# WCAU QUARTERLY LISTING COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023

# Quarterly Issues and Programs Report

Through formal and informal ascertainment of the general public, community leaders, public officials – inclusive of different ethnic organizations and service organizations, the following list emerged as issues needing media attention and support.

The programs produced to meet the needs of the public included locally produced shows and newscasts as well as national programs, public service announcement campaigns and sales marketing campaigns.

# Community Issues

Accidents and Disasters Environment

Business & Industry Foreign News

Children & Youth Funerals and Memorials

Consumer Government and Politics

Court and Legal Decisions Health and Medical

Crime and Law Enforcement Housing

Cultural Immigration

Deaths Lifestyle

Diversity Poverty

Education Religion

Elderly-Seniors-Retirement Safety

Employment/Labor Technology

Entertainment Transportation

# Regularly Scheduled Programs

Our locally produced, regularly scheduled programs are aired specifically to address community issues, concerns and needs. The programs are as follows:

NBC 10 @ Issue – A weekly issue-oriented program that focuses on current issues and events. It features interviews with local newsmakers at the center of change in our region. Sundays 11:30-12N.

# NBC 10 News Programs Programs

WCAU's daily newscasts devote considerable time to local issues and community problems. Regularly scheduled newscasts include:

Program	Time	Days
NBC 10 News Today	4:00-7:00am	Monday-Friday
NBC 10 News Today	11:00am – 12N	Monday-Friday
NBC 10 News at 4	4:00-5:00pm	Monday-Friday
NBC 10 News at 5	5:00-6:00pm	Monday-Friday
NBC 10 News at 6	6:00-6:30pm	Monday-Friday
NBC 10 News at 7	7:00-7:30pm	Monday-Friday
NBC 10 News at 11	11:00-11:35pm	Monday-Friday
NBC 10 News Today	5:30-7:00am	Saturday
NBC 10 News Today	9:00-10:00am	Saturday
NBC 10 News at 6	6:00-6:30pm	Saturday
NBC 10 News at 11	11:00-11:30pm	Saturday
NBC 10 News Today	5:30-8:00am	Sunday
NBC 10 News Today	9:00-10:30am	Sunday
NBC 10 News at 6	6:00-6:30pm	Sunday
NBC 10 News at 11	11:00-12M	Sunday

Public Safety and Crime

July 4<sup>th</sup> - Seven Shot in Kingsessing – Live in all shows.

Seven people are shot, 5 killed after a suspect with an assault weapon, wearing a bullet proof vest, started shooting people at random in Kingsessing. The victims killed range in age from 20-50, the two hurt are children. The suspect was taken into custody shooting after the shooting.

August 7th - PA Police Body Camera Initiative - Vo aired at 4p/5p

The commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police announces the commencement of a pilot program designed to ensure department readiness for implementing body-worn cameras. Patrol troopers assigned to Troop H, Carlisle will wear the cameras while on duty. The 60-day trial run allows the department to determine best practices and policies and identify any needs for additional equipment or software features. When the pilot program concludes, the department plans to implement body-worn cameras at all of its 87 patrol stations.

August 19th - Nine People Shot - Pkg aired at 11p

Nine people are shot, 1 killed, after a shootout @ 1a in West Philadelphia. Police says they have no arrest or motives at this time. The eight other victims are expected to survive.

September 1<sup>st</sup> - Chester Co Prison Break - Pkg aired at 11a/4p/6p

Police in Chester Co, PA search for an inmate who escaped from the Chester Co prison yesterday. The man was sentenced last week to life in prison for the stabbing death of his girlfriend. Police say he should be considered armed and dangerous and anyone who sees him should call 911 right away.

September 26<sup>th</sup> - Center City Looting - Live at 11p

Multiple arrests are made after groups of teens loot several stores in center city and other parts of Philadelphia. The looters broke windows, trashed stores and stole merchandise. The looting happened after a peaceful protest ended for Eddie Irizarry. Irizarry was shot and killed by a Philadelphia police officer earlier this month. The officer was charged with murder, but the charges were dropped earlier in the day. Police says the looting was not related to the case but was done by people looking for an opportunity.

### Health

July 10<sup>th</sup> - Blood Donors Needed - Vo aired at 5p

The American Red Cross continues to see a concerning trend – blood donations are being sent to hospitals faster than they are coming in. The Red Cross has collected about 50,000 fewer blood donations than needed over the last two months. Donors are asked to make an appointment to give blood or platelets now to avoid a looming blood shortage.

