



103.5 FM

103.5FM WASHINGTON, DC
103.9FM BRADDOCK HEIGHTS, MD
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COMMUNITY COMMITMENT REPORT
1ST QUARTER 2014
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION I
COMMENTARY AND ANALYSIS

SECTION II
PUBLIC SERVICE CAMPAIGNS

SECTION III
ASCERTAINMENT

SECTION IV
CHARITIES AND IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

SECTION V
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

SECTION VI
RECOGNITION AND SERVICE

SECTION VII
SAVES YOU MONEY

SECTION VIII
ASK THE...

SECTION IX
FREEBIES

SECTION X
WTOP PET OF THE WEEK

SECTION XI
TICKET BUSTERS

COMMENTARY AND ANALYSIS

Along with WTOP's continuing news coverage, WTOP Radio also offers opportunities for commentary and analysis, from both sides. Both local and national commentators regularly discuss various perspectives on the political and diplomatic trends that shape our times. Featured analysts on the national stage include Candy Crowley, Cal Thomas, Bob Schieffer, Gwen Ifill, John King, Chris Wallace, and Chip Reid. Local commentators, such as Colbert I. King and Gordon Peterson also add to the analytical diversity featured on WTOP Radio.

Candy Crowley

Candy Crowley is CNN's award-winning chief political correspondent and anchor of State of the Union with Candy Crowley, a political hour of newsmaker interviews and analysis of the week's most important issues.

Chris Core • Core Values

When my boss hired me, he told me I could comment everyday on Washington's biggest radio station about whatever is on my mind. What a deal, huh? What I try to do, however, is to figure out what is on your mind, and comment about that. Sometimes, I chose a topic based on e-mail you send me, which I always appreciate. Oh, and Core Values is my opinion, and nothing more. Sometimes you will agree, other times disagree, and, I hope, occasionally chuckle.

Clinton Yates • My Take

Clinton Yates is a Washington Post Columnist and frequent in-studio guest, offering his perspective on life in the DMV and beyond, from politics to sports to pop culture.

Data Doctors

Ken Colburn and Ken "Spanky" Moskowitz talks to listeners about technology and how it affects our lives.

David Gregory

David Gregory is moderator of NBC News' "Meet the Press." He is also a regular contributor for "Today" and serves as a back-up anchor for the broadcast. Gregory lends his voice and reporting to all NBC News broadcasts including coverage of special events.

Dr. Drew

Dr. Drew Pinsky, a practicing physician, is considered a "relationship expert" because of his 28-year run as host of the nationally syndicated "Loveline" radio program. Dr. Drew is a member of the staff at Huntington Memorial Hospital, and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the Keck USC School of Medicine.

Dr. Oz

Dr. Oz, daytime Emmy Award-winning host of "The Dr. Oz Show," is vice chair and professor of Surgery at Columbia University. He directs the Cardiovascular Institute and Complementary Medicine Program at New York Presbyterian Hospital. His research interests include heart replacement surgery, minimally invasive cardiac surgery, complementary medicine and health care policy.

J.J. Green

JJ Green is the National Security Correspondent at WTOP. He reports daily on global intelligence, national security and terrorism developments. He's interviewed the leadership of the CIA, DIA, DHS, U.S. military Joint Chiefs of Staff about issues that are critical to international security. He provides daily analysis and guidance on global security

Gwen Ifill

Gwen Ifill is moderator and managing editor of "Washington Week" and senior correspondent for "The PBS Newshour." She is also the best-selling author of "The Breakthrough: Politics and Race in the Age of Obama."

Colby King

Colbert I. "Colby" King is a weekly columnist for "The Washington Post", specializing in urban and national affairs. His column appears on Saturdays.

John King

John King is CNN's chief national correspondent and anchor of John King, USA, a one-hour political program. In this role, King aims to connect what happens in Washington with the lives of Americans across the country.

Lou Peck

Louis Peck is a contributing editor to CongressDaily, a position he assumed in 2010 after serving as editor in chief since 2007. Previously, he was the publication's editor dating back to its founding in 1991.

Gordon Peterson

Gordon Peterson is hailed as 'Dean of Anchors' by the Washington Post. He brings a rich 41 years of experience covering news in the nation's capital to his assignment as senior correspondent and anchor of ABC7/WJLA-TV's News at 6 p.m. He's also moderator and producer of the nationally-distributed political roundtable 'Inside Washington.'

