, the winner of WJZ's 2017 Black History Oratory Competition is revealed. Ahmad Jeremiah Pearl of Calvert Hall did his oration on an inspirational quote by Harriet Tubman. The competition was held at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum. Ahmad takes home \$300 from WJZ and a \$2,000 scholarship gift card from sponsor, Toyota Financial Services. WJZ has sponsored this annual Oratory Competition for 24 years.
- 2/28: Harriet Tubman will become the first woman on paper U.S. currency the new face on front of the \$20 dollar bill by 2020. In addition, as we gear up for this historical moment, a state park in Maryland is named in her honor. WJZ gets a sneak peek at the Underground Railroad Museum on Maryland's Eastern Shore.
- 3/4: A one-of-a-kind experience. New artwork inspired by the James Webb Space Telescope is now on display in Maryland. WJZ has what you need to know and what makes the event unique.
- 3/10: Merging the past with the future. A one-of-a-kind facility opens this weekend honoring the legacy of Maryland native Harriet Tubman. It is located in the same area on the Eastern Shore where she was born a slave and later returned to free slaves in the Underground Railroad. WJZ reports from Dorchester County with more on the excitement.

3/30: In less than 24 hours, it is time to flip the switch and light up Baltimore. For the second year, Light City Baltimore brings a mix of art, music and entertainment. WJZ is live at the Inner Harbor with a preview of the festival.

- 1/1: Marcus Washington announces the start of WJZ's Black History Oratory Competition that runs from January 1-25. The competition is open to all Maryland high school students in grades 9-12 who select one of the designated quotes by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Harriet Tubman or Dr. Carla Hayden, and write an original essay. Twenty semi-finalists will be chosen to present their memorized orations at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum on Sunday, February 26.
- 1/8: Nora Thompson and Abbi Ludwig from the Port Discovery Children's Museum talk to Marcus Washington about a new exhibit, Thomas & Friends: Explore the Rails that is based on Thomas the Train that is popular with children. They explain how this exhibit introduces very young children to basic STEM concepts in science, technology, engineering and math, as part of their hands-on play experience. Their educational play experiences lead to self-confidence in the developing young child.
- 1/29: Dr. Joanne Martin, along with her late husband, Dr. Elmer Martin started making wax figures in their kitchen. Thirty-seven years later, the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum has expanded to the 1600 block of East North Avenue in Baltimore's Oliver neighborhood and features hundreds of wax figures documenting the African American experience including the middle passage from Africa to the Americas.
- 1/29: Deborah Taylor tells Marcus Washington about the Pratt Library's Booklovers Breakfast featuring author Jacqueline Woodson, who has written books for children, teens and now with her new book, "Another Brooklyn", adults. This ticketed event allows booklovers of all ages the opportunity to talk with the author and get autographed copies of her works. This event kicks off Black History Month at the library that also includes Writers' Live discussions to jazz performances. Later in April, the Pratt holds its annual gala, Mr. Pratt Presents An Evening with Ron Chernow, the author of Hamilton.
- 1/29: Jae Sherwood, the author of the children's book, Little Leona of Monsters and Fire, discusses how her illustrated book teaches lessons about fire safety. The Annapolis Fire Department is using her book in their safety education program in schools.
- 2/5: Author Odessa Rose and director Jamella Williams-Thomas tell Marcus Washington about the book, Water in a Broken Glass that is being turned into a film, Water. The message of the story is being true to yourself and finding courage to be yourself. This local project was filmed in Baltimore using regional actors in addition to Victoria Rowell, a national actor known for her characters on The Young and Restless and Diagnosis Murder.
- 2/12: Hana Sharif, the associate artistic director of Baltimore Center Stage, and Angela Walker, president of the Baltimore Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, tell Marcus Washington about their partnership to produce a performance highlighting Black History pioneers using Jack and Jill students. They explained that the Jack and Jill program offers African American youth educational, cultural and social opportunities that are rooted in the community. Proceeds benefit the youth program and a local elementary school.
- 3/5: Marcus Washington talks with Rena Hoisington, curator of Off the Shelf: Modern and Contemporary Artists' Books about the new exhibition at the Baltimore Museum of Art. She discusses how many famous artists from Picasso, Kandinsky, Miro collaborated with authors to create books that told a pictorial story to accompany the written word. Visitors will be able to use iPad to visually turn the pages of these historic books that are enclosed in cases.
- 3/12: Marcus Washington talks with Jamie McDonald and Coffin Nachtmahr about Light City Baltimore. They discuss how successful the event was in its inaugural year and how they have incorporated public suggestions for making, the event improved in the second year. Coffin Nachtmahr discusses how his yo-yo skills will be on display at Light City and that he will be participating in one of the labs being offered during the day as part of Light City.