July 14th - Aspartame Cancer Link - Pkg aired at 4p

The World Health Organization classified the soda sweetener aspartame as a possible carcinogen, but said the designation is based on limited evidence and more research is

needed. The WHO said aspartame is safe to consume within a daily limit of 40 milligrams per kilogram of a person's body weight. Aspartame is used in Diet Coke, Pepsi Zero Sugar and other diet sodas. The U.S. FDA said it disagrees with the classification of aspartame as a possible carcinogen.

August 2<sup>nd</sup> - Covid Summer Wave - Pkg aired at 11p

The CDC says an increase in the Covid 19 cases over the last several weeks could be a sign of a slight summer wave. Highlighting Hospital admissions, test positivity rates, and emergency department visits - all seeing an uptick since last month. Experts say though that the increase is probably even higher than we know which may be good news if people with the virus aren't sick enough to need treatment.

August 18th - Jefferson Health Virtual Nurses - Vo aired at 6p

Jefferson Health is among the first in the region to launch a Virtual Nurse Program, a new model of care that leverages the use of technology to enhance patient care in the hospital and provide support to nurses at the bedside. Under this new program, every patient is still assigned a bedside nurse. In addition, some patients will also have a nurse who will work remotely with the bedside nurse to provide individualized care. Virtual nurses help with patient check-ins and rounding while supporting various care tasks, including admission and discharge paperwork, patient and family education, care consultation and electronic health record documentation.

September 15th - Sickle Cell Awareness Blood Drive -Vo aired at 4p/6p

A blood drive is held in West Philadelphia to highlight Sickle Cell Awareness month. Sickle cell occurs in 1 out of every 365 African American births and affects millions of people worldwide. Blood transfusions are a common treatment for sickle cell disease, and patients often require regular transfusions to manage their condition. Blood donations are crucial for providing the necessary supply of healthy blood for individuals with sickle cell disease and other medical conditions.

### Minorities, Gay and Lesbian Issues

August 3<sup>rd</sup>- Anti Asian Research Project - Pkg aired at 4p

An Asian American woman did a research project at Penn after experiencing anti-Asian hate during covid. She found that more than three quarters of Asian students at Penn experienced some sort of racism during that time. The woman went to the dean of diversity at the university and helped implement programs to try and find ways to prevent similar things from happening in the future.

August 3<sup>rd</sup> - Harriet Tubman Statue Design - Vo aired at 11p

The City of Philadelphia Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy hosts a virtual Public Design Presentation Meeting with the five semi-finalist artists competing to create Philadelphia's permanent Harriet Tubman statue. The public will have the opportunity to rank their favorite design and provide additional comments through an online survey which will launch after the meeting. Once complete, the statue will be placed on the north corner of city hall in what some are calling a reminder of the contributions of black women in history.

August 7th - LGBTQ Blood Donations - Pkg aired at 4p/5p

The American Red Cross is now allowing men who have sex with men to donate blood without restrictions that specifically single out a person's sexual orientation. The FDA in May dropped a nearly 40-year policy that had singled out men who have sex with men. Under the new guidelines, anyone who has recently had sex with a new partner or multiple people and has also had anal sex would have to wait three months to donate.

September 11th - Perkiomen Bathroom Vote - Pkg aired at 11p

The Perkiomen Valley School boards 5-4 against a policy that would ban transgender students from using the bathroom of the gender they identify with. Transgender students in the district will be allowed to use the bathroom or locker room of the gender they identify with.

September 15<sup>th</sup> - Hispanic Heritage Month - Pkg aired at 4p/5p

Today marks the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month. Over the next month there will be dozens of events across the air to celebrate the Hispanic culture and community. Many will include food, music, and lighting locally owned Hispanic businesses.

### **Education**

July 6th - Teacher Apprenticeship - Vo aired at 4p

The Camden Education Fund and Camden U, is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for the first federally recognized teacher apprenticeship in New Jersey. The teaching fellowship program is designed for paraprofessionals while providing an opportunity to earn a teaching certification and become eligible for full-time teaching positions. The "Teacher Pathway" program is available to all Camden paraprofessionals interested in earning their teaching certification, including those who have not attended college and those with an associate degree or bachelor's degree. The certification path is customized for each participant.