Politico

Politico is an American political journalism organization based in Arlington, Virginia, that distributes its content via television, the Internet, newspaper, and radio. Its coverage of Washington, D.C., includes the U.S. Congress, lobbying, media and the Presidency.

Chip Reid

Chip Reid is the CBS News Chief White House Correspondent. Reid joined CBS News in 2007 as Capitol Hill Correspondent and covered the 2008 Presidential campaign extensively, most recently traveling with Sen. John McCain.

Dave Ross

Dave Ross is a talk show host on Seattle's KIRO-FM radio station, with whom he had been a news anchor from 1978 until his talk show started nine years later in 1987. Ross is also heard on a national daily commentary for the CBS Radio Network where he provides political commentary.

Bob Schieffer

Bob Schieffer is the anchor of Face the Nation. He has covered Washington for CBS News for 31 years and is its chief Washington correspondent.

Cal Thomas

Cal Thomas is an American conservative syndicated columnist, pundit, author and radio commentator.

U.S. News & World Report

U.S. News & World Report is an American news magazine published from Washington, D.C.

Chris Wallace

Chris Wallace is the host of "FOX News Sunday" (FNS), FOX Broadcasting Company's Sunday morning public affairs program. He also contributes to FOX News Channel's political and election news coverage and is based in Washington, D.C.

West Wing Report

Paul Brandus is an award-winning member of the White House press corps and the White House Correspondents Association. His background includes five years in Moscow, including a posting at the U.S. Embassy during the end of the Cold War, and then as a correspondent for NBC Radio and the award-winning public radio business and economics program "Marketplace." He also spent many years as a New York-based network television producer and also worked on Wall Street. He has traveled to 53 countries on five continents and reported from places like Iraq, Chechnya, China and Cuba.

PUBLIC SERVICE CAMPAIGNS

WTOP News, in addition to its public affairs programming, broadcasts the following public service campaigns throughout the year.

- 🎧 Adoption LDS
- 🎧 Adoption/Adopt US Kids
- 🎧 AFCEA NOVA
- 🎧 Autism
- 🎧 BGCGW
- 🎧 Big Brothers Big Sisters
- 🎧 Big Train
- 🎧 Bonneville LDS
- 🎧 Bullying
- 🎧 Disabled American Veterans
- 🎧 Dream Champion Experience
- 🎧 Geico BGCGW
- 🎧 Get Radical
- 🎧 Ivy Vine Charities
- 🎧 Leukemia Ball
- 🎧 Love Is What They Hear LDS
- 🎧 March For Babies
- 🎧 March of Dimes
- 🎧 MDCC National Guard
- 🎧 Miriam's Kitchen
- 🎧 NASA
- 🎧 Newseum
- 🎧 Pet Adoption
- 🎧 Pleasant Valley Preschool
- 🎧 Shepherd's Table
- 🎧 SoberRide
- 🎧 Soroptmist
- 🎧 Susan G. Komen
- 🎧 Susan G. Komen Race
- 🎧 US Army Band
- 🎧 USO
- 🎧 Washington Literacy Council
- 🎧 WRTC

ASCERTAINMENT

As part of our continuing effort to serve our listeners, WTOP News talked with various governmental and community leaders about the issues facing our area. The Top Three concerns were: Health Care Reform, Jobs/The Economy, and Government Accountability.

The Top Issues were:

1. Health Care Reform
2. Jobs/The Economy
3. Government Accountability
4. Crime and Public Safety
5. Transportation
6. Income Inequality
7. Immigration Reform
8. Education
9. Gentrification

WTOP CHARITIES AND IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

WTOP works to make a difference in our community. Below are the featured charities we've supported and currently support:

- 🎧 **American Heart Association**
- 🎧 **Autism Speaks**
- 🎧 **Catholic Charities**
- 🎧 **District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility**
- 🎧 **Easter Seals**
- 🎧 **Leukemia Ball 2014**
- 🎧 **March for Babies**
- 🎧 **Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Clubs**
- 🎧 **National Multiple Sclerosis Society**
- 🎧 **Scope It Out 5K**
- 🎧 **United Way**

WTOP's In Your Neighborhood consists of area activities and events listeners may have missed. The following were highlighted this quarter:

