

WSBK-TV

Boston, MA

QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT

2nd Quarter 2022:

Quarterly Issues and Programs Report

Attached are the listings of broadcast segments and stories that reflect the station's most significant programming treatment of community issues during the 2nd quarter of 2022.

Regularly Scheduled Programs

During the reported quarter, the station broadcast the following regularly scheduled programs that routinely address issues of importance to the station's community:

- Regularly scheduled news broadcasts focusing on current issues and events.
- "Healthwatch" – features of varying lengths focusing on health related issues, the latest in medical research and treatments, and other health related topics.

Public Service Announcements – The station airs PSAs in rotation from various organizations that include topics such as, Suicide Prevention Month, Breast Cancer Awareness, and The Valarie Fund.

In addition, the station makes community responsive coverage available via CBS News Boston, a 24/7 direct-to-consumer service that streams anchored news coverage and live breaking news events of interest to viewers in the local market.

WSBK-TV Quarterly Issues and Programs List

Community of License: Boston DMA

Issue: Business: Breaking news and analysis on business and the economy including technology, stock markets, media and finance.

Program	Date of Broadcast	Time of Program	Duration of Story	Episode/Segment Description
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/6/22	8:16pm	2:27	Tiffany Chan reports on the rising nationwide mortgage rates and its effects on the housing market. The price of everything is going up including financing a home which has increased from 2.65% to 5% since last year for a 30-year fixed home loan rate. While this is not ideal for those looking to buy, it may be a much needed cool down for the competitive real estate market for those who want to take their time and have the resources to pay a higher interest rate.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/15/22	8:39pm	2:15	Brandon Truitt reports on a new, more affordable housing style in Boston. For the past five years, the city has been working on the 7INK building, which will offer dorm-style housing where adults will have their own rooms but share living and dining spaces with other renters. The price point of these units starts at \$1,700 which includes furniture, utilities, and internet. This is a thousand dollars cheaper than the average one-bedroom in Boston at \$2,700.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/9/22	8:18pm	2:56	Cheryl Fiandaca reports on a local Lexington High School senior Cogan Lawler who was scammed by the payment transfer service, Zelle. Cogan had been saving money up for college when his entire savings of over \$1,000 was wiped out. The family says the scammers deposited fake checks totaling \$3,000 then transferred it back out using the Bank of America app on Cogan's phone. However, the bank has refused to refund Cogan as they said face ID was used to make the deposit—a safety feature on smartphones which can be easily manipulated. In 2020, a study found that over 18 million people were scammed using payment apps.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/26/22	8:07pm	2:00	Christina Hager reports on rising gas prices impacting families who are traveling for Memorial Day weekend. Despite gas being as high as \$5.19 a gallon, families are still determined to enjoy their long weekends with over 39 million Americans who plan to travel by car for the holiday. AAA predicts the heightened travel will drive gas prices up even higher going into the busy summer season.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/31/22	8:33pm	1:59	Christina Hager reports on Starbucks workers in Brighton going on strike after being forced to work in "unsafe work conditions." The Starbucks Workers United claim water was leaking from the ceiling of the store onto the light fixtures, counters and floors. Over a dozen workers gathered outside the front of the store to protest their dissatisfaction with the water leaks, an issue that has persisted over the years and which management has failed to fully address. The workers are demanding catastrophe pay and the necessary maintenance to be completed to ensure safety for workers and customers.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/8/22	8:35pm	:34	Anna Meiler reports on the shutting down of several busy streets in Boston for a pop-up park opening through June 17. City officials have closed off the street between Copley Square and the Boston Public Library to create a plaza where families and visitors can participate in live entertainment, educational classes from the library, dance lessons, food trucks and other fun activities.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/14/22	8:18pm	2:04	Tiffany Chan reports on the economic impact of the stock market falling while prices and interest continue to rise. Prices of everyday essentials and gas are skyrocketing which may hint at an oncoming recession but Boston College economics professor Peter Ireland says not to panic yet—stock market prices go up and down all the time for reasons no one can explain. Ireland advises hanging onto your stock portfolio and to reconsider taking a big summer vacation this year to save money.
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Issue: Political: the latest coverage of political news stories and events, political campaigns, and election news.

