# WCAU QUARTERLY LISTING COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS 2nd Quarter 2022

# 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 – Daily Local News 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**

April 4th- 15 yr old Shot and Killed - Live at 4p, 6p and 11p

A 15 yr old Philadelphia teen is shot and killed while on the way to pick his younger siblings up from school. Police have no motive or suspects in the shooting.

April 27th - Septa Sex Assaults - Live at 4p and 6p

Philadelphia police arrest a man they say is responsible for three assaults on septa including a rape and indecent exposure. Septa says crime on public transit increased during the pandemic as ridership decline but is now going down as more riders come back.

May 10<sup>th</sup> - Phila Sex Assaults - Pkg aired at 11p

The Philadelphia Police Department is working to identify a male suspected wanted in at least three sexual assaults since the middle of March. In all incidents the suspect drove the victim to a location and attacked her.

May 17th - Toms River Sand Rescue - Pkg aired at 11p

An 18 yr old boy is dead and his 17yr old sister is recovering after a hole they dug in the sand collapsed and trapped them. The siblings from Maine, dug a 10 foot deep hole with frisbees on a beach in Toms River. Experts say sand is extremely heavy and can collapse quickly warning everyone not to dig deep holes like this.

May 20th - Fairhill Slow Zone - Vo aired at 4p and 7p

Philadelphia city officials announce the Fairhill Neighborhood Slow Zone is now complete, marking it as the first completed slow zone in Philadelphia.

Launched in 2018, the Neighborhood Slow Zone Program supports the City's Vision Zero goal to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Responding to Philadelphia residents' common concerns about speeding on their neighborhood streets, the program expands residents' traffic calming options from single-block solutions to entire zones of residential streets.

June 6<sup>th</sup> - South St Mass Shooting - Live in all show

Philadelphia Police are looking for the suspect(s) after a mass shooting Saturday night on South Street leaves 3 dead and 11 wounded.

#### Health

April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Phila Indoor Mask Mandate Ends - Live AM, 4p/6p

After just four days after re-instating the indoor mask mandate in Philadelphia officials reverse their decision and say masks are recommended but no longer required. Officials say although cases are climbing the increase has leveled off and hospitalizations remain low. Officials still stress everyone eligible should be vaccinated and boosted.

May 10<sup>th</sup> - Covid Cases Rising - Pkg aired at 4p and 5p

For the first time in months, daily hospital admission levels and new COVID-19 related deaths in the United States are both projected to increase over the next four weeks, according to updated forecast models used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Locally medical experts say the trend has begun here in the northeast and some say the easing of restrictions is to blame.

May 20th - Philadelphia School masking - Live at 11p

As a result of the increasing COVID-19 case counts and in consultation with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, the School District of Philadelphia announced today that starting this Monday, May 23, 2022 and until further notice, all School District students and staff will be required to wear their masks during the school and work day, and must continue to wear masks while riding transportation coordinated by the District.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Philadelphia Monkeypox - Pkg aired at 11p

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health has identified a Philadelphia resident who is a probable monkeypox case based on preliminary testing at the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Bureau of Laboratories. Confirmatory monkeypox testing at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is pending. The Philadelphia Department of Public Health is working with the Pennsylvania Department of Health and CDC to investigate how this person was exposed and if they may have exposed anyone else since they became infectious. Officials say the threat to Philadelphians from monkeypox remains extremely low.

June 10th - HPV Vaccine Success - Vo aired at 5p

There's growing evidence that the HPV vaccine can protect even young women and girls who haven't been immunized. A new government study finds human papillomavirus infections have declined dramatically in both vaccinated and unvaccinated teen girls and young women.

Data from a national database reveal an 88 percent decline in the prevalence of the HPV strains targeted by the vaccine in girls ages 14 to 19 and an 81 percent decline in young women ages 20 to 24, compared to a time period before 2006 when the vaccine was released in the United States.

#### Minorities, Gay and Lesbian issues

April 23<sup>rd</sup> - The Brothas Stroll for Health - Pkg aired at 6p

Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement Hosts Fifth Brothas Stroll Walk for Black Men's Health. The Brothas Stroll is a neighborhood-based walk for Black males and boys to gain access to health resources, connect with neighbors, and raise awareness about the issue of Black men's health. After the stroll, community members will have the opportunity to access health resources and hear from various organizations advocating for and educating on the health outcomes for Black men and boys in Philadelphia.