3/19: Light City Baltimore returns for the second year and one of the featured art exhibits is based on the science principle of sonoluninescence – the transference of sound waves into light ways. The scientists who created this exhibit, SONO:LUMO, Dr. Margaret Duff and Dr. Joe McArdle explain how the giant lollipop looking structure converts sounds – from voice, traffic, musical instruments – into colors of light based on the ROY-G-BIV scale.

## **CONSUMER: HOUSING**

Eyewitness News did a story on...

- 3/18: A big boost for dozens of neighborhoods in Baltimore City that will soon get funding to help produce special events in their community. WJZ reports on how residents were greeted and congratulated by the mayor.
- 3/29: The scandal rocked the Baltimore City Public Housing Department. Workers accused of demanding sex in exchange for repairs. Now, it is over after the second and final case is tossed out. WJZ has more on why prosecutors dropped the charges.

#### **CONSUMER: ECONOMY**

- 2/10: Should sports betting be legalized in Maryland? The potentially billion-dollar idea is gaining momentum... WJZ has more on the new legislation being proposed.
- 2/10: Backlash is growing against Baltimore-based Under Armour. As WJZ reports more superstar athletes are speaking out and are upset with CEO Kevin Plank's support of President Trump. Could this affect revenue for the Baltimore company?
- 2/12: With a record number of travelers in 2016, Baltimore's Thurgood Marshall Airport is ramping up for a major expansion. The plan is to increase travel options and convenience especially if you are flying internationally. WJZ has a look at the new 60-million dollar concourse.
- 2/15: Tonight, the head of Baltimore-based Under Armour is clarifying his recent comments about President Trump. Kevin Plank took out a whole page ad in the Baltimore Sun. WJZ reports, it comes after his words sparked backlash including from some of the company's star athletes.
- 2/17: Like the low gas prices? Do not get used to them. Just before the busy travel season gas prices are on the rise. WJZ is live with how high they could spike and what is causing this.
- 2/21: One item apparently not on President Trump's to-do list staying at Camp David. Traditionally, presidents spend time away from the White House at Camp David in Thurmont, Frederick County. However, as WJZ reports, so far, he has passed it over for the glitter of Mar-a-Lago in Florida and the cost to taxpayers.
- 2/21: Tonight, even if you are driving safely, other bad drivers could be costing you big bucks. WJZ reports, insurance companies are blaming distracted drivers for the pain good drivers have to endure.
- 2/24: Racing season at Pimlico is fast approaching. Now, a just-released report says the racecourse needs a major overhaul- a several hundred million dollar overhaul. Those who live and work in the area agree, but say renovations should stretch well beyond the track.
- 2/26: Bicycling is more than just exercise and because of its popularity, the city's bike share program is growing. Ava-Joye Burnett shows us how a company that started here in Maryland will be expanding far beyond the state.
- 3/20: Raising the pay scale. Baltimore City Council votes to increase the minimum wage to 15-dollars an hour but not everyone is happy. WJZ reports, the mayor will have the final say.

- 3/24: A controversial proposal—that would raise Baltimore's minimum wage to 15-dollars an hour is dealt a major blow. This, after the mayor decides to veto the bill. Some are praising that decision, while others are disappointed. WJZ speaks with those impacted on both sides.
- 3/29: Mayor Catherine Pugh announces the return of those controversial red light and speed cameras that once were all over the city and generated millions in revenue. WJZ is live where one of the cameras remains on Light Street and explains when we can expect those cameras to be flashing again.
- 3/29: New census numbers show Baltimore city's population is at a 100-year low Officials pointing to issues like blight and crime but despite this some neighborhoods are on the rebound. WJZ explains what is driving some people to move into the city.

- 1/8: At tax time, low-income individuals and families who learn less than \$54,000 are eligible for free tax preparation services offered by the Baltimore CASH Campaign at locations in both the city and Baltimore County. Sara Johnson and Francesca Jean Baptiste tell Marcus Washington how their certified counselors can save taxpayers money by not charging fees for this service. Their program can electronically file federal and state returns as well as the Earned Income Tax Credit.
- 1/22: Marceline White tells Marcus Washington about the Maryland Renter's Tax Credit that is similar to the Maryland Homeowner's Tax Credit. This little known benefit can help seniors and those living in poverty with funds that can be applied towards their monthly rental costs. Renters can get help with completing the forms at the Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition and the Maryland and Baltimore CASH Campaign offices. The deadline to apply is in the fall.

