



ISSUES/DESCRIPTIONS REPORT

1st Quarter 2020

WSBK-TV Boston

WSBK-TV Boston, MA
Quarterly Issues/Program List
CBS Television Licenses LCC

January 1, 2020 through March 31, 2020

Attached are listings of broadcasts or broadcast segments, which, in the station's judgment, reflect the station's most significant programming treatment of ascertained community issues during the preceding three-month period.

PROGRAM INDEX

WBZ-TV News on TV38 – WBZ-TV News on TV38 is anchored by Paula Ebben and Liam Martin. The newscast delivers a contemporary hour of news filled with comprehensive coverage of local politics, community events, medical updates, and issues of importance to the community. In addition, issues related to government, politics, business, financial issues, corruption and crime are explored in-depth during the station's newscasts.

WBZ-TV News on TV38

Business and Political:

1/4/20

Mike LaCrosse reports on the current climate of the Boston housing market. A real estate expert says the market is competitive but better deals can be made this year.

1/12/20

Jim Smith spoke to a climate change professional at UMass Lowell. She warned that weekend temperatures on the 70s are a warning sign of negative global climate change.

1/17/20

Liam Martin interviews Alice Arena who is lobbying against a natural gas compressor station in Weymouth. Her group claims the project is dangerous and should not be centered in such a populated area.

1/24/20

Mike LaCrosse was on the campaign trail with Joe Biden in New Hampshire. He spoke to voters about what they are looking for on a candidate.

1/31/20

Kristina Rex reports on the local impact of the federal government limiting tourists from China due to the Coronavirus. Kristina talked to a local couple who is self-quarantining to keep each other safe.

2/4/20

Kristina Rex reports on the last minute press for candidates trying to get the New Hampshire vote. Additionally, Mike LaCrosse reports on the New Hampshire primary vote reparations. The Secretary of State is promising to not have issues like Iowa.

2/6/20

Katie Brace reports two branches of the MBTA Green Line will be shutdown to help improve service. Katie talks to commuters about how the shutdowns will affect their commute.

2/10/20

Liam Martin reports on the New Hampshire primary and the status of Senator Amy Klobuchar's campaign. Also, Christina Hager reports on the New Hampshire primary and the status of Bernie Sander's campaign.

2/12/20

Nick Emmons reports on the Juul lawsuit filed by the Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey. Her office claims the e-cigarette maker purposely targeted underage consumers.

2/13/20

Kristina Rex reports on a new Cape Air seaplane service taking off from Boston harbor landing in Manhattan's East River. Some locals have safety concerns about planes taking off in Boston's busy harbor. In addition, Bill Shields reports on a 3% layoff at Boston based Wayfair. He talked to an employee who thought the company took on too many employees as the company started to grow.

2/14/20

Liam Martin, Lisa Hughes, and David Wade interviewed Presidential candidate Tulsi Gabbard in studio. Tulsi Gabbard discussed the obstacles she has faced during her presidential campaign.

2/21/20

Mike LaCrosse reports on a push on Beacon Hill to bring red-light cameras to the state. Advocates say it will make for safer roads while many fear privacy issues.

2/24/20

Nick Emmons reports on the effects of the Coronavirus outbreak. He spoke to a local audio manufacturer who depends on parts from China for his business. Due to the virus, those factories are shut down.

2/28/20

Kristina Rex reports from Springfield, MA where Bernie Sanders is trying to drum up support ahead of Super Tuesday. To a crowd of more than 4,000 people at the Mass Mutual Center, Sanders spoke confidently in his current position as the Democratic front-runner.

3/2/20

Kristina Rex spoke to local campaign volunteers trying to get the word out and encourage voting ahead of Super Tuesday in Massachusetts.

3/4/20

Katie Brace reports on the MBTA's plan to keep the subways safe with the Coronavirus outbreak. Katie reports on the upgraded cleaning procedures in and around the stations.

3/5/20

Juli McDonald reports on Logan Airport and MBTA sanitation efforts to fight the Coronavirus. They are taking increased measures to stop the virus' spread.

3/10/20

Kristina Rex reports on the Governor of Massachusetts declaring a state of emergency. Governor Baker says it allows for the state to free up financial and human resources to fight the Coronavirus.

3/13/20

Nick Emmons reports on Boston Public Schools closing their entire system for 30 days. The system says they will make plans for education to continue and assisted meal plans to continue.