April 23<sup>rd</sup> - Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus - Vo aired at 11p

The Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus celebrates their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a fundraiser. The event is expected to raise more than \$50,000 to support PGMC's work in the community, especially its youth and school engagement activities and performances.

April 25<sup>th</sup> - LGBTQ Youth Mental Health - Vo aired at 5p \$175,000 in funding is secured to support Garden State Equality, a New Jersey nonprofit that provides support services and programming to members of the state's LGBTQ+ community.

May 5<sup>th</sup> - Septa Ethnic Intimidation - Vo aired at 11p

SEPTA Police are asking for the public's help identifying a woman who allegedly ethnically intimidated a 15-year-old girl of Asian descent on the Broad Street Line Thursday morning. The girl reported that the woman, who is pictured in the attached image, directed derogatory comments toward her and brandished a knife. The incident began at approximately 6:50a when the 15-year-old girl boarded the northbound train at Snyder Avenue. The woman was still on-board the train when the girl exited at North Philadelphia Station. The girl was not injured.

May 19<sup>th</sup> - All Hair All Skin All People - Vo aired at 6p Philadelphia celebrates WorldCultural Diversity Day a little early this year - with one hair salon in center city marking the international day of recognizing different cultures from around the globe with free makeovers.

June 19<sup>th</sup> – Juneteenth Parade and Festival – Vo aired at 6p/11p
The African American Museum hosts a Juneteenth Block Party to commemorate the holiday.
This year, themed "Celebrating the Legacy of Emancipation," AAMP's Juneteenth Block
Party continues for the second year as a FREE, family-friendly outdoor event (rain or shine)
that offers activities, music, visual arts, mural making, food, a marketplace of local markers
and artists, and free admission to the Museum throughout the day. The holiday marks the
anniversary of African Americans' emancipation from enslavement

#### **Education**

April 1st – New Philadelphia School District Superintendent – Pkg aired at 4p and 6p A new superintendent is announced for the Philadelphia school district. The board of education appointed Dr. Tony Watlington to lead the school district. Watlington comes from the Rowan Salisbury school district in North Carolina. He has 27 years' experience in education. Watlington will be replacing William Hite, who held the position for 10 years. He will officially begin his five-year contract this June.

April 14th - Equitable Education - Vo aired at 5p

PA Governor Tom Wolf joins elementary school students, legislators, and education stakeholders to highlight the Level Up school funding initiative and his ongoing commitment to ensuring Pennsylvania continues to invest equitably in education. Level Up, first funded in last year's budget, provided a \$100 million equity supplement to the state's 100 most underfunded school districts. The governor's current budget proposal calls for \$300 million to ensure that children receive an equitable education regardless of the financial resources available in their community.

May  $4^{\text{th}}$  – Camden Superintendent Preschool - Vo aired at 4p Camden School District Superintendent McCombs and members of the District's Office of Early Childhood walk the Branch Village Housing Development to speak with families about the benefits of early childhood education.

June 1st - St Joe's Merger - Vo aired at 4p and 5p Saint Joseph's University celebrates the completion of a historic merger with University of the Sciences with an in-person press conference on its University City campus. Through this merger, Saint Joe's will acquire dozens of academic programs in health and science, expand the University's footprint to University City, grow its endowment and combine

alumni networks. There are nearly 9,000 undergraduate and graduate students in the University's four schools and colleges

June 14th - CCP Pays Student Balances - Pkg aired at 11p

Community College of Philadelphia announces it will pay off more than \$1.4 million in outstanding account balances of approximately 1,900 students with institutional funding from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III), included in the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP). Eligible students must have been enrolled in credit-bearing courses in the summer 2021 or fall 2021 semesters, and balances from tuition and bookstore fees incurred during those periods will be forgiven. Once the outstanding balances on students' accounts have been paid off, they will be able to register for the summer 2022 and fall 2022 semesters. Last July, CCP announced it had paid off \$2.75 million in outstanding account balances of nearly 3,500 students using HEERF II funding.

#### Government

April 25<sup>th</sup> - Undecided Voters - Pkg aired at 4p/5p

Many PA voters remain undecided when it comes to who they'll vote for in next months primary election. Some say they don't even know who's running while others say there are too many candidates which makes things confusing. Some polls have undecided voters at 20% - 40%.

