



Midland, Texas

QUARTERLY LIST OF PROGRAMMING PROVIDING THE MOST SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT OF COMMUNITY ISSUES

January 1 – March 31, 2018

1st Quarter

KWES-TV News Programs locally produced to provide significant coverage of community issues

The following issues were identified as significant and covered by KWES-TV to better serve the community and act in the public's best interest as required by the Federal Communications Commission.

- 1. Criminal Activity** - local issues involving crime
- 2. Oil Industry** - stories related to the gas and oil industry in West Texas
- 3. Education** - stories of interest to parents, students, faculty and staff
- 4. Water** - issues related to drought, water quality and long-term supply
- 5. Politics** - issues and concerns related to elected officials
- 6. City and County** - stories regarding various cities and counties in our 27 county coverage area including council meetings, commissioners court meetings and non-profits
- 7. Equality** - issues of importance to minority audiences
- 8. Health** - stories regarding health and care for our viewers

Programs dealing with community issues for KWES-TV, Midland, Texas

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>DAYS</u>	<u>TIMES</u>
Early Sunrise	Monday – Friday	5 a.m. – 7 a.m.
NewsWest9 @ 4	Monday-Friday	4 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
NewsWest9 @ 5	Monday-Friday	5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
NewsWest9 @ 6	Monday-Friday	6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
NewsWest9 @ 10	Monday-Friday	10:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
NewsWest9 Weekend	Saturday	6:00 –p.m. & 10:00 p.m.
NewsWest9 Sunday	Sunday	10:00- 10:30 p.m.

The above news programming is locally produced and presents news, weather and sports.

Quarterly Description of NewsWest9 KWES-TV programs providing the most significant treatment of community issues.

Crimestoppers – Sunday 10 p.m.

A weekly report that airs on Sunday night. This information is provided by the Midland Police Department and the Odessa Police Department.

Restaurant Report – Thursday 10 p.m.

A weekly report uncovering the good and bad restaurant health inspections in Midland and Odessa.

Network programs dealing with community issues

Early Today Monday – Friday 4:30 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.

This business news and consumer show gives viewers breaking news and stock market information for the domestic and foreign exchanges.

Today Show Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

This four-hour network program provides the latest in international and domestic news, weather and sports. It includes interviews with current newsmakers from world politics, business, media, entertainment and sports news. KWES-TV NewsWest9 provides local two minute news updates at 7:26, 7:56, 8:26, 8:56, 9:26, 9:56 and 10:26.

Nightly News Monday – Sunday 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

This is NBC network programming with investigative reporting on issues facing the American public.

Texas Country Reporter - Saturday 6:30 p.m.

This syndicated program features a couple with stories of local interest on history, businesses and issues throughout the state of Texas.

EARLY TODAY Monday-Friday 4:00-4:30am

This business news and consumer driven show gives viewers breaking business news and stock market action for the domestic and foreign exchanges.

TODAY SHOW Monday-Friday 7:00-11:00am

This four-hour network program provides the latest in international and domestic news, weather reports and interviews with newsmakers from the world of politics, business, media, entertainment, and sports. WSFA provides local news updates at various times.

TODAY SHOW-Weekend Saturday, 6:00-8:00am & Sunday, 7:00-8:00am

Weekend editions continue the “Today” tradition of covering breaking news, interviewing newsmakers, reporting on a variety of popular culture and human-interest stories, covering topics related to health and finance, and presenting the latest sports and weather information.

NBC NIGHTLY NEWS Monday-Sunday 5:30-6:00pm

“NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt” provides reports and analysis of the day’s most newsworthy national and international events. It offers solution-driven programming that delves into the toughest issues facing our society today.

MEET THE PRESS Sunday 8:00-9:00am

This one-hour network news program consists of three interview segments with guests of national and international political importance, followed by an expanded roundtable discussion at the end of each broadcast.

DATELINE NBC Friday 7:00-8:00pm and Other Varying Days/Times

This network program has pioneered a unique approach to prime time news programming, with its multi-broadcast franchise. With this schedule, the one-hour news magazine enables NBC News to present its best reporting, investigative features, and newsmaker profiles in a consistent and comprehensive manner.

The following pages present a sampling of the local issue-related reporting in KWES’s local news programs for the quarter:

Issue	Date	Program	Segment	Summary	Duration
City & County	1/16/2018	EARLY SUNRISE	TRAFFIC ALERT UPDATE	TX-DOT TELLS US TWO BRIDGES WERE HIT YESTERDAY IN MIDLAND AND MARTIN COUNTY...BY AN OVERSIZED LOAD... WE'RE TOLD THE BUSINESS 20 WEST INTERCHANGE BRIDGE OVER EYE-20 AT MILE MARKER 154-155... SUFFERED SOME MAJOR DAMAGE TO THE BEAMS... THE BRIDGE IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOT...	00:00:39
City & County	1/16/2018	EARLY SUNRISE	TRAFFIC ALERT UPDATE	WE ALSO HAVE A FEW TRAFFIC ALERTS FOR THIS WEEK... BOTH START TODAY AND RUN THROUGH THURSDAY... THE FIRST IS IN MIDLAND...ON THE I-20 SOUTH SERVICE ROAD...BETWEEN MILE MARKERS ONE-22 AND ONE -27... WE'RE TOLD THERE WILL BE LANE CLOSURES IN THE AREA... AND IN ANDREWS...	00:00:45
City & County	1/16/2018	EARLY SUNRISE	TRAFFIC ALERT UPDATE	AN OVERSIZED LOAD HIT TWO BRIDGES YESTERDAY IN MIDLAND AND MARTIN COUNTY... THE BUSINESS 20 WEST INTERCHANGE BRIDGE OVER EYE-20 AT MILE MARKER 154-155 SUFFERED SOME MAJOR DAMAGE TO THE BEAMS... THE BRIDGE IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE... THE TANK FARM BRIDGE AT COUNTY RO...	00:00:24
Politics	1/16/2018	EARLY SUNRISE	TRUMP WHITE HOUSE 0430 POTTS	THE WHITE HOUSE INSIDER WHO RUFFLED FEATHERS IN A NEW TELL-ALL BOOK -- TELLS HIS STORY ON CAPITOL HILL TODAY... TRACIE POTTS IS ON CAPITOL HILL WITH THAT... PLUS THE LATEST ON AVOIDING A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN FRIDAY...	00:01:48
City & County	1/16/2018	EARLY SUNRISE	TRAFFIC ALERT UPDATE	WE ALSO HAVE A FEW TRAFFIC ALERTS FOR THIS WEEK... BOTH STARTING TODAY AND RUN THROUGH THURSDAY... THE FIRST IS IN MIDLAND ON THE EYE-20 SOUTH SERVICE ROAD, BETWEEN MILE MARKERS ONE-22 AND ONE -27... WE'RE TOLD THERE WILL BE LANE CLOSURES IN THE AREA... AND IN ANDRE...	00:00:31