Program	Date of Broadcast	Time of Program	Duration of Story	Episode/Segment Description
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/6/22	8:01pm	1:53	Zinnia Maldonado reports on the Boston Athletic Association (BAA) banning runners from Russia and Belarus from competing in the Boston Marathon this year in solidarity with Ukraine. Maksim Sigal, a Ukraine native who will be running his second Boston Marathon, called for the ban with his Change.org petition which received over 1,400 signatures in two days, prompting the BAA to take action. Russian and Belarusian citizens currently living in Russia will not be allowed to compete but citizens who are not current residents of either country will still be permitted to run, just not under the flags of the two nations.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/3/22	8:01pm	2:30	Ken MacLeod reports on protestors rallying outside of the State House opposing the leaked draft opinion from Politico suggesting the Supreme Court will strike down Roe v. Wade. Many protestors are unhappy and angry at the road the Supreme Court is seemingly going down, saying this is a step back for women's rights. If Roe v. Wade is overturned, the right to abortion will fall on the States to decide with half of the States ready to outlaw them.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/10/22	8:46pm	2:28	Jon Keller reports on soaring gas prices and what New Hampshire Democrat Senator Maggie Hassan is planning to do about it. Hassan is pushing for a gas tax holiday and asking Biden to release more oil reserves but some politicians fear this may do more harm than good to the state's funding. Neighboring blue states, Connecticut and New York, have also suspended gas taxes without damaging bond ratings and a national poll in March reports 70% support for a temporary gas tax break.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/23/22	8:38pm	3:20	Breanna Pitts reports on the harmful effects of rat poison on local wildlife in Massachusetts. Rat poison not only kills rats but also harms the environment and any animals who hunt rats for food. This issue has prompted state representative Jim Hopkins to advocate for a new bill which will require companies to disclose the effects of rat poison, require the use of non-poisonous alternatives on state buildings and land, as well as report the location and amount of poison they are using.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/24/22	8:10pm	2:03	Christina Hager reports on potential receivership of Boston City Public Schools by the state citing issues with special education and school bus transportation. Mayor Michelle Wu is opposed to giving control to the state and many politicians, parents, and school staff have backed her up saying that receivership would be counterproductive. State education officials will have to make a decision in the coming weeks.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/25/22	8:35pm	2:28	Jon Keller reports on Republican nominee for Secretary of State in Massachusetts Rayla Campbell making claims that child pornography and sex trafficking are being pushed in public schools. The controversial comments were made about a book called "Gender Queer," a graphic novel about teens and young adults struggling with their sexual identity. Jon debunks this by talking with director of Newton-based organization Partners in Sex, who says the comments Campbell made were off the mark and parents have the option to opt out of any school curriculum they are not comfortable with. Keller believes this rhetoric is a way for Republicans to capitalize on the uproar caused last year with how schools handled the pandemic shutdowns and remote learning by adding sexual health to the mix.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/9/22	8:15pm	2:08	Beth Germano reports on the negative effects of rising gas prices on local towns and municipalities. Many towns are struggling to keep up as fuel prices continue to rise. Attleboro DPW has had to request an additional \$80,000 to help with fuel costs to make it through the fiscal year. Attleboro budget director Jeremy Stull says there has been a 50% allocation increase for gas for the next year which is also driving up other city-wide budgets as well.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/14/22	8:36pm	3:00	Jon Keller reports on Democratic nominee for governor Maura Healey and the Republican campaign suggesting she condones street violence. The narrative comes after the murder of George Floyd in which Healey made an emotional speech on June 2, 2020, at the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce saying, "America is burning, but that's how forests grow"—a statement which Republicans claim says Healey is tolerating the destruction of America in favor of leftist mobs. Healey's campaign spokesperson has come forward saying the statement is misconstrued and its obvious Healey is expressing optimism for the future and the need for a fundamental change in America's mindset and ingrained assumptions.

Issue: Health: Medical reports on emerging research, new treatments, and trending topics in health and medicine.