May 5<sup>th</sup> - DE Marijuana Bill Passes House - Vo aired at 5p

The DE House passes legislation that would remove penalties for the adult possession of small amounts of marijuana, paving the way for legal adult recreational marijuana. Sponsored by Rep. Ed Osienski, House Bill 371 would remove all penalties for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana, except for those who are under 21 years of age. Possession of more than one ounce of marijuana and public consumption remain unclassified misdemeanors.

Under current state law, the possession of one ounce or less of marijuana by a person 21 years of age and older carries a civil penalty of \$100. That provision would be eliminated under HB 371. Possession, use or consumption of recreational marijuana by anyone under 21 would still result in a civil penalty.

May 17<sup>th</sup> - PA Primary Day - Live in all shows

Voters turn out for Pennsylvania's primary elections. Key races include those in the senate and for the next governor. The democratic nominee for governor, Josh Shapiro, is running unopposed.

May 19<sup>th</sup> - Gerrymandering Legislation - Vo aired at 4p/5p

Philadelphia City Council introduces legislation to address and resolve the prisoner gerrymandering issue in Philadelphia – the problem in which men and women incarcerated in state and county jails are counted for U.S. Census purposes where the jails are located – instead of where the inmates reside at their home addresses. The legislation will not entail or require Council to change any boundary line for Council districts, which were recently reset – again in accordance with the United States Census.

May 24th - Carney Vetoes Marijuana Bill - Pkg aired at 5p

Delaware Governor John Carney vetoes HB 371 — a bill that would legalize possession of up to one ounce of cannabis for adults 21 and older. Gov. Carney is the only Democratic governor who has vetoed a cannabis legalization bill. According to Civiqs polling, 72% of Delaware voters support legalization. An October 2021 Gallup poll found 68% of Americans believe marijuana use should be legal, including 83% of Democrats and 71% of independents.

#### **Youth Issues**

April 21st - Hepatitis in Children - Vo aired at 5p

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is asking physicians nationwide to be on the lookout for unusual cases of severe hepatitis in children. Nine cases have been reported in Alabama, and an additional two have been identified in North Carolina, according to those states' health departments. Dozens of such cases have also been identified in the United Kingdom, Denmark, Spain and the Netherlands, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Hepatitis refers to inflammation of the liver, a condition that can result in diarrhea, abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting. Health officials in our area are monitoring the situation and alerting parents what symptoms to look for.

April 28th - Kids and Vaccines - Pkg aired at 4p and 6p

The FDA announces they are looking again at vaccinated kids as young as six months old against covid. While the FDA could take 2-3 months to decide if children as young as 6 months qualify drs say we will likely see a significant drop in cases as we move to spring and summer and those cases come back again- in fall and winter - another reason for those who have not been vaccinated to do so before then.

May 11th - Girls High School Wrestling - Vo aired at 5p

Girls wrestling is now, officially, a New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association-sanctioned sport.. After years of competing as an extension of boys teams, without any real organization of team dual matches, girls wrestling was officially voted in by member schools this week to become its own sport, with its own team tournament and own regulations. Girls wrestling was first introduced as a sport in 2018 and has gradually grown since then, including this past winter when the girls had their own, separate individual championship event, a critical step in breaking away from the boys' championships held in Atlantic City every year. In 2018, N.J. became just the 14th state in the country to offer wrestling for girls.

May 18<sup>th</sup> – Teen Driving Safety – Vo aired at 4p and 5p PennDOT and other organizations host the 2nd Annual Teen Safe Driving ROADeo. The event, open to all high school students in Chester, Bucks, Montgomery, and Delaware counties, aims to keep teens safe on the roadway through education, interaction, and fun.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Allentown Lowers Job Age - Vo aired at 5p

The age requirement for part-time and seasonal employment with the City of Allentown has been lowered from 16 to 15 years of age with the understanding that any individual hired at age 15 should have working papers and will be subject to applicable State and Federal laws and regulations. This change will apply to jobs like cashiers, attendants, and lifeguards for City pools. Individuals who apply to work for the City must also successfully pass background checks and a pre-employment drug screening.

June 27th - CHOP Suicide and Cyberbullying - Vo aired at 5p

CHOP and the University of Pennsylvania release the findings of a new study that shows young adolescents who are targets of cyberbullying are more likely to report suicidal thoughts and attempts, an association that goes above and beyond the link between suicidality and traditional offline bullying. Suicide rates among children have been steadily rising. According to the CDC, suicide was the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 24 in 2018. The factors contributing to suicidality in children and adolescents are not fully understood, but research has shown that environmental stressors play a role. Traditional bullying and peer victimization are well established suicide risk factors among youth.