Health	1/16/2018	First News at 4	FONA LIP CANCER REMOVED	JANE FONDA REVEALED ON INSTAGRAM MONDAY THAT SHE RECENTLY HAD A CANCEROUS GROWTH REMOVED FROM HER LOWER LIP.... THE 80-YEAR OLD POSTED A PICTURE OF HERSELF WITH FELLOW ACTRESS LILY TOMLIN.... SHE JOKED THAT THE PSEUDO-CANDID POSE WAS A CLEVER WAY TO COVER HER LIP B...	00:00:28
Health	1/16/2018	KWES 5 PM	SOCIAL MEDIA AND HEALTH		00:00:01
Health	1/16/2018	KWES 5 PM	BREASTFEEDING AND DIABETES	A NEW STUDY SUGGESTS BREASTFEEDING ... MAY LOWER A WOMAN'S RISK OF "DIABETES". RESEARCHERS TRACKED MORE THAN 12-HUNDRED WOMEN FOR 30-YEARS. MOMS WHO BREASTFED FOR AT "LEAST" SIX MONTHS ... WERE ABOUT "HALF" AS LIKELY TO DEVELOP TYPE TWO DIABETES ... THAN THOSE WHO ...	00:00:29
Politics	1/16/2018	First News at 4	GIRL SCOUTS HOPE TO CHANGE SMOKING LAW		00:00:02
City & County	1/16/2018	KWES 5 PM	BRIDGE UPDATE	THE TRUCK DRIVER THAT DAMAGED TWO BRIDGES IN STANTON AND MIDLAND, HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED. IT'S 33-YEAR-OLD, SAMUEL GREEN OF GLENCOE, NEW MEXICO. HE WAS DRIVING A TRUCK OWNED BY "STAY LOADED" IN ODESSA. STATE TROOPERS SAY HE DROVE UNDERNEATH TWO BRIDGES IN STANTON ...	00:00:34
City & County	1/16/2018	KWES 5 PM	MISD SAM HOUSTON VOTE	A DECISION ON THE FUTURE OF A MIDLAND SCHOOL WILL BE DECIDED TONIGHT. THE MIDLAND SCHOOL BOARD WILL VOTE ON A PLAN TO TURN AROUND SAM HOUSTON ELEMENTARY. THE SCHOOL HAS BEEN PLACED ON IMPROVEMENT NEEDED STATUS BY THE STATE FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS. THE DISTRICT WANTS...	00:00:38

City & County	2/21/2018	KWES 5 PM	VID OF CRACKED ICE ON WINDSHIELD	*PLEASE NOTE, THE RUNDOWN MAY CHANGE* SCATTERED AREAS OF FREEZING RAIN/DRIZZLE FELL ACROSS THE PERMIAN BASIN LAST NIGHT AND THIS MORNING. THE PRECIPITATION QUICKLY FORMED A LAYER OF ICE ON MANY EXPOSED SURFACES, INCLUDING CARS. MANY OF US WOKE UP TO THIS ICY SCENARIO THIS ...	00:00:23
City & County	2/21/2018	KWES 5 PM	BAN ON BUMP STOCKS	AN ACCESSORY IN TO SEMI-AUTOMATIC GUNS IS IN THE SCOPE OF THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION. BUMP STOCKS CAN INCREASE THE RATE OF FIRE ON SEMI-AUTOMATIC WEAPONS. YESTERDAY, THE PRESIDENT SAID HE WANTS THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT WHETHER "BUMP STOCKS" S...	00:00:06
City & County	2/21/2018	KWES 5 PM	MORE WX PICS	*PLEASE NOTE, THE RUNDOWN MAY CHANGE* A MIX OF FREEZING RAIN/DRIZZLE AND EVEN A LITTLE SLEET FELL AND COVERED PARTS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN THIS MORNING. SOME OF OUR VIEWERS FROM THE ANDREWS AREA WOKE UP TO SLEET COVERING MANY OBJECTS AND THE GROUND. SLEET STARTS AS SNOW, MEL...	00:00:29

Issue	Date	Program	Segment	Summary	Duration
City & County	3/6/2018	EARLY SUNRISE	EARLY VOTING TOTALS	VOTERS! ELECTION DAY FOR THE MARCH PRIMARIES IS TODAY! 84-HUNDRED VOTERS CAST THEIR BALLOT EARLY IN MIDLAND. BUT THAT'S A SMALL AMOUNT COMPARED TO THE 81-THOUSAND REGISTERED VOTERS. IN ECTOR COUNTY, A LITTLE MORE THAN 58-HUNDRED VOTERS HIT THE POLLS EARLY, O...	00:00:12
City & County	3/6/2018	SUNRISE	EARLY VOTING TOTALS	VOTERS! ELECTION DAY FOR THE MARCH PRIMARIES IS TODAY! 84-HUNDRED VOTERS CAST THEIR BALLOT EARLY IN MIDLAND. BUT THAT'S A SMALL AMOUNT COMPARED TO THE 81-THOUSAND REGISTERED VOTERS. IN ECTOR COUNTY, A LITTLE MORE THAN 58-HUNDRED VOTERS HIT THE POLLS EARLY, O...	00:00:36
City & County	3/6/2018	SUNRISE	EARLY VOTING TOTALS		00:00:00
City & County	3/6/2018	SUNRISE CUT-INS	EARLY VOTING TOTALS		00:00:00
City & County	3/6/2018	SUNRISE CUT-INS	EARLY VOTING TOTALS	IN CASE YOU FORGOT, TODAY IS ELECTION DAY FOR THE MARCH PRIMARIES. 84-HUNDRED VOTERS CAST THEIR BALLOT EARLY IN MIDLAND. BUT THAT'S A SMALL AMOUNT COMPARED TO THE 81-THOUSAND REGISTERED VOTERS. IN ECTOR COUNTY, A LITTLE MORE THAN 58-HUNDRED VOTERS HIT THE PO...	00:00:36
Criminal Activity	3/6/2018	KWES 5 PM	PARKLAND SHOOT UPDATE	A GRAND JURY CONVENED TODAY TO HEAR THE STATE ATTORNEY'S CASE AGAINST NIKOLAS CRUZ. THE 19 YEAR OLD ...CHARGED IN THE DEADLY SHOOTING AT STONEMAN DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL IN FLORIDA. MEANWHILE, THE BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD MET FORMALLY FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE...	00:00:50
City & County	3/6/2018	KWES 5 PM	ROSELAND OIL AND GAS SHOW	THERE'S AN OIL AND GAS SHOW BEING HELD IN MIDLAND. THIS IS THE FOURTH YEAR FOR ROSELAND'S SHOW. LAST YEAR THEY HAD MORE THAN 35-HUNDRED ATTENDEES...AND 200 BOOTHS... THEY'RE HOPING TO HAVE MORE THIS YEAR. THE EVENT WILL BE TOMORROW FROM 9 TO FIVE AND THURSDAY ...	00:00:00
City & County	3/6/2018	KWES 5 PM	ROSELAND OIL AND GAS SHOW		00:00:00
City & County	3/6/2018	TELEMUNDO 10PM - new	GRACKLE PROBLEM	LAS AVES NEGRAS O CHANATES ESTAN CAUSANDO UN VERDADERO TIRADERO EN EL PERMIAN BASIN AQUÍ ESTÁ UNA IMAGEN DE ESTOS PÁJAROS ... TOMANDO UN ESTACIONAMIENTO EN ODESSA ... SE NOS DIJO QUE ESTAS AVES NO EMIGRAN Y ESTÁN AQUÍ EN TODO EL AÑO ... LAS AVES SE ENCU...	00:00:37