## **CONSUMER: JOBS**

- 1/5: New plans to bring thousands of new jobs to Charm City! Baltimore is dealing with high unemployment rates, but top state and local leaders want that to change. WJZ is live with more on how the governor and mayor are trying to solve the problem.
- 1/23: Your wallet or well-being? Once again, that question is at the center of debate in Annapolis as Marylanders rally for and against paid sick leave. WJZ is live with more on what both sides are proposing and if there's any chance it will stick.
- 1/31: This is certainly news you can raise a pint to. The first Guinness Brewery in the United States in more than six decades is on tap to open in Baltimore County. It is expected to bring jobs and increase tourism. WJZ is live with a look at the proposed brewery and what it will mean for Baltimore County
- 2/23: Ivanka Trump in Baltimore is joined by the new small business administration secretary in Charm City. The two met with minority-owned businesses this week. Those who were there say the First Daughter said she would do her best to get them government support. WJZ has more on what was discussed at the closed-door meeting.
- 2/24: First daughter Ivanka Trump made a surprise appearance in Baltimore earlier this week. The first daughter along with SBA leader Linda McMahon and presidential assistant Dina Powell visited the Greater Baltimore Urban League. While there, the three participated in a roundtable discussion with a number of minority business owners, mainly from the Baltimore area.
- 2/25: For more than a decade hundreds of Baltimore residents have participated in Project JumpStart, a workforce program that is closing the employment gap for low income and low skill workers. More on how that program is changing lives.

- 2/25: A multi-million-dollar expansion. The Maryland Port is buying more land in Southeast Baltimore. It is just one move for the port that is expected to add jobs to Charm City.
- 3/10: Ray Lewis goes to Annapolis. The former Ravens linebacker is promoting jobs and outreach programs he believes can make a difference in Baltimore and the rest of the state. WJZ is live with more on Ray's ideas.
- 3/19: Expanding the power of Johns Hopkins. The university is using its influence to create job opportunities for people who have struggled to get jobs in the past. WJZ explains more about this program that has created hundreds of jobs.

- 1/15: TranZed Apprenticeship Services is a new program that provides employers with access to job applicants in a yearlong paid program. The apprenticeship program identifies employers in the IT, cyber and digital fields that are having difficulties finding interested applicants. TranZed offers a pipeline into qualified candidates who may know of these companies. Kimberly Neal tells Marcus Washington how the program was designed based on a successful apprenticeship program in Great Britain. Dr. Charles Johnson-Bey discusses why Lockheed Martin decided to collaborate with TranZed and is in the process of hiring an apprentice for their IT and Security program.
- 2/12: Kathy Rogers and Mike DiPaola tell Marcus Washington how the Penn-Mar Human Services help those with cognitive disabilities live independent meaningful lives. Housing, job training and employment are some of the core areas that the Penn-Mar assists clients like Mike. Their upcoming gala helps to support their housing programs that places those with disabilities into homes located in the community.
- 2/26: The Caroline Center provides women who what to change their lives with intensive job training in the health care fields. Sister Patricia McLaughlin and Kiara Parker a graduate of the program discuss how the Caroline Center's programs offer 15 week job training along with soft skills including resume writing, interview skills and communication skills for women who are looking to improve their lives through better employment opportunities. The center is part of the mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame.
- 2/26: Kanika Feaster explains how the Humanim Workforce Development Center helps city residents find jobs. Their upcoming community job fair is free to employer as well as job seekers. Based in the old American Brewery in East Baltimore, workforce development along with human services, youth services and social enterprise are some of their programs that are helping transform the community by addressing basic needs.
- 3/26: Marcus Washington talks with representatives from the Greater Baltimore Urban League about their workforce development programs and Raymond V. Haysbert Center for Entrepreneurs. William Honablew discusses the services the Haysbert Center provides to entrepreneurs just starting out in their business to those who are trying to grow business. They offer one on one mentoring, financial planning workshops, grant writing and ongoing seminars. Kelli Tubman White discusses the workforce development programs aimed at providing jobs, career counseling and youth college fairs.