.

#### **Disabled**

April 21st - New Autism Provider - Vo aired at 5p

NeurAbilities Healthcare opens treatment centers in Northeast Philadelphia and Hatboro/ Warminster Twp. The nationally accredited, practice launched a major expansion in 2020, adding five sites over the past two years. With its latest additions, NeurAbilities will operate a total of 12 facilities: four in New Jersey and eight in Pennsylvania. Centers will include special lighting to address sensory sensitivities, indoor play areas, individual and group therapy rooms and more. The centers also provide in-home treatment for children who live in the surrounding areas, and can serve children in their school, daycare program, or other community sites.

April 29<sup>th</sup> - Olympic Day for Students with Disabilities - Vo aired at 5p Students from Widener Memorial School experience a field day-style event coordinated by Ainsley's Angels of America, a nonprofit dedicated to building awareness of and acceptance for those living with disabilities and special needs. The All-Inclusive Olympic Day will include approximately 50 Widener students engaging in relay races and other fitness activities. Widener Memorial School provides learning opportunities for students with physical and medical disabilities, helping them reach their fullest individual potential in school and in society.

May 11th - Phillies Special Olympics - Vo aired at 4p

The Phillies will welcome Special Olympics, PA athletes, who will be arriving at the ballpark to compete with Phillies front office staff in a fun, Round Robin style Bocce Tournament. Special Olympics Unified Sports® creates an opportunity for people without intellectual disabilities to join in the sports experience by playing on a team with athletes with intellectual disabilities. Not only do the players all have fun, but attitude change and transformation happens on the playing field and the experiences create lifelong friendships.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Movie Theater for the Deaf Pkg aired at 4p Select movie theaters in Delaware are making it easier for the deaf and hard of hearing to enjoy a movie on the big screen. Each day, certain showings will include captioning so that those who can hear well or at all can read along with the film.

May 24th - Montgomery Co Special Olympics - Vo aired at 4p

Hatboro-Horsham High School students and more than 300 other student athletes will compete in track and field events for the Lower Montgomery County Special Olympics. The kids will compete in races, a wheelchair run, tennis ball throw, long jump and more.

#### Consumer

April 1st - Phila Plastic Bag Ban - Vo aired at 4p and 5p

On April 1st, nine months after Philadelphia's ban on single-use plastic bags took effect, and more than two years after the city council signed it into law, officials will begin imposing penalties on businesses that violate the ordinance. It's estimated that Philadelphians use an average of 585 million plastic bags every year, but less than 2% are recycled. Residents are asked to call 311 to report businesses that continue to distribute plastic bags in violation of the ordinance

April 8<sup>th</sup> - Amtrak & PENNDOT Keystone Service - Vo aired at 5p In coordination with state partners at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, beginning Monday, April 25, Amtrak is adding additional Keystone Service trains (operating between Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and New York) in response to anticipated increased demand. Two new weekday trains will also be added and on the weekends, all prepandemic Philadelphia to Harrisburg service will be fully restored.

April 19th - AAA Travel Poll - Vo aired at 4p

A new poll by AAA Travel finds Pennsylvania residents making big plans to get away this summer despite the highest gas prices in years. Almost 40% of Pennsylvania residents surveyed say they are planning to travel more this summer than last summer, and many say it will be their first significant summer travel since before the pandemic. The majority, 60% of those surveyed, say they are planning at least one trip – with almost 45% percent saying they are planning multiple trips.

May 19th - LIHEAP Extended - Vo aired at 5p

The PA Department of Human Services announces the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) season has been extended once more, with the deadline moving from May 20 to June 17. Officials also urg Pennsylvanians who are behind on or having trouble paying home heating bills to apply for assistance through the LIHEAP to apply for LIHEAP Cash and LIHEAP Crisis benefits ahead of the new June 17 deadline. LIHEAP is a federally-funded program administered by DHS that provides assistance for home heating bills so low-income Pennsylvanians can stay warm and safe in their homes. Assistance is available for renters and homeowners, and the LIHEAP application season is currently open until June 17, 2022.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> - New Area Code - Vo aired at 4p

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission reminds residents and businesses in eastern and southeastern Pennsylvania of the upcoming activation of a new 835 area code, which serves the same geographic region as the existing 610 and 484 area codes. Because the region is already served by two overlay area codes, no changes in dialing will be necessary, but consumers are urged to be aware of the upcoming arrival of the 835 area code.