KWES aired the following Public Service Announcements (PSA's) covering issues of community concern which aired extensively during the quarter.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	PSA	HOUSE ID	SOURCE	LENGTH	DESCRIPTION	STATION	SPOTS AIRED
2	MARINES - ANTHEM	MI12765	MARINE CORPS	30	JOINING MARINE CORPS	KWES	194
3	MARINES - ANTHEM	MI12765	MARINE CORPS	30	JOINING MARINE CORPS	KWES-D2	394
4	MARINES - ANTHEM	MI12766	MARINE CORPS	60	JOINING MARINE CORPS	KWES-D2	39
5	MARINES - FOR COUNTRY	MI12767	MARINE CORPS	30	JOINING MARINE CORPS	KWES	183
6	MARINES - FOR COUNTRY	MI12767	MARINE CORPS	30	JOINING MARINE CORPS	KWES-D2	377
7	MARINES - FOR COUNTRY	MI12768	MARINE CORPS	60	JOINING MARINE CORPS	KWES-D2	39
8	MARINES - FOR US ALL	MI12769	MARINE CORPS	30	JOINING MARINE CORPS	KWES	179
9	MARINES - FOR US ALL	MI12769	MARINE CORPS	30	JOINING MARINE CORPS	KWES-D2	372
10	MARINES - FOR US ALL	MI12770	MARINE CORPS	60	JOINING MARINE CORPS	KWES-D2	38
11	NATIONAL GUARD - BENEFITS	MI12774	NATIONAL GUARD	30	JOINING NATIONAL GUAR	KWES	184
12	NATIONAL GUARD - BENEFITS	MI12774	NATIONAL GUARD	30	JOINING NATIONAL GUAR	KWES-D2	385
13	NATIONAL GUARD - BENEFITS	MI12775	NATIONAL GUARD	15	JOINING NATIONAL GUAR	KWES	34
14	NATIONAL GUARD - BENEFITS	MI12775	NATIONAL GUARD	15	JOINING NATIONAL GUAR	KWES-D2	7
15	NATIONAL GUARD - CAREERS	MI12776	NATIONAL GUARD	30	JOINING NATIONAL GUAR	KWES	170
16	NATIONAL GUARD - CAREERS	MI12776	NATIONAL GUARD	30	JOINING NATIONAL GUAR	KWES-D2	366
17	NATIONAL GUARD - HEART OF A SOLDIE	MI12777	NATIONAL GUARD	15	JOINING NATIONAL GUAR	KWES	14
18	NATIONAL GUARD - HEART OF A SOLDIE	MI12777	NATIONAL GUARD	15	JOINING NATIONAL GUAR	KWES-D2	5
19	JUNK FOOD	MI12779	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOOD WASTE	KWES	166
20	JUNK FOOD	MI12779	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOOD WASTE	KWES-D2	365
21	COLLEGE	MI12780	ADCOUNCIL	15	RETIREMENT	KWES	8
22	COLLEGE	MI12780	ADCOUNCIL	15	RETIREMENT	KWES-D2	4
23	HOUSE HUNTING	MI12781	ADCOUNCIL	15	RETIREMENT	KWES	3
24	HOUSE HUNTING	MI12781	ADCOUNCIL	15	RETIREMENT	KWES-D2	3
25	TRAVEL	MI12782	ADCOUNCIL	15	RETIREMENT	KWES	1
26	TRAVEL	MI12782	ADCOUNCIL	15	RETIREMENT	KWES-D2	1
27	LONG HAUL	MI12783	ADCOUNCIL	30	BUCKLE UP FOR SAFETY	KWES	148
28	LONG HAUL	MI12783	ADCOUNCIL	30	BUCKLE UP FOR SAFETY	KWES-D2	334
29	ASHES TALL GRASS	MI12784	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOREST FIRES	KWES	151
30	ASHES TALL GRASS	MI12784	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOREST FIRES	KWES-D2	329
31	BEAR HUG - CAMPFIRE	MI12785	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOREST FIRES	KWES	136
32	BEAR HUG - CAMPFIRE	MI12785	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOREST FIRES	KWES-D2	328
33	DUMPING ASHES	MI12786	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOREST FIRES	KWES	133
34	DUMPING ASHES	MI12786	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOREST FIRES	KWES-D2	313
35	HOT COALS	MI12787	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOREST FIRES	KWES	116
36	HOT COALS	MI12787	ADCOUNCIL	30	FOREST FIRES	KWES-D2	305
37	CONNECTED	MI12788	ADCOUNCIL	15	DISCOVER THE FOREST	KWES	36
38	CONNECTED	MI12788	ADCOUNCIL	15	DISCOVER THE FOREST	KWES-D2	35
39	DR. SPRUCE - ACTIVITIES	MI12789	ADCOUNCIL	30	DISCOVER THE FOREST	KWES	659
40	DR. SPRUCE - ACTIVITIES	MI12789	ADCOUNCIL	30	DISCOVER THE FOREST	KWES-D2	869
41	DR. SPRUCE - BREAK	MI12790	ADCOUNCIL	30	DISCOVER THE FOREST	KWES	640
42	DR. SPRUCE - BREAK	MI12790	ADCOUNCIL	30	DISCOVER THE FOREST	KWES-D2	851
43	DR. SPRUCE - FAMILY TIME	MI12791	ADCOUNCIL	30	DISCOVER THE FOREST	KWES	620
44	DR. SPRUCE - FAMILY TIME	MI12791	ADCOUNCIL	30	DISCOVER THE FOREST	KWES-D2	835