Program	Date of Broadcast	Time of Program	Duration of Story	Episode/Segment Description
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/5/22	8:32pm	2:03	Christina Hager reports on the closing of Tuft's Children's Hospital and the growing demand for pediatric care in Boston. The children's section of Tuft's, which hosts 41 beds, is set to close by July to make more room for adult care. Boston's Children Hospital put out a message on social media on Monday about the high volume of patients and increased wait times, asking the public to only come to the emergency room if medically necessary. Nurses at Tuft's Children's Hospitals worry the closure of the pediatric unit may affect the children's ability to have access to the treatment they need.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/20/22	8:35pm	2:24	Cheryl Fiandaca reports on the I-Team learning that the state did not provide the CDC recommended second booster to veterans at Chelsea Soldiers' home following an outbreak at the beginning of the pandemic where 30 veterans lost their lives. This discovery comes after a new COVID outbreak at the home where 13 veterans tested positive for the virus. After the I-team investigation and angry reactions from residents' families and veteran advocates, action has been taken in opening new vaccine clinics inside the state-run facility.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/26/22	8:06pm	2:01	Christina Hager reports on the new anti-viral therapy pill Paxlovid used to treat COVID. Although the pill has been approved by the federal government for emergency use for high-risk patients, the drug is reportedly underused. Some doctors are not aware that Paxlovid is available and the process of obtaining the drug requires the doctor to call a hotline which must put the client's name on a registry to see if they qualify for the pill. The Biden administration has announced they will push to make Paxlovid more readily available and easier to access at pharmacies.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/11/22	8:18pm	1:57	Brandon Truitt reports on the nationwide baby formula shortage and Massachusetts parents scrambling to find alternative ways to feed their infants. The formula shortage is a result of supply chain issues from the pandemic as well as the closure of a large baby formula production company in Michigan. Datasemby reports nearly 40% of the nation's baby formula supply is out of stock which is up 11% from November of 2020. Dr. Christopher Duggan of the Center for Nutrition and Boston Children's Hospital advises parents to consult their pediatrician before making any changes to their infant's diet.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/18/22	8:00pm	2:47	Kristina Rex reports on a man being treated at Mass General Hospital for monkeypox—the first case reported in the US this year. Monkeypox is so rare that it took six days for doctors to diagnose the man. Symptoms of the disease include flu-like symptoms that develop into a rash, usually lasts 2-4 weeks, and is not easily spread. The disease originates from West or Central Africa and is usually transmitted by animals or travel, but the man has reportedly only traveled to Canada recently. Similar reports of cluster outbreaks have come from Europe leading medical experts to believe there is a new method of transmission for the disease.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/30/22	8:39pm	2:34	Dr. Mallika Marshall reports on a virtual reality video game Mightier that is helping kids and adults with ADHD and mental health issues. The game helps players manage their emotions by using a heart rate monitor worn on the wrist. When the player's heart rate goes up, the game prompts the player to do a simple exercise such as moving their arm across their chest or taking deep breaths. These stress coping mechanisms are done hundreds of times eventually becoming muscle memory which players can use in times of distress or frustration in real time. These types of video games were first used to help children with ADHD but are now being used for a wide range of mental health issues.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/6/22	8:15pm	1:53	Sarah Wroblewski reports on pollen season in New England and why it seems worst this year. With pollen season lasting from April through September, it is currently peak allergy season. Tree pollen season starts at the end of March then goes into grass pollen in May and weed pollen in August and September. Allergies may seem worse this time of year since pine pollen grains are one of the largest pollen grains, almost three times the size of grass pollen. The conditions may also be worse this year due to drier conditions and the moderate drought Massachusetts is currently experiencing.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/8/22	8:19pm	1:50	Zinnia Maldonado reports on a contrast dye shortage impacting hospitals across the country. The contrast dye, which is injected into the patient's bloodstream to identify blood clots, is needed to perform CAT scans but the General Electric factory in Shanghai that produces it has had to pause production due to COVID. This is causing hospitals to have to conserve the dye or postpone CAT scans despite the high influx of patients they are currently experiencing.

Issue: Law & Safety: Latest news on law, crime, and community safety matters.