July 11<sup>th</sup> - Rutgers Tuition Increase - Vo aired at 4p/6p

The Rutgers board of governors approves a 5.4 billion operating budget for the fiscal year that began on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The budget is supported in part by a 6% increase in tuition fees for the 2023-24 academic year, a nearly 7% increase for meal plan costs and a 5% increase in housing costs for students who live in Rutgers facilities.

August 3<sup>rd</sup> - School Selection Guidelines - Vo aired at 4p

The School District of Philadelphia announces changes for the 2024-25 school selection process, which provides students currently in pre-kindergarten through 11th grade the opportunity to explore educational opportunities outside of their neighborhood or catchment area. The district will continue to use a centralized lottery and waitlist system,

apply school specific grades, attendance and PSSA criteria and make the online application available in 10 different languages.

August 17<sup>th</sup> - Camden Enrollment Re-engagement Fair – Pkg aired at 4p Camden City School District holds a Back-to-School Enrollment and Re-engagement Fair. This event aims to provide new CCSD students and their families an opportunity to meet their school community as well as enroll any families who have yet to enroll for the upcoming school year. The day will also include a laptop distribution, physicals, a vacation clinic and take-home kits to get younger kids excited about reading.

September 7<sup>th</sup> - Temple New President Search - Vo aired at 5p Temple University announces the next steps in its official search for the University's 14th president. The University has engaged with a leadership advisory firm, assembled a supporting search advisory committee, and will launch a robust community engagement process led by a team that specializes in fostering transparent two-way conversation - with the goal of announcing and introducing the next university leader in spring 2024.

### Government

July 18<sup>th</sup> - Biden Campaign Headquarters - Vo aired at 4p

President Joe Biden and Vice President Harris announced that the Biden-Harris 2024 campaign will be headquartered in Wilmington, Delaware. President Biden's family moved to Delaware from Scranton, Pennsylvania when he was 10 years old. He earned his bachelor's degree from University of Delaware and represented the state for 36 years in the United States Senate, having been elected at age 29 as one of the youngest senators in United States history. He is the first person in American history from the state of Delaware to be elected President of the United States.

August 1st - Trump Indicted - Live in all shows

Former President Donald Trump is indicted by a grand jury and has been charged with conspiracy to defraud the United States "by using dishonesty, fraud and deceit to obstruct the nation's process of collecting, counting, and certifying the results of the presidential election"; conspiracy to impede the Jan. 6 congressional proceeding; a conspiracy against the right to vote and to have that vote counted; and obstruction of the certification of the electoral vote. Trump also faces charges in a separate case brought by the special counsel accusing him of mishandling the nation's secrets since leaving the White House. Trump has denied wrongdoing in all case.

August 18th - DE Gun Legislation - Vo aired at 4p

DE Governor John Carney signs multiple pieces of gun safety legislation, including <u>House Bill 201</u> and <u>House Bill 202</u>. The legislation will limit the possession of firearms in vulnerable areas like polling places and schools.

September 18<sup>th</sup> - NJ Abortion Coverage - Vo aired at 6p

As part of the Murphy Administration's efforts to protect access to reproductive health care, the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance today announced the adoption of rules to require comprehensive abortion coverage as a part of all health benefits plans regulated by the department. This requirement, which was in place as of January 1, 2023 in the individual and small employer health insurance markets, will now be in effect for the fully-insured large employer health insurance market upon plan issuance or renewal.

September 19th – VP Harris in Reading – Pkg aired at 4p/5p Vice President Kamala Harris participates in a moderated conversation with Annie Gonzalez as part of the "Fight for Our Freedoms" college tour at Reading Area Community College. The VP urged students to get behind issues that matter to them and to vote in upcoming elections. In 2020, 65% of voters 18 to 24 voted for the Biden Harris ticket.

September 22<sup>nd</sup> - Menendez Bribery Offenses - Pkg aired at 4p and 6p U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez of New Jersey and his wife have been indicted in New York on federal bribery charges related to their allegedly "corrupt relationship" with three businessmen from their home state to protect those men and benefit the nation of Egypt. Sen. Menendez, a Democrat, is the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He was previously indicted in another federal bribery case but that case was dropped after a trial that ended in a hung jury.