## LOCAL POLITICS

- 1/9: A grand jury indicts a former aide to Mayor Catherine Pugh. Prosecutors say Gary Brown illegally funneled thousands of dollars into Pugh's campaign as she ran for office, but they say it is unknown where the money came from. WJZ is live at City Hall with more on the charges he is now facing.
- 1/9: Breaking her silence. An unusual move from Elsie Bateman, wife of Anne Arundel County Sheriff Ron Bateman. Tonight, she has issued a letter apologizing for the couple's domestic dispute last year. Charges were filed, but later dropped. WJZ is live with more on what the surprise letter reveals.

- 1/10: Following the money. Just days from being sworn in as a member of Maryland's House of Delegates, a former campaign aide for Mayor Catherine Pugh is charged with illegally contributing thousands of dollars to her campaign. So just how far does this investigation go? WJZ's investigator explains the impact of the charges and what's next.
- 1/11: A series of scandals are shaking Maryland politics. Just this week one delegate resigned, another will not be sworn in and a former delegate signed a plea deal. WJZ's investigator has the steps being taken to put an end to the corruption.
- 1/17: Immigration showdown. As Howard County considers a bill that would shield illegal immigrants from some legal penalties, hundreds of people on both sides of the issue voiced their opinions. WJZ is live in Howard County where the sometimes-contentious meeting is still going on.
- 1/20: WJZ has complete coverage of Inauguration Day live from Washington, D.C.
- 1/21: In one of the largest movements in U.S. history, hundreds of thousands come together in our nation's capital and right here in Maryland to send a strong message to President Donald Trump that women's rights are human rights. WJZ is live and spent the day in Washington with more on the march and its message.
- 1/29: WJZ has complete coverage of nationwide protests against President Trump's travel ban including more on a large protest at BWI Thurgood Marshall airport and reaction from Maryland's political leaders.
- 1/30: Should marijuana be legal in Maryland? The issue is up for debate again. Supporters of a plan to regulate and tax marijuana like alcohol and want to put the question on the 2018 ballot. WJZ's political reporter explains they believe that if given a chance, voters would approve it.
- 1/31: A push to stiffen the penalties for attacks on police officers. Targeted simply for being police officers. Maryland lawmakers are proposing hate crime protections for officers, but some say it could do more harm than good. WJZ is live with more on the legislation that would give officers the same privileges given to other protected groups.
- 2/2: A lavish farewell event for Stephanie Rawlings-Blake was held this past November. Tonight, WJZ confirms the former Baltimore City mayor's party cost more than \$50,000. How the party was paid for may be legal, but it's also raising some eyebrows. WJZ takes a closer look.
- 2/2: Call to action. Tonight, Baltimore City Mayor Catherine Pugh demanding real solutions to combat surging violence in the city. WJZ is live at City Hall and reports she called dozens of law enforcement and community leaders together to come up with a strategy.
- 2/6: After weeks of a heated debate Howard County votes yes to becoming a sanctuary for undocumented immigrants. This comes as the legal fight over President Trump's temporary travel ban escalates. WJZ is live with complete coverage including the legal battles and the emotional reunions happening around the country and how the controversial decision made tonight in Howard County could change in the coming days.
- 2/7: New Baltimore City council member Ryan Dorsey is facing major backlash tonight after comparing Under Armour CEO Kevin Plank's Port Covington development plan to white supremacy. WJZ speaks with Dorsey about his controversial comments.
- 2/9: A slap in the face on social media. Some Marylanders are feeling that way, after being kicked off Governor Hogan's Facebook page. Is it censorship? WJZ reports, the online dust-up is raising that question.
- 2/15: A top Maryland county prosecutor abruptly resigns. It comes as he is sentenced for having sex in front of a balcony door in public view. WJZ has more on the shocking indecent exposure case and the fallout.