45	DAD JOKES	MI12792	ADCOUNCIL	30	FATHERHOOD	KWES	107
46	STADIUM	MI12794	ADCOUNCIL	15	RECYCLING	KWES	17
47	STADIUM	MI12794	ADCOUNCIL	15	RECYCLING	KWES-D2	26
48	SUPERHERO	MI12795	ADCOUNCIL	30	RECYCLING	KWES	587
49	SUPERHERO	MI12795	ADCOUNCIL	30	RECYCLING	KWES-D2	832
50	CDC - SPANISH	MI13700	ADCOUNCIL	30	CANCER	KWES-D3	2
51	AHAF - SPANISH	MI13701	ADCOUNCIL	30	ALZHEIMERS	KWES-D3	9
52	ADA- SPANISH	MI13702	ADCOUNCIL	30	DIABETES	KWES-D3	4
53	CDC2 - SPANISH	MI13703	ADCOUNCIL	30	CANCER	KWES-D3	1
54	MARINE - SPANISH	MI13704	ADCOUNCIL	30	MARINES	KWES-D3	8
55	BOOST 1 - SPANISH	MI13705	ADCOUNCIL	30	SINGLE PARENTS	KWES-D3	9
56	BOOST 2 - SPANISH	MI13706	ADCOUNCIL	30	SINGLE PARENTS	KWES-D3	3
57	GUARD 1 - SPANISH	MI13707	ADCOUNCIL	30	NATIONAL GUARD	KWES-D3	10
58	CYBER BULLYING - SPANISH	MI13708	ADCOUNCIL	30	CYBER BULLYING	KWES-D3	3
59	GUARD 2 - SPANISH	MI13709	ADCOUNCIL	30	NATIONAL GUARD	KWES-D3	20
60	DRUG FREE - SHEEP	MI13714	ADCOUNCIL	30	DRUGS	KWES-D3	9
61	SCHOOL - SPANISH	MI13719	ADCOUNCIL	30	LEARNING DISABILITIES	KWES-D3	9
62	ESCAPE PROJECT - FATHER - SPANISH	MI13721	ADCOUNCIL	30	FAMILY	KWES-D3	3
63	ESCAPE PROJECT - MOTHER - SPANISH	MI13722	ADCOUNCIL	30	FAMILY	KWES-D3	1
64	ESCAPE PROJECT - SON - SPANISH	MI13723	ADCOUNCIL	30	FAMILY	KWES-D3	6
65	KAYAK - SPANISH	MI13724	ADCOUNCIL	15	FAMILY	KWES-D3	8
66	JOURNEY - SPANISH	MI13725	ADCOUNCIL	30	RECYCLING	KWES-D3	7
67	STADIUM - SPANISH	MI13726	ADCOUNCIL	15	RECYCLING	KWES-D3	8
68	HOMEWORK - SPANISH	MI13727	ADCOUNCIL	30	LEARNING DISABILITIES	KWES-D3	1
69	THE WORLD OF AUTISM - SPANISH	MI13728	ADCOUNCIL	30	AUTISM	KWES-D3	5
70	SUITCASE - SPANISH	MI13729	ADCOUNCIL	30	ADOPTION	KWES-D3	6
71	NUMBERS - SPANISH	MI13731	ADCOUNCIL	15	AMA	KWES-D3	8
72	NUMBERS - SPANISH	MI13732	ADCOUNCIL	30	AMA	KWES-D3	5

2018 1ST QUARTER MEET THE PRESS TOPICS

Chuck Todd is NBC News Political Director and the moderator of "Meet the Press," the flagship Sunday Morning public affairs program and longest-running broadcast in television history.

"Meet the Press" is seen on the NBC Television Network from 9-10 a.m. ET in most markets. In New York City and Washington D.C., the broadcast is seen from 10:30-11:30 a.m. ET.

The program re-airs on MSNBC Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. ET/11 a.m. PT and again at 2 a.m. ET/11 p.m. PT and 4 a.m. ET/1 a.m. PT Monday. At these times, "Meet The Press" will also air on SIRIUS channel 90 and XM channel 120.

Please check local listings or the "Meet the Press" website (<http://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press>) for television and radio broadcast times in your area or to get transcripts of the show. Follow us on Twitter @MeetThePress and @NBCNewsPR.

MTP EXCLUSIVE: “FIRE AND FURY” AUTHOR SAYS ‘25TH AMENDMENT IS A CONCEPT THAT IS ALIVE EVERY DAY IN THE WHITE HOUSE’

EXCLUSIVE: Michael Wolff: “If I Left Out Anything, It's Probably Stuff That Was Even More Damning”

SCOOP: White House Says February 2017 is Last Time They Have a Record of Wolff Speaking to Trump

EXCLUSIVE: Sen. Graham Shoots Down Secretary of State Speculation, Says He Would Not Serve in Trump Cabinet

JANUARY 7, 2018 – In an exclusive interview on “Meet the Press,” **Michael Wolff**, author of the controversial new book “Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House,” told moderator Chuck Todd that concern in the White House about President Trump’s fitness for office is so great that the “25th Amendment is a concept that is alive every day in the White House.”

Wolff also shared: “If I left out anything, it's probably stuff that was even more damning.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Todd broke the news on this morning’s broadcast that **the White House says the last time they have a record of Wolff speaking to Trump was in February of 2017, not even through the first hundred days of the administration.**

In an exclusive interview this morning, **Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.)** shared that he would say “no” if asked to join Trump’s Cabinet, shooting down secretary of state speculation. The South Carolina senator also defended the president’s fitness for office, telling Todd: “I don't think he's crazy. I think he's had a very successful 2017, and I want to help him where I can, and we should all want him to be successful.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

The New York Times’ **David Brooks**, The New York Times Magazine’s **Mark Leibovich**, American Enterprise Institute’s **Danielle Pletka** and MSNBC’s **Joy Reid** joined the broadcast’s roundtable for insight on the week in politics.

Read the full transcript of this morning’s “Meet the Press” on [MeetThePress.com](#).

MTP EXCLUSIVES: PAUL SAYS ‘IT’S UNFAIR’ TO CALL TRUMP A RACIST, BENNET: ‘NO QUESTION WHAT HE SAID WAS RACIST’

SUNDAY EXCLUSIVE: Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) on Trump: “I know, for a fact, that he cares very deeply about the people in Haiti”

PLUS: Paul: “You can't have an immigration compromise if everybody's out there calling the president a racist”

SUNDAY EXCLUSIVE: Sen. Michael Bennet (D-Colo.): “There's no question what he said was racist”

JANUARY 14, 2018 – In an exclusive interview, **Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.)** tells “Meet the Press” moderator Chuck Todd “it’s unfair” to “draw conclusions from a remark that I think wasn’t constructive” and paint President Donald Trump as a racist “when I know, for a fact, that he cares very deeply about the people in Haiti because he helped finance a trip where we were able to get vision back for 200 people in Haiti.”

“You can't have an immigration compromise if everybody's out there calling the president a racist,” says Paul. “Both sides now are destroying the setting in which anything meaningful can happen on immigration.” [Watch the exclusive interview](#) with the Kentucky senator.

Sen. Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) says, “There's no question what he said was racist. There's no question what he said was un-American and completely unmoored from the facts.”

When asked if it’s worth shutting the government down if a DACA compromise doesn’t happen, Bennet replies, “It should not come to that.” [Watch the exclusive interview](#) with the Colorado senator.