### **Youth Issues**

July 21st - Philly Juvenile Justice Center Conditions - Pkg aired at 5p/6p Officials say Philadelphia's Juvenile Jail is understaffed, overcrowded and kids are forced to sleep on the floor. The city says this location is meant to be temporary but due to delays on the state's part moving the kids, they stay much longer than expected. Officials say they are also dealing with more fights between the kids and less food to offer them. A judge is now giving the PA Department of Human Services 30 days to take custody of 27 kids who have been adjudicated delinquent in hopes of heling to alleviate the problem.

August 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wildwood Curfew – Vo aired at 4p/5p
In a unanimous vote, Wildwood Mayor Pete Byron, and other officials voted on an emergency ordinance to get juveniles off the streets and home by 12a. It will become effective immediately upon publication in the Cape May County Herald, which is scheduled for August 2, 2023. The ordinance states that juveniles (under 18 years old) must be off public streets and out of public spaces by midnight and until 6 a.m. The only exceptions include:1. If the juvenile is accompanied by a parent or guardian;
2. Is engaged in, or travelling to or from, a business or occupation which the laws of this State authorize a juvenile to perform; 3. If the juvenile is engaged in an errand involving a medical emergency; 4. If the juvenile is attending an extracurricular school activity during curfew hours; or 5. If the juvenile is participating during curfew hours in a cultural, educational, and/or social event sponsored by a religious or community-based institution.

August 15<sup>th</sup> - Fresh Food in Schools - Vo aired at 5p

The Pennsylvania Department of Education announces that 252 schools in the Commonwealth will receive funding to provide fruits and vegetables to students. Nearly \$7.5 million in grant funding will be awarded under the federal Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP). Under the program, selected schools receive reimbursement for the cost of making free fresh fruits and vegetables available to students during the school day. These fresh fruits and vegetables must be provided separately from the lunch or breakfast meal, in one or more areas of the school during the school day. The goal of FFVP is to introduce children to fresh fruits and vegetables, to include new and different varieties, and to increase overall acceptance and consumption of fresh, unprocessed produce This funding is in addition to the universal free breakfast program that was budgeted this year.

September 5th - Eagles Youth Football AED Training - Vo aired at 11p

The Philadelphia Eagles and Simon's Heart host a youth football training event. The event is part of the Eagles Care Community Tuesday initiative and Amazon's support of sudden cardiac arrest awareness and prevention. Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is an abrupt, lifethreatening emergency that occurs when the heart unexpectedly stops pumping blood to the rest of the body. SCA can affect anyone, regardless of age or physical fitness level, making it a direct threat to student athletes. Every second counts, so recognizing symptoms and ensuring rapid medical attention is critical to survival.

September 14<sup>th</sup> – Archbishop Ryan Girls Wrestling – Vo aired at 5p Archbishop Ryan High School announces the addition of Girls' Wresting as a Varsity sport for the 2023-2024 academic year. The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association recently voted to approve girls' wresting as an official sport effective with the coming season. ARHS administrators will interview candidates for the head coaching position in the coming weeks.

September 20<sup>th</sup> -Smoking in Cars with Kids – Pkg aired at 5p Delaware Governor John Carney joins State Representative Kevin Hensley, students, and teachers at Wilbur Elementary School to sign <u>House Bill 118</u>. This bill, which prohibits smoking in vehicles in the presence of a minor, was brought to the General Assembly by Wilbur Elementary School students and their teacher.

### **Disabled**

July 17<sup>th</sup> – Down Syndrome Beach Day – Pkg aired at 6p

The Wildwood Beach Patrol hosts the 14th Annual "Beach Day" with 21 Down, a local non-profit, down syndrome awareness group serving families, educators and healthcare professionals of Atlantic and Cape May Counties. This is the largest gathering in its history with 300 in attendance. A summer tradition in Wildwood: The Wildwood Beach Patrol opens Baker Ave Beach for kids with down syndrome and their families for the day.

July 21st - Special Needs Gift Shop - Pkg aired at 5p

A new gift shop in Point Pleasant Beach is helping to provide important life skills for young adults with special needs. A Gift from The Heart sells hand-crafted items made by the shop's employees who have aged out of school-based programs. The non-profit, opened this summer by a retired special education teacher and her best friend, gives employees an opportunity to work in the community, learn and socialize.

August 3<sup>rd</sup> - School for Hearing Impaired Graduation – Vo aired at 4p Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech celebrate the graduation of 11 preschool students who are deaf or hard of hearing, moving up and moving on to mainstream kindergarten. Clarke Philadelphia is staffed by 20+ professionals, including teachers of the deaf, speech-language pathologists and audiologists who help children build the listening, speaking, learning and social-emotional skills needed to reach their full potential. In the fall, 11 Clarke students will transfer into mainstream schools, meaning they will attend neighborhood schools with their peers who have typical hearing.