Program	Date of Broadcast	Time of Program	Duration of Story	Episode/Segment Description
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/1/22	8:33pm	2:14	Paul Burton reports on Newton neighbors concerned with a man shooting pellets in his backyard. A resident of West Newton Bruce McKee has a makeshift air rifle target practice range set up in his yard where he says he practices shooting as a hobby. Neighbors claim that the commotion coming daily from McKee's yard is scaring their families and children and causing them anxiety as they are afraid to go outside in their yards in fear someone may get hurt. Newton police say McKee is not doing anything illegal but are now looking into ways to amend Newton's firearms ordinance to include the discharge of air guns, pellet guns and BB guns.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/5/22	8:04pm	2:37	Ken Macleod reports on a man accused of peeping into children's bedroom in Dracut. A Dracut mother Emmarie Albert woke up early Monday morning to screams coming from her two daughters' room on the ground level of their apartment and saw a man peering through the window. The man claimed he dropped his phone then fled on foot when confronted by neighbor Caylie Basnett who was outside with their dog. The man was later arrested when he came back to retrieve his pickup truck from the apartment complex and police confirmed he was the same man who had stalked the complex back in December. Dracut Police intend to seek criminal charges against the man.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/12/22	8:36pm	1:51	Katrina Kincade reports on the signing of Nero's Law on the 4 th anniversary of the death of Yarmouth Police Sgt. Sean Gannon. Gannon was killed in the line of duty while serving an arrest warrant in Marstons Mills in April 2018. His K-9 Nero was also injured at the scene and had to be transported by police car to the local animal hospital. Nero's Law will allow K-9s who are injured in the field to be immediately treated by EMTs onsite. The bill was passed unanimously in the statehouse in hopes that one day, it will save a life.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/25/22	8:01pm	2:00	Ken Macleod reports on a plane being shot at while landing at Gardner Municipal Airport in Templeton on Monday. A student pilot and their instructor were onboard the Cessna 172M when they heard a loud pop and smelled fuel. Upon landing, mechanics were able to spot a hole in the fuel tank where they discovered a .22 caliber bullet and realized the plane had been shot at. Templeton Police are leading an investigation into the incident.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/5/22	8:03pm	2:35	Christina Hager reports on Suffolk Construction going on a "safety stand down" on all its projects after three workers were injured on the job during a floor collapse on Wednesday. The incident occurred when a cantilevered floor collapsed and two workers were immediately rushed to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries while one worker remained trapped under a large piece of the floor for more than three hours before being rescued. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has started an investigation into the incident and Suffolk plans to conduct a safety review and evaluation of its safety standards and procedures during the construction pause.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/10/22	8:31pm	2:28	Louisa Moller reports on the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) safety concerns with the MBTA after several recent incidents including derailments, collisions, and the death of Roberta Sausville Devin, who was killed at a railroad crossing in Wilmington earlier this year. The FTA has written the MBTA a letter addressing the incidents and safety violations and will be taking on an increased safety oversight role immediately with inspections starting this month.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/13/22	8:04pm	:14	Zinnia Maldonado reports Worcester requiring masks indoors again after COVID cases surge. Since March 12, Worcester has been seeing an average of 128.9 new positive COVID cases per week as well as more hospitalizations. Last week, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) increased Worcester's community level risk to high.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/1/22	8:02pm	2:25	Ken Macleod reports on a federal jury finding Louis Coleman guilty of kidnapping and killing Jass Correia in 2019 outside a Boston club. Correia disappeared after a birthday celebration in the city and was found dead in Coleman's trunk four days later. Coleman is now facing a mandatory life sentence set to be held on September 22.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/16/22	8:11pm	1:46	Christina Hager reports on a former Salem Public School teacher Daniel Hakim who has been charged with allegedly sexually assaulting 10 female students while working at Saltonstall School in 2015-2018. Allegations were first raised with Hakim in 2018 – although the initial investigation proved “not prosecutable” at the time, another student came forward in 2021 which prompted other students to do the same, and Salem Police were able to arrest Hakim with new charges on June 14. Hakim is facing 32 counts of aggravated indecent assault and battery on a child under 14.
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Issue: Community: Community affairs stories highlighting and promoting local community affairs initiatives.