In an exclusive interview this morning, civil rights icon and former UN ambassador Andrew Young tells Todd that Trump is “being educated.” “It's not a matter of educating Donald Trump. It's a matter of educating our entire society,” Young says. “You don't help someone who has an alcohol problem by constantly calling him a drunk. You have to deal with the sickness,” he adds.

When asked if Trump is redeemable, Young replies, “We are sinners that know we cannot make it on our own. And I think he's kind of got to realize that too.” [Watch the exclusive interview.](#)

CBN News’ **David Brody**, The New York Times’ **Helene Cooper**, TIME’s **Elise Jordan** and NBC News’ **Andrea Mitchell** join the broadcast’s roundtable for insight and analysis, including [a discussion](#) on yesterday’s false alarm of a ballistic missile threat in Hawaii. (ICYMI: NBC News’ **Jacob Soboroff** offers [an exclusive look inside the command center](#) where that erroneous warning was issued yesterday on “Sunday TODAY.”)

MTP EXCLUSIVE: COTTON ‘CAN’T MAKE THAT COMMITMENT AT ALL’ TO SUPPORT TRUMP ON IMMIGRATION

EXCLUSIVE: Cotton on Trump’s immigration comments: “I've never denied that there wasn't strong language used in the meeting by lots of people”

White House Legislative Affairs Director Marc Short says “the president has been involved” in government shutdown negotiations

Senate Minority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) on the shutdown: “I wish the president would help us. At some point his leadership could make the difference”

JANUARY 21, 2018 – In an exclusive interview, **Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Ark.)** said he “can't make that commitment at all” to fully support President Donald Trump on immigration.

On the president’s position on the Durbin-Graham immigration proposal and speculation of his influence, Cotton told Todd, “I don’t think anyone got to Donald Trump. Donald Trump studied the proposal that Dick Durbin and Lindsey Graham put in front of him and realized it didn’t address any of our key priorities.”

Cotton also addressed Trump’s immigration comments: “I've never denied that there wasn't strong language used in the meeting by lots of people. ... I was not offended. And nobody in the meeting expressed their offense at any of the language that was being used.” [Watch the full interview with the Arkansas senator.](#)

Marc Short, legislative affairs director for the White House, spoke to Todd about the president’s involvement in ending the government shutdown, responding to Todd asking why the president didn’t make a single public appearance yesterday: “The president has been involved. ... The president is engaged in finding out what are the impacts of this. He's been on the phone in trying to find a resolution to it.”

On the new immigration ad unveiled last night, Short told Todd: “That ad is produced by an outside group ... not done from people working inside the White House.” When asked if it is helpful, Short replied, “It's helpful to continue to raise awareness ... the data of the ad shows that there are people coming across our border that pose threats to our country.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Senate Minority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) would not commit to the government reopening before close of business Monday, telling Todd, “I'm not going to make that prediction, but I feel that there are positive conversations.” He added: “I wish the president would help us. At some point his leadership could make the difference.”

On the president’s immigration comments, Durbin said, “It did happen, Chuck. I'm sorry that it was said. I'm sorry that the president denied it.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Todd also reported on [why Democrats are drawing a line on DACA](#), noting that the numbers on the issue seem to favor the party in the polls and at the congressional district level: “If the Democrats do indeed take back the House this November it could be because they fought for DACA issue and they won districts like this, Republican-held districts with larger than average minority population.”

NBC News' **Peter Alexander**, Republican strategist **Al Cardenas**, Democratic strategist **Stephanie Cutter** and The Wall Street Journal's **Peggy Noonan** joined this morning's roundtable for analysis on the week in politics, including on the president's role in shutdown negotiations. "A lot of people are saying this president has been MIA," [Alexander noted](#).

MTP EXCLUSIVE: MCCARTHY SAYS THERE'S NO 'NEED FOR LEGISLATION RIGHT NOW TO PROTECT MUELLER'

EXCLUSIVE: McCarthy on declassifying the House Intel memo on surveillance: "I think it would be appropriate that the public has full view of it"

EXCLUSIVE: Former Defense Sec. Robert Gates says there will be a "political cost" for firing Mueller

PLUS: Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) on reports of Trump's order to fire Mueller: "New York talk"

JANUARY 28, 2018 – In an exclusive interview this morning on "Meet the Press," **House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.)** told moderator Chuck Todd, "I don't think there's a need for legislation right now to protect Mueller" when asked if he would support such legislation, following reports this week of the president's reported order to fire Mueller.

McCarthy also addressed the House Intelligence Committee memo on surveillance, "Having read this memo, I think it would be appropriate that the public has full view of it." [Watch the exclusive interview](#) with the House Majority Leader.

On the possible firing of Mueller, **Senator Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.)** told Todd: "That's New York talk. I look at it strictly as the New York language that they have which is different than most other people."

Expanding on how that is "New York talk," Manchin said, "Let's see if [Trump] moves on Rosenstein. If he moves on Rosenstein, Chuck, I think at that time there'll be Democrats and Republicans saying, 'Time to protect the judicial system and the three branches of government having equal power.' Absolutely." [Watch the interview](#) with the West Virginia senator.

In an exclusive interview, **former Defense Sec. Robert Gates** addressed what Congress should do to protect Mueller if the president decides to fire him: "The one thing that can be done is to try and figure out how to make it clear the magnitude of the political cost that would be incurred should he be fired." [Watch the exclusive interview](#) with the former defense secretary.

NBC News special correspondent **Tom Brokaw**, NBC News Capitol Hill correspondent **Kasie Hunt**, National Review editor **Rich Lowry** and Democratic strategist **Heather McGhee** joined

this morning's [roundtable](#) for insight and analysis where Brokaw noted, "I think for the country, frankly, Chuck, it's kind of a non-issue now that [Trump] was thinking about firing [Mueller] six months ago but he did not. I think that they moved on."

MTP EXCLUSIVE: PRIEBUS 'NEVER FELT' THAT TRUMP WAS GOING TO FIRE MUELLER

EXCLUSIVE: Priebus: "never felt that there was some kind of collusion or some kind of obstruction situation going on at all in the West Wing"

PLUS: Brennan: Steele Dossier "did not play any role whatsoever" in early intelligence assessments

PLUS: Brennan: Nunes "abused the office of chairmanship"

EXCLUSIVE: Bryant Gumbel: "the protest is about police brutality and has nothing to do with the military or the flag"

FEBRUARY 4, 2018 – In an exclusive interview this morning on "Meet the Press," former Chief of Staff to President Donald Trump **Reince Priebus** told moderator Chuck Todd, that "of all the things that we went through in the West Wing, I never felt that the president was going to fire the Special Counsel."

Priebus added, "I think it was very clear by the president's own words that he was concerned about the conflicts of interest that he felt that the special counsel had. And he made that very clear. Perhaps someone interpreted that to mean something else. But I know the difference between fire that person, why isn't that person gone, to what I read in that *New York Times* piece."