3/16/20

Mike LaCrosse reports on the Massachusetts order for restaurants to be take out only due to the Coronavirus. Mike spoke to a Fenway establishment that is trying to make do with the new order.

3/17/20

Ken Macleod reports on the city of Boston launching a 211 hotline for people in need of Coronavirus help. Additionally, Beth Germano reports on local restaurants only doing take out due to the Coronavirus ban on public gathering. Restaurants are hoping to make it work despite concerns about front of the house staff salaries.

3/18/20

Ken Macleod reports on Governor Baker closing certain daycares to stop the spread of the Coronavirus. Emergency procedures are being put into place so that exempt programs will allow childcare for first responders, medical staff, and other critical personnel Ken spoke to local working parents about the impact.

3/19/20

Kristina Rex reports on Governor Baker getting the National Guard activated to help with the Coronavirus outbreak. In the same briefing, the governor talked about increased testing throughout the state.

3/20/20

Juli McDonald reports on how real estate agents are working despite the threat of Coronavirus. One local agent explained they are limiting the number of visits, doing extra cleaning, and encouraging private showings.

3/23/20

Ken Macleod reports the Governor of Massachusetts is ordering residents to stay at home if possible. Governor Baker also said all non-essential businesses must lose and those employees must work from home to help stop the spread of the Coronavirus.

3/25/20

Ken Macleod reports on Massachusetts Governor Baker's decision to close schools until May. The move was to safeguard students and their families from additional Coronavirus exposure.

3/27/20

Kristine Rex reports on the new order from Governor Baker for out of state visitors entering Massachusetts to quarantine for 14 days. In addition, the governor changed the state tax deadline to give more people time to file their taxes. Mike Lacrosse reports on businesses that are doing well in the midst of the Coronavirus. They include basic need stores like dollar stores and grocery stores. Local staffing expert Joe Bonfiglio is helping to connect people recently laid off with businesses looking to hire workers.

3/31/20

Mike LaCrosse reports Massachusetts Governor Baker has extended the order for non-essential business to stay closed until May 4 as the state prepares for a surge in Coronavirus cases over the next two weeks. The governor also announced the Worcester DCU Center is being turned in to a medical field station with 250 beds for Coronavirus patients who still need monitoring.

Health and Medical:

1/9/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall explains the benefits of drinking tea, why body temperature is falling over time, and how music helps improve workout performance.

1/16/20

Nick Emmons reports on a flu outbreak at a Hudson elementary school. Dr. Mallika Marshall gives viewers important medical information on when to contact a doctor.

1/22/20

Kristina Rex spoke to a local doctor about the threat of Coronavirus from foreign visitors. They also discussed what steps the federal government is taking to keep Americans safe. Additionally, Dr. Mallika Marshall reports on why parents are sending their kids to the pediatrician less and how MIT is developing a new device to send medicine to the gut.

1/23/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on a new study showing flu hospitalizations go down when more people are immunized and how being a mother is linked to better health.

1/24/20

Beth Germano reports on spiking flu numbers in the state of Massachusetts. She spoke to doctors at Children's Hospital about the health concerns.

1/26/20

Kristina Rex reports on the shortage of sterile surgical gowns and how the shortage is delaying local surgeries. Hospitals cite an issue with a manufacturer and hope to get new products in soon.

1/27/20

Tiffany Chan reports on the city of Boston preparing for the Coronavirus. City leaders sat it is not a threat at the moment, but they are monitoring the global situation.

1/29/20

Ken Macleod reports on a Coronavirus scare at Logan Airport. WBZ's I-Team learned a woman was briefly detained before being cleared by medical professionals.

2/10/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on a new vaccination recommendation for teens, the flu threat, and how to help children lose weight.

2/12/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on how to prevent broken heart syndrome and a new discovery in the fight against Melanoma.

2/17/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on the rising rate of diabetes and a higher rate of suicide in certain males.

2/20/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on the harm of cleaning solutions near babies, why later school start times could save teenage drivers' lives, and why too much fluoride is bad for your teeth.

2/21/20

Christina Hager reports on health issues involving Regis College's dining hall. Students say they found cockroaches crawling up walls and in between food.

2/25/20

Paul Burton talks to a local doctor about Coronavirus concerns here in Boston. They discussed the steps Boston hospitals are taking to be prepared.

2/26/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on information to keep your family healthy during the Coronavirus outbreak. She says face masks are useful when worn by people who are already sick to prevent the spread of germs, but not very helpful for healthy people trying to avoid getting sick. Also, people should be prepared with household needs in case they need to shelter in place.