Program	Date of Broadcast	Time of Program	Duration of Story	Episode/Segment Description
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	04/22/22	8:07pm	2:04	Paul Burton reports on burn victims from Ukraine being treated at Shriners Hospital for Children. Dr. Robert Sheridan says the easy part is caring for the victims—the hard part is the logistics of getting the victims halfway across the world. The usual time to transport patients is six days but due to restricted air access due to the war in Ukraine, this time it took 20 days. The Ukrainian children will remain in the care of the hospital for the next three months while they undergo intensive care and rehab. Shriners has been taking care of Ukrainian burn victims for the past 15 years through a partnership with the country and will continue to do so to help alleviate the overwhelmed hospitals tending to war victims.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/26/22	8:26pm	2:33	Sarah Wroblewski reports on a local artist picking up plastic along the coast and turning it into amazing works of arts. Cape Cod marine debris artist Sarah Thornington has been working on a new exhibit called “Hope is Not Passive” to bring awareness to single-use plastic. The majority of the exhibit is made from over 21,000 pieces of washed-up plastic garbage, toys, and shoes that Thornington collected over the course of a year. In honor of earth month, Thornington's artwork has been displayed in Lawrence Library in Pepperell.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	4/27/22	9:39pm	2:26	Tiffany Chan reports on the groundbreaking of a new memorial to honor Dr. Martin Luther King and his wife Coretta Scott King. It's called "The Embrace" and it's a project that has been in the work for years. The Embrace is a 22-foot bronze sculpture featuring interlocking arms and will be displayed near Parkman Bandstand where Dr. King led a rally and spoke in 1965. The city hopes to debut the completed memorial by MLK Day in 2023.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/11/22	8:01pm	1:52	Juli McDonald reports on a local 14-year-old boy Sandrick Jorcelin who was shot in a drive by shooting while visiting family in Canada last weekend. The 8 th grader was leaving a birthday party in Montreal with his uncle when a drive-by shooter sprayed bullets at their car, killing Sandrick's uncle and shooting Sandrick in his stomach. Donations close to \$60,000 have been received from strangers and loved ones to help support Sandrick's medical journey which includes an expensive MedFlight ride from Canada to Massachusetts General Hospital. The Jorcelin family is overwhelmed by the generosity from the community and hope that Sandrick will be able to walk and play basketball again someday.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/20/22	8:33pm	1:54	Zinnia Maldonado reports on minority-owned business City Fresh Foods who will be providing meals to 50,000 Boston Public School students starting July 1. City Fresh Foods was started by CEO Sheldon Lloyd 30 years ago with the goal to provide fresh, nutritious meals to seniors and minorities in the Boston area. The company focuses on culturally relevant and diverse foods by chefs from the communities in which they serve. The city has issued a \$17 million contract to help the business with this endeavor, the highest non-construction contract the city has ever issued to a certified black-owned business.

WBZ News at 8 on TV38	5/24/22	8:39pm	3:59	Lisa Hughes reports on Newton-Wellesley Hospital and their new emotional support animal Buddy the golden retriever. Child Life Specialist Candice Lavien came up with the idea to have a dog in the hospital shortly after she was hired. The idea was to have a dog to help raise the spirits of and bring comfort to the staff and patients during their stay. Buddy started his first day at the hospital on May 23 and already seems to be sparking joy and excitement with smiling nurses lining up to meet him.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/7/22	8:42pm	2:02	Rachel Holt reports on members of the Swampscott High School GSA educating the Swampscott Senior Center in an event called "LGBTQ 101." The discussion is part of a monthly event held at the Senior Center called "Talk about Town" which aims to educate the residents on a variety of topics. All topics are on the table as the GSA wants to provide an open, non-judgmental place to talk and ask questions about anything LGBTQ-related. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn about one another and break down communication barriers.
WBZ News at 8 on TV38	6/10/22	8:44pm	2:11	Liam Martin reports on a Massachusetts basketball team taking home the gold medal for basketball for the first time in the Special Olympics in Orlando, Florida. The Franklin High School basketball team won the gold medal on Friday after a comeback victory against a team from Oregon. The team is made up of special and neurotypical athletes who have formed a strong bond on and off the court.