When asked about the Russia probe, Priebus said, "I've never felt that there was some sort of collusion or some kind of obstruction situation going on in the West Wing. I never felt that." [Watch the exclusive interview with former Chief of Staff Reince Priebus.](#)

In his first appearance as an NBC News Senior National Security and Intelligence Analyst, former CIA Director **John Brennan** told Todd that the Steele Dossier "did not play any role whatsoever" in early intelligence assessments.

When asked about the June 2016 meeting in Trump Tower, Brennan said it was "foolish" and "irresponsible," and added "I find it inexplicable in terms of how that meeting took place and interest in part of individuals, very close to Mr. Trump, who wanted to get dirt on Hillary Clinton from Russians."

Referring to Rep. Devin Nunes (R-Calif.), Brennan said he “has abused the office of the chairmanship” of the House Intel Committee, and that it was “appalling” that he did not allow Democrats on his committee to put out their report as well.

When asked about his successor, CIA Director Mike Pompeo, Brennan said “senior members of this Administration who follow Donald Trump’s way of trying to denigrate and condemn everything that happened before them as a way to make them appear that they are doing things better than ever have been previously.” [Watch the interview with former CIA Director John Brennan.](#)

Host of HBO’s “Real Sports” **Bryant Gumbel** exclusively joined “Meet the Press” this morning and, referring to players who have kneeled during the National Anthem, Gumbel told Todd that [“the protest is about police brutality and has nothing to do with the military or the flag.”](#) Gumbel was joined by PBS’ **Yamiche Alcindor**, MSNBC’s **Hugh Hewitt**, The Washington Post’s **Eugene Robinson** and The Cook Political Report’s **Amy Walter** on this morning’s roundtable for insight and analysis. Alcindor addressed the release of the House Intelligence Committee memo on surveillance and noted, the [“Hashtag, release the memo was way more important than the actual memo.”](#)

News

February 9, 2018

SEN. FLAKE JOINS "MEET THE PRESS WITH CHUCK TODD" IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW THIS SUNDAY – PLUS: WH LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR MARC SHORT

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Marc Short

White House Director of Legislative Affairs

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EXCLUSIVE

Sen. Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.)

—

Clint Watts

Senior Fellow, Center for Cyber and Homeland Security at The George Washington University;
NBC News National Security Analyst

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Kristen Welker

White House Correspondent, NBC News

Peggy Noonan

Columnist, The Wall Street Journal; NBC News and MSNBC Political Analyst

Eddie Glaude Jr.

Chair, Center for African-American Studies; William S. Tod Professor of Religion and African-American Studies, Princeton University

Erick Erickson

Host, WSB Radio "Atlanta's Evening News with Erick Erickson;" Editor, The Resurgent

MTP EXCLUSIVE: LANKFORD SAYS 'THE PROBLEM IS NOT OWNING AN AR-15' IT'S 'THE PERSON THAT OWNS IT'

EXCLUSIVE: Sanders: "Nobody in our campaign was interviewed" by Mueller

EXCLUSIVE: Sanders: Obama "was in a very difficult position" on Russia meddling, "maybe he should have done more"

PLUS: Broward County Public Schools Superintendent Runcie: "We need a smarter system"

PLUS: Marjory Stoneman Douglas students: "Attention is on us now"

February 18, 2018 – In an exclusive interview this morning on "Meet the Press," **Sen. James Lankford (R-Okla.)** told moderator Chuck Todd: "The problem is not owning an AR-15," it's "the person that owns it," and added that the issue is the individual, "not the weapon that they're holding."

When asked if it should be harder to purchase an AR-15, Lankford exclusively replied: "I actually don't think it should be. I think what should be is difficult for any person with any kind of criminal background history, domestic violence, mental instability, all of those things, regardless. I don't care whether they're buying a 22 pistol or an AR-15." [Watch the full interview with Sen. James Lankford.](#)

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) also exclusively joined the program, telling Todd that "nobody in our campaign was interviewed" by Special Counsel Mueller, adding that what he read in the indictment report was "kind of old news."

When asked about Rep. Adam Schiff's (D-Calif.) recent comments on the Obama Administration's handling of the Russian interference in the 2016 election, Sanders said:

“Obama was in a very difficult position. He did not want to make it look like he was favoring Hillary Clinton. Maybe he should have done more.” And, on President Trump not speaking out on the issue, Sanders stated: “that we don’t have a president speaking out on this issue is a horror show.”

Sanders also addressed the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School telling Todd that “Republicans are going to have to say that it’s more important to protect the children of this country than to antagonize the NRA.” [Watch the full interview with Sen. Bernie Sanders.](#)

In the wake of the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, five of the school’s students, **Jaclyn Corin**, **Emma Gonzalez**, **David Hogg**, **Cameron Kasky** and **Alex Wind** also joined “Meet the Press” this morning, announcing “March for Our Lives,” a nationwide event and march in Washington, and telling Todd that the [“attention is on us now.”](#)

Broward County Public Schools Superintendent Robert Runcie also joined the program, telling Todd: “we need a smarter system. We need a smarter infrastructure where various agencies, departments, school systems, they’re working in a more integrated and collaborative fashion to ensure that we can share data, we can share information, to enhance our level of effectiveness.” [Watch the interview.](#)

Democratic strategist **Cornell Belcher**, NBC News’ **Hallie Jackson** and **Carol Lee** and CNBC’s **Rick Santelli** joined this morning’s [roundtable](#) for additional insight and analysis, where they also discussed [the president's response to Special Counsel Mueller's latest indictments.](#)

MTP EXCLUSIVE: TOOMEY SAYS HIS BIPARTISAN GUN LEGISLATION WOULDN’T ‘SOLVE ALL PROBLEMS’

EXCLUSIVE: Toomey On Raising The Age For Rifle Purchases: “Very Skeptical”

PLUS: Toomey On NRA: “I Disagree With Them”

EXCLUSIVE: Klobuchar: “Congress Didn’t Have The Courage To Pass” A Background Check Bill After Sandy Hook

PLUS: Klobuchar: Fines For Social Media Is A “Great Idea”

EXCLUSIVE: Massie: Background Checks Are “False Senses of Security”

FEBRUARY 25, 2018 – In an exclusive interview this morning on “Meet the Press,” **Sen. Pat Toomey (R-Pa.)** told moderator Chuck Todd that his bipartisan gun legislation wouldn’t “solve all problems, and we never suggested it would.” When asked if he supports the idea of raising the age on assault weapons from 18 to 21, Toomey exclusively replied: “I’m very skeptical

about that,” and added, “the difference between the AR-15 and an awful lot of commonly-sold rifles is just cosmetic.”