2/28/20

Christina Hager reports on how walk-in clinics are preparing for the Coronavirus. At the front desk, patients who have been to an area with an outbreak and now have respiratory symptoms are given a medical face mask. The doctors are suiting up in several layers of protective gear. The clinics are well stocked with gear right now, but are concerned about future supplies.

3/2/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on an uptick in telemedicine. A new app allows you to see a doctor virtually and that doctor can order prescriptions and blood work if need be.

3/6/20

Katie Brace reports on emergency testing for Biogen employees who were exposed to the Coronavirus at a conference at the Marriott Long Wharf hotel. At least eight people from that conference have been infected, of the eight three are from Boston.

3/9/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on what to do if you have flu or Coronavirus symptoms. Dr. Marshall urges people to call doctors versus possibly contaminating an office.

3/11/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on steps to reduce anxiety in this time of the Coronavirus. Dr. Marshall advises staying informed, planning ahead in case you have to self-quarantine, and distracting yourself with activities like going for a walk or reading a book. Health professionals would like people to strike a balance, be concerned but not overly panicked.

3/12/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall speaks with one of Boston's top infectious disease doctors, Doctor Paul Sax, about how to stop the spread of the Coronavirus. Dr. Sax talks about the importance of social distancing, how the Coronavirus differs from the flu, and when people are contagious.

3/13/20

Kristina Rex reports on drive thru Coronavirus testing being set up at local medical facilities. This comes after the wave of success South Korea had in screening patients while slowing the spread of the disease.

3/18/20

Doctor Mallika Marshall reports on a survey that shows people are changing their behavior to help stop the spread of the Coronavirus. The survey revealed 85% of the people say they are washing their hands more frequently, 61% are practicing social distancing, and 25% are avoiding restaurants all together.

3/19/20

Nick Emmons reports colleges and universities are considering using empty dorms to help in the Coronavirus outbreak. Tufts University is prepared to provide dorms to medical workers who don't want to risk spreading the virus to loved ones. As far as housing patients on campus, Tufts is considering allowing those with mild symptoms to stay in an isolated dorm building.

3/23/20

Mike LaCrosse reports on how more babies are being born at home to avoid parents having to go into a hospital. Ann Whitman, who has been a midwife in Massachusetts for almost 30 years, said expecting moms and families don't know what to expect with all the concerns around the Coronavirus. She also said prospective clients are telling her they don't feel safe going to a hospital or they want to reduce the load on the hospital.

3/25/20

Louisa Moller reports on life in the emergency room for doctors and nurses at Tufts Medical Center. Louisa spoke to Emergency Department physician Dr. Lauren Rice who walks us through her procedures, her personal protective equipment, and the heightened level of concern among her colleagues.

3/31/20

Paula Ebben reports on the urgent need for blood. The Red Cross and car dealer Ernie Boch Junior have teamed up to host a special event at one of his dealerships. The spread

of the Coronavirus has meant a drop in blood donations as people stay home, but the need for blood never stops.

Law, Safety and Security:

1/1/20

Bill Shields reports on a water rescue of two men in Hanson after their boat canoe capsized. Firefighters had to act quickly to save the men before they went under dark icy waters.

1/2/20

Nick Emmons reports a chunk of ice flew into a car windshield in Burlington. The victim had serious injuries. Fire officials are warning people to clear off snow and ice before driving.

1/5/20

Paul Burton reports on a deadly fire in Fitchburg. Firefighters say an overloaded power circuit is to blame and are warning the public about the hazard.

1/6/20

Kristina Rex reports on a school stabbing in Rockport. Parents are worried about school safety after the incident at a middle school.

1/9/20

Kristina Rex reports on criminal charges in the death of a girl in Whitman. The mother is charged with reckless endangerment after not getting the child proper medical care.

1/11/20

Jim Smith reports on a double murder at a Framingham public housing complex. Residents at the complex are worried about their safety.

1/14/20

Juli McDonald reports on a deadly shooting in Lawrence. A DPW crew member was shot and killed. Police believe it was a case of mistaken identity.

1/15/20

Nick Emmons reports a helicopter made a crash landing at Nashua, NH Airport. The helicopter is a gyrocopter, which is considered an experimental type of aircraft.

1/17/20

Jim Smith reports on a Worcester nursing home robbery. In a violent struggle, three workers were hurt. Police are desperate to capture the woman caught on security cameras.