- 2/16: A Capitol Hill showdown. The President calls out Maryland Congressman Elijah Cummings during a lengthy, passionate news conference. WJZ has more on what sparked the high-powered back and forth and the response from the congressman.
- 2/17: Controversy tonight over the Governor's official Facebook page. He uses it to communicate with Marylanders, but hundreds have been blocked! Tonight, the ACLU says that is censorship and its wrong. WJZ has more on how the group is taking action.
- 2/20: Baltimore City State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby is once against fighting to crackdown on repeat sex offenders in the state. WJZ has more on why she and a growing coalition of supporters say the fourth time will be the charm.
- 2/24: Lawmakers are moving closer to repealing a Taser and stun gun ban in some Maryland Counties. Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh says a lawsuit involving six local residents against the state has been put on hold for 90 days as they wait for the latest legislative session to finish. On Tuesday, Howard County lawmakers lifted a ban on the electronic weapons in response to the lawsuit that claims the ban violates second amendment rights.
- 2/25: Supporting immigrants...that was the message today during a fundraiser in Fells Point. The non-profit organization "B-More together" hosted the event this afternoon at the South Latin Kitchen supporting the Maryland Immigrant Rights Coalition. B-MoreTogether's president wants immigrants in Baltimore to know that their city is behind them.
- 2/27: A huge crowd marches through the streets of Annapolis tonight, hoping to send a message to the Governor. CASA, Maryland Rising and hundreds of supporters made their way to the state capitol. They want to see the passage of the Maryland Trust Act, protecting the state's immigrants, debt-free college tuition and the minimum wage raised to \$15.
- 2/28: Good news for Governor Larry Hogan. A new poll says he is still very popular among Marylanders. According to the latest poll from Goucher College 63% of people in the state approve of the job he is doing while only 17% disapprove. The 63% approval rate is down from 70% during the last poll.
- 3/5: Right now, it is a crime for firefighters to give medical aid to pets rescued from burning buildings. However, if a new bill in Annapolis passes that would change. WJZ has more on this fight to protect firefighters.
- 3/12: Speaking out. Immigrant activists take to the streets of Baltimore to protest what they call unfair immigration policies. WJZ is live with more on the call for Maryland leaders to step up.

- 1/15: Paul Comfort, administrator for the MTA, tells Marcus Washington about the upcoming final hearings on the state's transportation proposal to overhaul the bus system. He discusses how the bus system will change to include new suburban-to-suburban direct routes, better timing between bus, light rail and metro, and improve upon customer service. High frequency buses will run on 10-minute intervals during peak time and overall the buses will be more reliable and cleaner for patrons. The MTA are holding hearings around the metro area to solicit public input into the changes. In addition, patrons can submit their comments to the new changes by email. The new Baltimore Link system goes into effect on June 18.
- 2/19: Marcus Washington talks with law professor and author, F. Michael Higginbotham about civil rights challenges under the new administration. Professor Higginbotham discusses the role of the Attorney General in upholding and enforcing civil rights laws, and how Sen. Jeff Sessions' voting history needs to be examined thoroughly to determine whether he can uphold civil liberties for all Americans. They discuss the recent immigration ban and the nominee to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court.
- 3/5: Changes in immigration are affecting communities like Columbia, Maryland that were founded upon the principles of diversity and inclusion. Hector Garcia Jr., the executive director of FIRN, Foreign-born Information and Referral Network, tells Marcus Washington that his organization, founded 35 years ago, serves both the documented and undocumented immigrant community with programs ranging from translation assistance to

immigration rights. Pratisththa Khanna, a DACA student, shares her family's struggle with the new immigration policies that could deport her undocumented mother. Her family arrived in 2001 with appropriate visas and applied for citizenship. After 9/11, their family's application was caught in catch 22 and for technical reasons not approved. Now her family lives in fear that the mother, the only living parent, could be deported to India after living here for 17 years.

# **COMMUNITY**

- 1/15: The so-called "Greatest Show on Earth" is folding up its tent forever. Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus will soon close its doors. WJZ explains, the decision comes as a surprise to many performers and fans.
- 2/10: Mexico issues a warning to its citizens in the U.S. to take precautions. It comes after a new round of deportations in response to President Trump's tough stand against illegal immigrants. WJZ is live with the fear and concern being felt here in Maryland.
- 2/11: If you have something to give, share it with your community—and the world. That was the purpose behind "Volunteering Untapped". It is a summit that is connecting hundreds of millennials with local non-profit that in turn helps our city.
- 2/13: Making a comeback? New analysis of Baltimore City Police's once heavily criticized secret surveillance program shows it has promise, but could use some work. WJZ breaks down the report and explains if the program could again take flight.
- 2/14: Immigration crackdown. Across the country federal agents are conducting what they call "targeted enforcement operations" aimed at capturing and deporting those here in the U.S. illegally and some are claiming it happened right here in Baltimore! WJZ explains why immigrant advocate groups are crying foul on the operations.
- 2/18: Religious leaders in Baltimore neighborhoods plagued by crime say they have had enough. Today, a crime walk was held to send a strong message and encourage an end to the violence. WJZ is live at city police headquarters with more from organizers and the mayor.
- 2/21: A wave of anti-Semitic threats and hate crimes are sweeping through Maryland and across the country. Today, President Trump condemning the growing threats against the Jewish community. WJZ is live at the Jewish Community Center in North Baltimore with more on the threats and those now on edge in our area.
- 2/28: Same-Sex marriage has a positive impact on gay, lesbian and bi-sexual teenagers. That is according to a new study by the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Less LGBT teens are dying by suicide since the state and country approved gay marriage.
- 2/28: Buy Canadian. In a drive to bring down the cost of prescription drugs Maryland Congressman Elijah Cummings is in the center of it of the controversy. The bill would allow Americans to import safe, low cost drugs from other countries.
- 3/8: On this International Women's Day women across the globe including here in Maryland take a day off work in an effort to draw attention to women's rights issues. WJZ is live with more on what was dubbed "A Day without a Woman".
- 3/11: A new urban park is coming to Baltimore County. It's taking shape in a location that's needed a facelift for years. WJZ has more on the new green space on its way to Towson.
- 3/17: Two Baltimore teenagers are behind bars tonight charged with attempted first-degree murder. One of the teens is just 14-years-old. Police say the pair shot a man during an armed robbery. WJZ has more on the serious charges and recent increase in youth crime.