In response to NRA head Wayne LaPierre’s speech over the weekend, Toomey said: “This is the first I’ve heard, and I don’t know what else Wayne LaPierre said, so that strikes me as a little bit conspiratorial in its tone, but again I don’t have it in the full context.” Toomey added: “The NRA once held the position that I hold, which is that background checks at gun sales and any kind of commercial sale are appropriate. The NRA changed its position on that. I disagree with them.” [Watch the full interview with Sen. Pat Toomey.](#)

Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) also exclusively joined the program, telling Todd that fining social media companies if they fail to “purge itself of bots” would be a “[great idea](#).”

On the gun issue, Klobuchar said that after Sandy Hook, “Congress didn’t have the courage to pass” a background check bill, adding, “I don’t think you’re going to see that happen again.”

When asked about the FBI’s handling of the Parkland shooting, Klobuchar said: “I think someone clearly made a major, tragic mistake in not reporting that to the Miami field office.”

On what gun owners in Minnesota had to say about the reform, Klobuchar exclusively said: “We have a big hunting culture here ... what these hunters were telling me the last few days is that they are ready to do some background checks. They understand as law-abiding gun owners that we need to make changes.” [Watch the full interview with Sen. Amy Klobuchar.](#)

Rep. Thomas Massie (R-Ky.) also exclusively joined the program, telling moderator Chuck Todd that background checks are “false senses of security.” Massie compared trying to fix the background check system to putting “lipstick on a pig.” [Watch the full interview with Rep. Thomas Massie.](#)

CBN News’ **David Brody**, The New York Times’ **Helene Cooper**, American Enterprise Institute’s **Danielle Pletka** and former White House Press Secretary and NBC News Political Analyst **Josh Earnest** joined this morning’s [roundtable](#) for additional insight and analysis, where they also discussed special counsel Robert Mueller’s new indictments and the [Trump administration’s response to calls for sanctions on Russia](#).

MTP: COMMERCE SEC. ROSS HAS ‘NO REASON TO THINK’ TRUMP WILL REVERSE TARIFF PLAN, SAYS DECISION ‘WASN’T SUDDEN’

Ross Contradicts Navarro on Country Exclusions, Tells Todd “We’ll See”

Ross on Trump Tariff Announcement: “I Don’t Know Why Anybody Should’ve Been So Shocked”

EXCLUSIVE: Obama Chief of Staff Says Administration's Russia Response Was "Watered Down on the Insistence of Mitch McConnell"

EXCLUSIVE: Sen. Angus King (I-Maine): "There is Concern" About Tariff Decision

EXCLUSIVE: Putin Tells Megyn Kelly He Will "Never, Never" Extradite the 13 Indicted Russian Nationals to U.S.

MARCH 4, 2018 – When asked by “Meet the Press” moderator Chuck Todd if President Donald Trump will reverse his controversial tariff announcement this week, **Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross** wouldn’t commit: “Whatever his final decision is is what will happen.”

“The president has announced that this will happen this week. I have no reason to think otherwise,” Ross said. “The markets started recovering on Friday as it began to adjust to the realities that this is not the end of the world,” when asked if the decision will hold on Monday should the markets continue to be affected.

The secretary also addressed the timing of the announcement: “It wasn't sudden,” he said, adding: “With a whole year of preparation, I don't know why anybody should've been so shocked.”

Contrary to White House trade adviser Peter Navarro confirming “there will be no country exclusions,” Ross told Chuck: “We’ll see. The president makes the decisions.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Sen. Angus King (I-Maine), in an exclusive interview, addressed the tariff announcement: “You can't make a change of this significance and assume that nothing else is going to happen as a result.” He added: “There is a concern. This is a very, very important decision and it's one that could have long-term ramifications. And it was announced in this kind of shorthand way.”

On the Senate Intelligence Committee’s Russia investigation, King said it’s “worlds apart” from the House’s investigation and the “hardest part and the most contentious part, frankly, is the final piece, which is ... to talk about connections between the Trump campaign and officials surrounding the president with, with foreign entities leading up to the election and after.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

In an exclusive interview, **Denis McDonough, White House chief of staff to President Barack Obama**, told Todd, “yes,” the administration’s response to Russia’s election interference “was watered down on the insistence of Mitch McConnell.” McDonough also said that he believes he “sounded the alarm enough” on Russia. [Watch the full interview.](#)

The broadcast also aired an excerpt from **NBC News’ Megyn Kelly’s exclusive sit-down interview in Russia with President Putin**, in which he does not deny that Russians and Russian companies were involved in 2016 election interference but says there was no Russian

government involvement. “I know that they do not represent the Russian state, the Russian authorities. What they did specifically, I have no idea. I do not know what they were guided by,” said Putin. When asked if he would extradite the 13 indicted Russian nationals to the United States, Putin told Kelly: “Never, never. Russia does not extradite its citizens to anyone, just like the United States.” [Watch the exchange.](#) More of the interview to come in the days ahead.

NBC News’ **Tom Brokaw** and **Katy Tur**, Republican strategist **Al Cardenas** and presidential historian **Doris Kearns Goodwin** joined this morning’s roundtable to discuss the week in politics, with Tur noting that [“the Mueller headlines this week alone were staggering.”](#)

MTP EXCLUSIVE: MNUCHIN SAYS NORTH KOREA MEETING ‘ISN’T ABOUT ELEVATING ANYBODY,’ DEFENDS TRUMP’S RALLY COMMENTS: ‘A LOT OF FUNNY MOMENTS’

EXCLUSIVE: Treasury Secretary Mnuchin on Trump Rally Attacks: “These Are Campaign Rally Issues”

EXCLUSIVE: Arizona Sen. Flake (R) on Trump’s Attacks on Free Press: “I Don’t Think It’s a Responsible Thing to Do”

PLUS: Massachusetts Sen. Warren (D) on Trump Meeting with North Koreans: “Worried That They’re Going to Take Advantage of Him”

MARCH 11, 2018 – In an exclusive interview with “Meet the Press” moderator Chuck Todd, **Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin** says President Donald Trump meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un “isn’t about elevating anybody” and “a major reason of why they’re having this meeting is because the economic sanctions have had – have – a very big impact on both their economy, and their ability to get pieces of material and other things they need for their weapons programs.”

Denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is “absolutely” still American policy, and “the logistics haven’t been figured out yet” on the meeting location, shared Mnuchin.

When asked about the president’s attacks last night in his Pennsylvania rally, including about Todd himself, Mnuchin told Todd: “These are campaign rally issues... He’s using these vulgarities in the context of a campaign rally and obviously there were a lot of funny moments on that rally.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Sen. Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.) also addressed Trump’s speech last night and his attacks on the press in an exclusive interview: “I don’t think it’s a responsible thing to do... We should never normalize this kind of behavior, particularly from the president of the United States.” On the president’s

decision to meet with North Korea, Flake said: “It looks as if North Korea has come to a point where they believe that they can be treated as a nuclear power.”