1/19/20

Paul Burton reports on a car sliding into a Walpole pond. Police are reminding drivers to drive slowly and carefully on this stretch of road, especially in the winter.

1/20/20

Ken Macleod reports on a coyote attack in Exeter, New Hampshire. Ken spoke to the father who shielded his family from a likely rabid coyote and strangled it to death to protect his family from harm.

1/21/20

Jim Smith reports on a smash and grab jewelry store robbery in Dorchester. Wielding a hammer, the thief stole thousands of dollars' worth of jewelry. The man did not wear a mask and police hope the video surveillance will aid in finding the suspect.

1/23/20

David Wade report on a Tauton River rescue after two teenagers fell through thin ice. Three good Samaritans and four police officers used a rope to help pull the two fourteen-year-old boys to shore.

1/25/20

Paul Burton reports on a SWAT standoff in Hingham. Neighbors feared as a man fired at police during a domestic incident. The man, who was later taken into custody, has a long criminal record.

1/26/20

Paul Burton reports on a quick moving fire in Charlestown. It sent two adults and a child to the hospital. Crews believe a candle started the blaze.

1/27/20

Kristina Rex reports a Dracut youth hockey coach was charged with sexual assault. Police say the alleged victim was courageous to come forward and they are looking for other possible victims.

2/4/20

Juli McDonald reports three Manchester, NH police officers were stabbed during a domestic incident.

2/7/20

Juli McDonald reports a valet was shot in the head during an incident outside Brigham and Women's Hospital. Boston Police responded to a 911 call for a person with a gun. Police discharged their weapons when the suspect displayed what appeared to be a gun. The valet employee was shot at some point during the exchange.

2/17/20

Juli McDonald reports on a kidnapping in Dorchester. A five-year-old girl was left in the back seat of a car on Dorchester Avenue while her father went into a restaurant. A man got into the car and took off. The girl was dropped off in Randolph unharmed, but the suspect is still at large.

2/18/20

Christina Hager reports on a man accused of running a paving scam in Waltham is at it again. Cornelius Stanley has tricked people into handing over thousands of dollars in a driveway paving scam. The WBZ-TV I-Team first reported on Cornelius Stanley back in November. The I-Team obtained court records that show Stanley has faced criminal charges 47 times in New Hampshire and spent years in prison.

2/19/20

Juli McDonald reports on the deadly shooting of a teenager in Dorchester. The incident occurred in the middle of the afternoon during school vacation week, prompting increased concerns in the neighborhood.

3/2/20

Bill Shields reports on New Hampshire's first Coronavirus patient. He works at a hospital and is believed to have contracted it while visiting Italy.

3/5/20

Tashanea Whitlow reports on Plymouth Public schools closing following a Coronavirus scare. The schools are being sanitized as parent applaud the move.

3/30/20

Nick Emmons reports on a new FBI report released by the Boston office that says hackers are breaking into video conferences, some are pranksters but others are trying to steal valuable secrets. Cybersecurity expert Peter Tran says people working from home are easy targets for hackers because a lot of people don't have the same security measures at home as their company does at the office.

Community and Culture:

1/3/20

Christina Hager reports on climate change protests and eventual arrests in Harvard. Demonstrators blocked trains delivering coal, saying the substance was contributing to climate change,

1/4/20

Paul Burton reports on local protests related to the killing of an Iranian military leader. Some people in Boston feel the move could push the US towards war.

1/5/20

Lisa Hughes reports on a local Revolutionary War hero honored posthumously in Lynn for his selfless service to his country. It is a project of the Boston Tea Party Ships and Museum to recognize the more than 100 men who struck a blow against tyranny in 1773. Francis Moore was a baker who settled in Lynn after the Revolutionary War. He was one of the men who participated in the Boston tea Party.

1/8/20

Bill Shield reports on a soldier's homecoming in Weymouth. The Army dad surprised his two children at a school assembly. Sergeant Steve Bellows had been deployed in the Middle East for a year.

1/9/20

Lisa Hughes reports on a local group of volunteers who take flowers from weddings, funerals, and other special events and repurpose them to assisted living facilities. The volunteers say the act helps brighten people's day with goods that would otherwise go to waste.

1/12/20

Tashanea whitlow reports on a local Salvation Army headed to help with the earthquake relief in Puerto Rico. The group is taking much needed supplies like food, shelter, and kindness.

1/18/20

Paul Burton reports on Project 351 in Massachusetts. Project 351 brings students across every community in the state to do community service projects in the state.