- 🎧 "The Presidents Own" Chamber Music Series
- 🎧 11th Annual Race and Walk For Animals
- 🎧 17th Annual Cheverly Weekday Nursery Truck Touch
- 🎧 3rd Annual CTC Spring Fling and Fundraiser
- 🎧 4th Annual ARTS ALIVE Festival
- 🎧 4th Annual Pink Tie Charity Ball
- 🎧 8th Annual DC Walk to End Lupus Now
- 🎧 COACH Bingo Fundraiser
- 🎧 Cody's Crew 3rd Annual Putt Putt Tournament
- 🎧 Congenital Heart Walk
- 🎧 DC Emancipation Day Events
- 🎧 DC International Film Festival
- 🎧 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration
- 🎧 Fenton Street Market
- 🎧 Ivy Vine Charities "An Afternoon Tea"
- 🎧 Jefferson Ruritan Club Community Dinner
- 🎧 National Capital 5K Run/WALK for Hydrocephalus
- 🎧 NATSFest
- 🎧 Run For Rights 5K
- 🎧 Scope It Out 5K
- 🎧 Sobberide
- 🎧 St. Mary's College of Maryland River Concert Series
- 🎧 The Dances at Glen Echo Park
- 🎧 U.S. Marine Band Open House and Concert
- 🎧 Washington DC Restaurant Week

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

JANUARY

1st – 18th Media Feeding Frenzy Food Drive

FEBRUARY

8th Love Your Heart Expo

26th Ask Governor McAuliffe (VA)

MARCH

15th Cub Scout Troop 104 from Arlington Newsroom Tour

18th National Cathedral School Newsroom Tour

26th Ask Governor McAuliffe (VA)

29th Cub Scout Troop 111 from Arlington Newsroom Tour

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

None this month.

RECOGNITION AND SERVICE

WTOP RADIO WAS RECOGNIZED THIS QUARTER WITH THE FOLLOWING AWARDS:

NATIONAL HEADLINER AWARDS

NEWSCAST • FIRST PLACE *SEPTEMBER 17TH AM*

BREAKING NEWS • FIRST PLACE *WASHINGTON NAVY YARD*

HUMAN INTEREST • SECOND PLACE *UNITED PETS*; THIRD PLACE *VE DAY*

NEWS SERIES • FIRST PLACE *SPY IN THE SKY*; SECOND PLACE *TROUBLED WATERS*

WTOP NEWS EMPLOYEES DONATED TIME TO THE FOLLOWING CHARITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS:

- 🎧 All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church
- 🎧 American Heart Association
- 🎧 American University Journalism
- 🎧 Beth El Synagogue
- 🎧 B'nai Brith Youth Organization
- 🎧 Boy Scouts of America
- 🎧 Catholic Charities
- 🎧 Chesapeake AP Broadcasters Association
- 🎧 Cub Scouts of America
- 🎧 DOJ Office of EEO and Diversity
- 🎧 Georgetown University Journalism
- 🎧 Interplay at Strathmore
- 🎧 Johns Hopkins Children's Center
- 🎧 Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
- 🎧 Love Your Heart Expo
- 🎧 Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Clubs
- 🎧 Montgomery County PetConnect Rescue
- 🎧 Mount Saint Mary's Journalism
- 🎧 National Cathedral School
- 🎧 National Murrow Awards
- 🎧 NewsBabes
- 🎧 RAB
- 🎧 Sally K. Ride Elementary School
- 🎧 Sinai House
- 🎧 Washington Animal Rescue League
- 🎧 Washington Ear
- 🎧 Washington Literacy Council

WTOP SAVES YOU MONEY

In the spring of 2008, the economy hit the skids. With great economic uncertainty, WTOP listeners were (and still are) scared and confused. WTOP looked for ways to report on the crisis beyond the numbers. As we all started to tighten our belts and looked for way to save pennies, we thought to share our knowledge and research with listeners. WTOP Saves You Money has proven to be a hit with our listeners.