- 3/21: A major renovation in Fells Point is bringing Baltimore's history and modern luxuries together to make a spectacular new hotel! Today, the mayor and governor took part in the ceremonial ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of the new Sagamore Pendry Hotel. WJZ takes you inside.
- 3/27: Slow left lane drivers could soon face a hefty fine here in Maryland! A new bill is picking up speed in Annapolis that cracks down on left lane lingering. WJZ reports while there is concern this would encourage aggressive driving on the highway, others are all for the change.
- 3/28: He served half a million Catholics in the Baltimore Archdiocese for nearly two decades. Today, thousands said their final goodbyes to Cardinal William Keeler, who passed away last week at the age of 86. WJZ explains, the Cardinal is being remembered as a gentle and wise leader.
- 3/30: Tonight, a warning for taxpayers. Thousands of Marylanders have fallen victim to identity fraud as criminals are stealing your information to get your tax refund. WJZ breaks down what you need to know.

- 1/22: The Girl Scouts want young girls ages five and six to join their Daisy Program. Sara Wolfe and Heather Carpenter tell Marcus Washington how young girls in Daisies can learn self-confidence and leadership skills. The troop in Anne Arundel provided craft kits to the Johns Hopkins Children's Hospital and gave Girl Scout cookies to their local police and fire stations. A recruitment drive is underway through February.
- 2/19: Franklyn Baker, the new president and CEO of the United Way of Central Maryland, tells Marcus Washington about their new report, ALICE, Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed which documents the working poor in Maryland. Thirty-five percent of all Maryland households fall in the ALICE category. He discusses how this report will help agencies like his better target services to the working poor those above the federal poverty level and below the sustainable level. Housing, food, transportation and medical costs factored into the ALICE report and provide a realistic picture of poverty in every jurisdiction in Maryland.
- 2/19: The Baltimore's Child Summer Camp Fair is a free event designed to offer parents an opportunity to learn about summer camp programs for their children. Baltimore's Child magazine sponsors the annual event that features multiple camp programs and counselors to meet with parents and explain their programs at a local hotel in Timonium.
- 3/12: Casey Baynes explains why she started the Casey Cares Foundation after working in a hospital and hearing a little boy say he wanted to get cancer so that he could get the gifts and trips that were being given to a sick child. She tells Marcus Washington that her program provides programs and services to the families of children with a critical illness programs that include family movie and pizza night, pajamas for those in the hospital, birthday parties, and family outings. Bob Weltchek says he originally became a sponsor of the gala and now co-chairs the event as a way to raise money to benefit the families of ill children.
- 3/12: Wendy Goldband shows off one of the adoptable dogs, Martha, at the Baltimore Humane Society. Martha, rescued from a kill shelter in PG County, will be cared for at the Humane Society's animal sanctuary until a forever home is found for her. She is also the mascot for this year's Black Tie and Tails Gala where pet owners and their pets come dressed to the nines for a festive night at the Grand Lodge in Hunt Valley. The Baltimore Humane Society also provides veterinary services and features a memorial garden on their large estate in Reisterstown.
- 3/19: Iris Leigh Barnes and Christine Tolbert tell Marcus Washington how a school built for freed African Americans after the Civil War has been renovated and serves as a school museum in Harford County. They discuss how a free African American donated the land in 1867 to be used for the school that fell into disrepair and closed in 1945. Ms. Tolbert explains that she and her parents and grandparents were all educated in this one-room schoolhouse. Plans are underway to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a gala featuring Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, president of UMBC.