August 11th - Heart of Surfing - Pkg aired at 6p

A special day of surfing at the NJ shore for more than 100 kids and young adults with autism and other developmental disabilities. The day was sponsored by the Heart of Surfing nonprofit and the Hard Rock Casino. Heart of Surfing was founded in 2014 by Cindy and Bob Fertsch, inspired by their own son Jamie, who loved riding the waves. A grassroots and

local organization, Heart of Surfing provides free surfing and skateboarding lessons for families experiencing autism or other developmental disabilities.

August 1st - SEPTA Accessibility Upgrades - Vo aired at 11a/4p SEPTA officials celebrate the completion of a new accessibility project at Susquehanna/Dauphin station. This makes more than half of Broad Street Line stations fully accessible. The project, which includes two elevators, will also include new signage and lighting throughout the station, electronic signage for service updates, security cameras, and fare-line modifications, including SEPTA KEY upgrades.

### Consumer

July 3<sup>rd</sup> - PA Property Tax Rebates - Vo aired at 5p

Starting today, 283,468 older homeowners, renters, and people with disabilities across Pennsylvania will be issued rebates totaling nearly \$132 million. The rebates will be distributed to eligible Pennsylvanians who submitted an application through the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program for rebates on rent and property taxes pain in 2022.

July 10th - PA Birth Certificate Backlog - Vo aired at 5p

The **Pennsylvania Department of Health** announces it has eliminated a backlog of birth certificate amendment requests. In January 2023 when **Governor Josh Shapiro** took office, the backlog stood at 6,200 requests. As of today, that backlog has been eliminated. Last year, the Department received more than 32,000 requests to amend birth certificates and continues to receive approximately 2,400 requests each month. The backlog developed from an increase in requests and workforce shortages. To tackle the backlog, the Department made significant process improvements that focused on streamlining staff workflow.

July 25<sup>th</sup> – Thomas Jefferson University Funds Misused – Vo aired at 5p The US Attorney announces that Thomas Jefferson University will pay \$2.7M to resolve allegations that it misused and improperly retained federal funds intended to be used for student loans. Under the program administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration ("HRSA"), the government issues a Primary Care Loan award to a medical school to establish a revolving loan account to provide loans on favorable terms to students willing to commit to practicing in primary care for ten years after completing their medical degree (a "PCL Fund"). The settlement resolves allegations that between 2009 and 2016, Jefferson invested nearly all of its PCL Fund with its endowment, and retained the resulting earnings for its own purposes, in violation of loan program terms.

August 2<sup>nd</sup> - SEPTA College Program - Vo aired at 4p/5p/6p
After a successful launch with employers across the region, SEPTA expand its institutional pass program, called "SEPTA Key Advantage", to include colleges and universities.
Swarthmore College will be the first higher education institution to participate in the SEPTA Key Advantage "UPass" program. This initiative allows institutions to acquire SEPTA Key cards directly from SEPTA and distribute them to participants, who can use a new or existing SEPTA Key card to load their passes.

September 19<sup>th</sup> – Gas Station Scam – Vo aired at 5p/6p The Lower Merion Police Department alerts residents to a growing crime trend of people being scammed at gas stations in the Township. The crime occurs when suspects approach citizens pumping gas and offer to help them. The suspects are often very aggressive and outright refuse the victim's attempts to deny assistance. The suspects will typically take physical control of the gas pump nozzle. After the victim leaves, the suspect will then fail to return to the pump nozzle to terminate the transaction. This is known as "pump switching." Using the still active gas pump the suspects will pump gas for other motorists who enter the gas station, requesting that they pay for the gas in cash. The suspects then keep the cash and leave the gas station prior to police arrival. Most victims do not realize this crime has occurred for days or even weeks after the incident. Anyone encountering this activity at a gas station is asked to remain on location in a safe area and call 911 so officers can respond immediately and assess if a crime has occurred. To protect yourself (and your wallet) please make sure to always hang up your own gas nozzle or hit "end transaction" on the pump's keypad. It is wise to print a receipt at the pump or obtain one from the office to as proof of purchase.