#### **Religion**

April 15th - Good Friday - Vo aired at 5p

Christians around the area celebrate Good Friday with virtual and in-person services and Stations of the Cross. Good Friday commemorates Jesus willingly suffering and dying by crucifixion as the ultimate sacrifice for our sins.

April 16th - Ramadan Iftar Dinner - Vo aired at 11p

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Center celebrates Ramadan with a Ramadan Iftar/Dinner. Ramadan is the holy month of fasting and spiritual renewal for Muslims worldwide. During Ramadan, Muslims abstain from food and drink from dawn to sunset. We focus on prayers and achievement of spiritual excellence. Iftar means "breaking the fast" and is an integral part of a Muslim community's life during Ramadan.

April 17<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday – Pkgs aired AM and PM Shows Christians around the area celebrate Easter Sunday. Easter is a Christian festival and cultural holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day after his burial following his crucifixion.

April 24<sup>th</sup> - Holocaust Remembrance Day - Vo aired at 6p

The Jewish community in Philadelphia gathers at the Horwitz-Wasserman Holocaust Memorial Plaza to remember the more than 6-million Jews who perished in the Holocaust as part of Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day.

June 9<sup>th</sup> – Interfaith Service on Gun Violence – Vo aired at 5p/6p Local religious leaders from all faiths come together to rally in support of ending gun violence. The event, supported by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the Episcopal Diocese of Philadelphia, Quba Masjid, and Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Philadelphia also includes

June 26th - March of Torahs - Vo aired at 11p

As two reform synagogues in Cherry Hill get ready for their unification on July 1, congregants will participate in a March of the Torahs from Congregation M'kor Shalom to Temple Emanuel. Nearly 250 M'kor Shalom members are expected to take the journey through the east section of Cherry Hill to arrive at Temple Emanuel, the new home of both congregations. The name will be officially changed to Congregation Kol Ami.

#### **Women's Issues**

May 6th - Reproductive Rights Rally - Pkg aired at 4p

Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf, Attorney General Josh Shapiro, Congresswoman Madeleine Dean, and additional Democratic elected officials, community leaders, and activists from across the Commonwealth come together for a rally following recent reporting that the Supreme Court of the United States is poised to overturn Roe v. Wade. The rally emphasizes how high the stakes are for reproductive rights in 2022 and how critical it is to elect a Democratic Governor and protect and expand the Democratic Senate majority to protect abortion access in Pennsylvania.

May  $8^{th}$  – Mother's Day – Vo's and packages aired in all shows People around the region celebrate their mothers. Many celebrated with flowers, meals and time together. For many this is the first restriction free, mask-less mother day since the start of the pandemic in 2020.

#### May 11th - Abortion Bill Vote - Live in all shows

The <u>Women's Health Protection Act</u>, a Democrat-led bill that would effectively codify a right to an abortion, failed to pass, as expected, after it did not reach the Senate's 60-vote threshold. All Democrats voted for the legislation except Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, and all Republicans opposed the bill.

#### May 17th - Women's Walk In Clinic - Vo aired at 4p and 5p

Officials hold a grand opening in South Jersey for AccessNow, the region's first walk-in clinic fully dedicated to women's health. The clinic offers urgent healthcare needs ranging from vaginal disorders to urinary problems including urinary tract infection (UTI) testing and treatment, sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing and treatment, as well as pregnancy testing, on-site ultrasounds, contraception counseling, and more.

### May 24th - PA Women in Sports Act - Vo aired at 4

The Pennsylvania Senate Education Committee passes, by a 7-4 vote, the Fairness in Women's Sports Act, House Bill 972, which will preserve a fair playing field for women and girls in sports. The bill ensures everyone can compete in sports based on their sex. The bill now goes to the full Pennsylvania Senate. Recent polling by Spry Strategies for the Women's Liberation Front and the American Principles Project reported nearly 75% of Pennsylvanians support protecting women's sports.

June 24<sup>th</sup>- Roe Vs Wade Decision - Live in all shows

Locals react to the Supreme Court's decision that Roe vs. Wade is unconstitutional putting the decision in the hands of the states. Many states have already said they plan to ban abortions and possibly jail or fine women who get the procedure done and the doctors who perform them.