1/19/20

Lisa Gresci reports on a vigil for a two-year-old girl in Whitman who died of medical neglect. The community and former teachers of the girl held an emotional memorial service in front of her former school.

1/20/20

Paul Burton reports on a day of service events to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Junior. Paul visited with Boston Latin School students who were volunteering on their day off from school.

1/21/20

Ken Macleod reports on the emotional and overwhelming support at the wake of Grace Rhett. Grace was killed in a car crash while out with the Holy Cross rowing team in Florida.

1/25/20

Jim smith reports on anti-war protests on Boston Common. Many fear there is a rush to war with Iran during nuclear negotiations.

1/30/20

Mike LaCrosse reports on an art project in Provincetown where people set up a phone booth. The phone is not connected but allows people to talk to the dead and say their final words to them.

2/3/20

Kristina Rex reports on the halting of adoptions from China due to the Coronavirus. Two local families who are in the process of adopting toddlers from China have been told the adoptions are delayed indefinitely.

2/14/20

Nick Emmons reports several wind turbines in Plymouth are being removed. The turbines have been on private property since 2016, but just this week the Plymouth Board of health declared the turbines a public health nuisance after repeated pleas from neighbors.

2/18/20

David Wade reports on two sisters who read to shelter dogs at the Fairhaven Animal Shelter. Once a week, the nine-year-old and seven-year-old visit the animal shelter armed with stories they have written and illustrate themselves. What the girls are doing helps the dogs with their socialization, which makes them easier to adopt.

2/19/20

Katie Brace reports on how the Whitman community is joining together after a horrific car crash in Orlando claimed the lives of four member of the Smith family. The Whitman Youth Soccer Program is planning a vigil at the middle school for later in the week.

2/24/20

Bill Shields reports on a possible hate crime in East Boston. A mother and daughter claim they were attacked for speaking Spanish near Maverick Square. Allegedly, two women attacked the mother and daughter, yelling “This is America, speak English.”

2/26/20

Kristina Rex reports on a settlement in regards to the Merrimack Valley gas explosions. Kristina spoke to members of the community who think a forced change of gas provider ownership will create a safety culture in town.

2/27/20

Bill Shields reports on a new PSA put together by Tauton Police. The end goal is to get the word out to law enforcement that mental health struggles are real and you can seek help.

3/4/20

Bill Shields reports on graves being toppled over in a Hingham graveyard. Bill spoke to local residents and police who are shocked about the crime.

3/6/20

Liam Martin reports on a new virtual tour of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum that hopes to educate people about the 1990 art heist. Now, for the first time, visitors can retrace the steps of the robbers who got away with priceless works of art. It is a chilling reminder of what was lost.

3/9/20

Juli McDonald reports on the cancellation of the St. Patrick's Day parade in South Boston due to Coronavirus fears. Mayor Walsh says it is out of safety concerns due to the large crowd the parade draws. Local business leaders say it is a big blow to business. Organizers understand this is sad for families who have loved this tradition for many years. Director of Parade Operations Bryan Bishop says next year's 120th anniversary parade will be bigger than ever.

3/10/20

Paula Ebben shares the inspiring story of a Milford teenager who wrote a new children's book inspired by her fight against cancer. The story follows singer Carlie Gonzalez's battle with cancer that robbed her of her voice but not her fight and will to live.

3/12/20

Katie Brace reports on the postponement of the Boston Marathon. The initial discussions are aimed at keeping runners and Boston safe. Originally scheduled for April 20th, the marathon will most likely be run on a Monday in September. The state is considering making that day a holiday for the marathon.

3/16/20

Juli McDonald reports on local efforts to keep senior citizens engaged with the outside world and healthy during the Coronavirus outbreak. Whether it is a grocery delivery left at the front door or a card in the mailbox, there are ways to reach out without touching. Ask what they need, it does so much for the spirit to know they are not alone through this crisis.

3/26/20

Katie Brace reports on the quarantine of a senior housing facility in Revere. Multiple residents have contracted the disease. Now, officials at the center are providing food and some comfort to those residents. Loved ones are upset they cannot visit their parents.

3/31/20

Katie Brace reports on six deaths at a Veterans retirement home in Holyoke. The mayor of Holyoke believes the deaths could have been prevented through proper management. The mayor said he received anonymous information about improper conditions at the home.

This Quarterly Issues/Program List was placed in the Public File on Friday, April 10, 2020 by Christine Ferrara, Program Director.