Flake ended the interview by saying he believes Trump needs to be challenged in 2020 by someone in the GOP who espouses his views: “It would be a tough go in a Republican primary. The Republican Party is the Trump party right now. But that's not to say it will stay that way.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), when asked multiple times to pledge serving a six-year term upon reelection this year, told Todd repeatedly: “I am not running for president.”

“I am very worried that they're going to take advantage of him,” said Warren in reference to the North Koreans meeting with Trump. The senator also responded to The Berkshire Eagle editorial calling for her to take a DNA test: “I know who I am. And never used it for anything. Never got any benefit from it anywhere.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Joining this morning’s roundtable for insight and analysis were **Matt Bai** of Yahoo! News, **Andrea Mitchell** of NBC News, **Peggy Noonan** of The Wall Street Journal and **Eugene Robinson** of The Washington Post. Mitchell offered analysis of the week’s North Korea developments, telling Todd: “They've had a victory by setting the terms and by having the meeting itself, as you were pointing out. This is what all North Korean leaders have wanted. Three generations have wanted a meeting, legitimacy from an American president.” [Watch the discussion.](#)

MTP EXCLUSIVE: RUBIO: McCABE ‘SHOULD’VE BEEN ALLOWED TO FINISH THROUGH WEEKEND,’ ‘DON’T’ BELIEVE FACEBOOK HAS TOLD THE EXTENT OF USER DATA IN 2016

EXCLUSIVE: House Intel’s Rep. Conaway (R-Texas) Says Committee “Was Not Charged With Answering the Collusion Idea,” Then Says “We Investigated Was There Collusion”

EXCLUSIVE: Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) on Trump: “I Hear So Many Republican Senators Grumble About His Ethics, About His Name-Calling”

NEW: Democrats Hold Double-Digit Lead for 2018 Midterm Elections in New NBC News/WSJ Poll

MARCH 18, 2018 – In an exclusive interview on “Meet the Press with Chuck Todd,” **Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.)** [reacted to the firing of former FBI deputy director Andrew McCabe](#) on Friday: “I don't like the way it happened. He should've been allowed to finish through the weekend.”

Rubio told Todd that the Senate Intelligence Committee should “potentially” call McCabe back to testify and addressed the damage the firing does to the FBI and the Justice Department: “We need to be very careful about taking these very important entities and smearing everybody in them with a broad stroke.”

When asked if he believes Facebook has told the Senate Intelligence Committee the extent of everything that was done with their users, [Rubio replied](#), “I don’t, and I think we’ve learned that the hard way. Every time that we’ve spoken to them it’s kind of rolled out as more coming out.... I’m disturbed by that.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Rep. Michael Conaway (R-Texas) of the House Intelligence Committee joined the broadcast in an exclusive interview this morning, sharing that “our committee doesn’t – was not charged with answering the collusion idea. So we really weren’t focused on that direction.” He then said: “We investigated, was there collusion between the Trump campaign and the Russians or was there collusion between the Clinton campaign and the Russians?”

When asked if he would potentially want to reopen the committee’s investigation because of the blockbuster story about Facebook and Cambridge Analytica, Conaway replied, “No, it’s a different issue.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), who also joined the show in an exclusive interview, told Chuck Todd: “I hear so many Republican senators grumble about his [Trump’s] ethics, about his name-calling. ... At some point Republican enablers in the House and Senate are going to say publicly what they’ve been saying privately. And that’s when things change and we see a president back off this kind of name-calling, not telling the truth, sending out these tweets, all that.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

New NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll numbers debuting on this morning’s broadcast show Democrats enjoy a 10-point advantage over Republicans in congressional preference for the 2018 midterm elections, even as President Donald Trump’s job approval rating has ticked up. [Read more.](#)

NBC News’ **José Díaz-Balart**, National Review’s **Jonah Goldberg**, POLITICO’s **Eliana Johnson** and The Cook Political Report’s **Amy Walter** joined this morning’s roundtable to discuss the week in politics, including the Russia investigation. [Johnson said](#) Trump is doing “great damage to his cause because the McCabe firing, from what we know, was recommended by career politicians”: “It is making it look like a political action. ... Had the president stayed out of this, he would have had the facts on his side.”

Read the full transcript of this morning’s “Meet the Press” on [MeetThePress.com.](#)

For more from moderator Chuck Todd throughout the week, watch “MTP Daily” weekdays at 5 p.m. ET on MSNBC.

MTP EXCLUSIVE: LEWANDOWSKI ‘DIDN’T KNOW’ BANNON’S ‘ULTIMATE ROLE’ IN CAMBRIDGE ANALYTICA, WARNER ‘QUESTIONED USE OF REALLY SKETCHY FIRM’ LAST YEAR

EXCLUSIVE: Lewandowski on Mueller Probe: “I Have Not Been Subpoenaed”

PLUS: Lewandowski: "I Don't Believe It's General Kelly's Job to Manage the President. His Job is To Manage the Staff"

PLUS: Sen. Warner (D-Va.): "I Don't Think Facebook Has Been Fully Forthcoming," "Mr. Zuckerberg Needs to Come and Testify"

MARCH 25, 2018 – **Former campaign manager for President Donald Trump Corey Lewandowski** addressed Cambridge Analytica's role in the campaign in an exclusive interview this morning on "Meet the Press with Chuck Todd": "I never approved Cambridge Analytica's contract. ... They did not come to the campaign until after I left," telling Todd he "knew that Steve [Bannon] had a role in the organization. I didn't know what his ultimate role was."

"I have not been subpoenaed," Lewandowski said of the Mueller probe. "I can say that during my tenure, Chuck, which is all I can speak to, I saw no Russians."

Addressing [NBC News' exclusive reporting](#) that Trump has considered firing his chief of staff this month and not naming a successor, Lewandowski shared: "I don't believe it's General Kelly's job to manage the president. His job is to manage the staff. And that's what he has been doing." [Watch the full interview.](#)

When asked if he knew of Bannon's role with Cambridge Analytica, **Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.)**, vice chair of Senate Intelligence Committee, shared he "was aware" Cambridge Analytica had connections of "a colorful reputation."

The Virginia senator continued: "I don't think Facebook has been fully forthcoming. I called out Facebook back in December of '16. In the spring of '17, I questioned micro-targeting and the use of this really sketchy firm Cambridge Analytica." He called on CEO Mark Zuckerberg "to come and testify." [Watch the full interview.](#)

Todd traveled to Madison, Wis. this week to speak with "**Reach Out Wisconsin**," a group comprised of voters across party lines, about gun reforms ahead of yesterday's "March for Our Lives." [Watch the full discussion.](#)

PBS' **Robert Costa**, MSNBC's **Hugh Hewitt**, NBC News' **Kasie Hunt** and Democratic strategist **Heather McGhee** joined this morning's roundtable for additional insight and analysis on the week in politics, including the president's hire of John Bolton as his new national security adviser, with [Costa noting](#), "It's not so much an ideological case they're making, it's a personality mesh with the president."