### Religion

August 9<sup>th</sup> – Phila Archdiocese Abuse Settlement – Vo aired at 11p The Archdiocese of Philadelphia agrees to pay \$3.5 million to settle a priest sex abuse case. The plaintiff's attorney claims the late reverend Monsignor John Close sexually assaulted a 14 yr old boy in 2006. The boy was a student at St Katherine's of Sienna in Wayne at the time. The plaintiff's lawyers argued the archdiocese failed to protect the child by letting the

August 23<sup>rd</sup> - Seminarians Move In - Vo aired at 4p/5p

priest remain in ministry after other allegations against him.

The College and Theology seminarians of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary return to campus to mark the start of the 192<sup>nd</sup> year of formation. In total, 147 seminarians are expected to enroll at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary for this 2023-2024 year, which includes 36 new seminarians. Among the 36 new seminarians beginning their journey at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary this fall, 15 are new seminarians studying for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. In total, there are now 72 seminarians studying for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

September 12<sup>th</sup> – Jewish Leaders to Harrisburg – Vo aired in AM shows Pennsylvania Jewish community leaders head to Harrisburg to talk to state officials. The leaders are going to raise awareness on issues like antisemitism, hate crimes and violence prevention. According to the anti-defamation league, 114 antisemitic incidents were recorded in PA last year. That's up 65% from 2021.

September 13<sup>th</sup> – Rosh Hashanah Celebration – Vo aired at 4p KleinLife in Northeast Philadelphia holds a pre-Rosh Hashanah celebration. The event includes an informative program by their Rabbi, a meal with traditional ethnic foods and live music. Rosh Hashanah beings on September 15<sup>th</sup> and goes until the evening of September 17th.

September 25<sup>th</sup> - Yom Kippur - Vo aired at 4p

Jews in our area celebrate Yom Kippur. Yom Kippur, or the Day of Atonement, is considered the holiest day of the year for people who practice Judaism. The holiday technically spans two calendar days, because the Jewish calendar is lunar. Days are marked sunset to sunset. This year, it begins at sunset on September 24 and continues until the evening of September 25.

### Women

July 13th - OTC Birth Control - Pkg aired at 4p

The Food and Drug Administration approves the oral contraceptive Opill for over-the-counter sales, making it the first hormonal contraceptive pill available in the U.S. without a prescription. Opill, also known as the "mini-pill," contains one hormone, progestin, and is taken daily. It was first approved by the FDA as a prescription in 1973. The FDA said it is approving the over-the-counter version for all users of reproductive age, including teenagers, a move that is expected to remove barriers to access and reduce the risk of unintended pregnancies. Almost half of the 6.1 million pregnancies in the U.S. each year are unintended, according to the FDA.

July 17<sup>th</sup> - NJ Maternal Health - Vo aired at 5p

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy signs S3864, known as the "New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center Act." The bill will create the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority, which will oversee the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center in Trenton. The Board will adopt recommendations for action to reduce maternal mortality, morbidity, and disparities from the New Jersey Maternal Care Quality Collaborative.

July 24th - Pregnant Workers - Pkg aired at 6p

U.S. Senator Bob Casey (D-PA) joins local parents and advocates to highlight the new accommodations provided under his landmark legislation, the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, to ensure pregnant workers are treated fairly in the workplace. The law requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations—such as additional bathroom breaks or a stool for workers who stand—so that pregnant women can continue to work safely. Senator Casey first introduced the bill in 2012; it was signed into law in December 2022 and went into effect June 2023.

August 23<sup>rd</sup> - Free Menstrual Products - Vo aired at 4p

Governor Phil Murphy signs bill (S-1221/A-1349) requiring school districts to provide menstrual products free of charge in every public school teaching students in one or more of grades six through twelve. By working to address 'period poverty' through convenient and free access to menstrual hygiene products in schools, this legislation builds on the Murphy Administration's ongoing efforts to equitably advance women's health in New Jersey. Under the new law, applicable schools will be required to provide menstrual products in at least half of all their female and gender-neutral bathrooms. Any costs incurred by a school district in supplying menstrual products to meet the needs of its students will be borne by the State.

September 15th - City Lights in Teal for Ovarian Cancer - Vo aired at 11p

Many buildings is Philadelphia turn teal to raise awareness of ovarian cancer and the need for more research. There is currently no screening for ovarian cancer which makes awareness of the disease a huge factor in prevention and survival. Ovarian cancer is not an uncommon disease, occurring in 1 of every 78 women, and is the deadliest of the gynecologic cancers.