- 🔊 **Consumers aren't satisfied with their telecom providers**
According to a new survey from Consumer Reports, customers don't consider their telephone and cable services a great value for the money.
Mar. 25th
- 🔊 **Amazon Prime price shock? Try these cheaper rivals**
Turned off by Amazon Prime's price increase? Try these cheaper free-shipping alternatives
Mar. 21st
- 🔊 **Tax tips to maximize your paycheck**
Mar. 15th
- 🔊 **Transferring a credit card balance: Wise move?**
5 things to consider before signing up for a new credit card with a balance transfer offer
Mar. 12th
- 🔊 **Will new SAT level the playing field for students?**
Changes to the SAT are aimed to make the exam a better reflection of what students need to succeed in college -- but a standardized testing expert says the alterations still won't level the playing field for students.
Mar. 6th
- 🔊 **5 tips for saving at the grocery store**
Follow these five simple tricks and you'll be in and out of the store with what you need (and nothing more) in no time while saving money.
Mar. 5th
- 🔊 **Consumer Reports ranks best car brands on the market**
When it comes to the best cars brands on the market, one brand is driving away with the top honors for the second year in a row, according to Consumer Reports' annual rankings.
Feb. 25th
- 🔊 **Tips to negotiate a lower cable bill**
Saving money sometimes can be as easy as asking for a better deal. Check out some tips from Marketwatch.com about how to negotiate a better bargain on your cable bill.
Feb. 2

🔊 **Trucks and SUVs last longer than cars**

Cars do not get as much mileage as trucks and SUVs.
Feb. 25th

🔊 **Tax free weekend for Energy Star products in Md.**

Tax free weekend for customers who purchase qualifying Energy Star products in Maryland
Feb. 14th

🔊 **Callback to scammers resulting in charges**

One random phone call could lead to a big bill if you get too curious.
Feb. 4th

🔊 **WTOP Saves You Money: Ways to keep your gas bill down in this cold weather**

When the thermometer drops into single digits, it may be tempting to hide indoors and crank up the thermostat. But that could be costly. It is, however, possible to stay warm and save money on your heating bill.
Jan. 27th

🔊 **Tips for dealing with annoying telemarketers**

For many, there is nothing more annoying than the tranquility of your home, being disrupted by a telemarketing call.
Jan. 24th

🔊 **Ordering wine with dinner? Go for the whole bottle**

Zagat advises that you order a whole bottle of wine when out at a restaurant.
Jan. 17th

🔊 **Consumer expert: Don't use debit cards following Target breach**

Target's security breach has shoppers on edge, especially after a report says it was part of a broader scam that could have affected more retailers -- but one expert says consumers can still protect themselves.
Jan. 17th

🔊 **Rent prices rise in D.C., taper off in Md. and Va.**

Rising rent prices seem to be the norm in the D.C. metro region, but the cost of an apartment has actually gone down.
Jan. 16th

🔊 **A plumbing nightmare: As pipes thaw, leaks can cause big problems**

As the temperatures rise, pipes frozen by the low temperatures will begin to thaw.
Jan. 8th

🔊 **Tips to protect your home during this cold snap**

Temperatures in the D.C. area will be well below 32 degrees Monday night and Tuesday and that means the water in the pipes in your house can freeze and you might be tempted to put a few too many logs on that fire. What you need to know to protect your home when the temperature plunges.

Jan. 7th

"ASK THE..."

For nearly 12 years, one of the most constant things in Washington, D.C., radio has been WTOP's "Ask The..." programs.

Ask The Governor, Ask The Chief, Ask The Experts... when listeners need answers, WTOP goes directly to the source. In nearly every instance, the newsroom is swamped with calls and emails. And, what these community leaders have to say on our air often appears on the newspaper pages the following morning. Every program airs at 10am and is one hour long.

Ask the Chief airs the first Thursday of every month; *Ask the Governor* airs the last Tuesday of every month. All other "Ask The..." programs vary in air date.

🎧 Feb. 26th • 10am • 60 min
Ask Governor McAuliffe (VA)

🎧 Mar. 26th • 10am • 60 min
Ask Governor McAuliffe (VA)

FREEBIES

Who doesn't want something for Free? A drink; a ticket; a personal service; an event; stuff. A spin-off of WTOP Saves You Money, WTOP Reporter Michelle Basch reports and tweets the weeks best free offers every Friday. Listeners have responded by sharing their finds, as well as companies eager to share their latest deals.

Hip Hop Festival

Mar. 28th

"One Mic: Hip Hop Culture Worldwide", a festival highlighting MCing, DJing, b-boying and graffiti writing is going on at the Kennedy Center March 25-April 13, and many of the performances and exhibitions are free.

Tartlet from The Happy Tart

Mar. 28th

Use the Scoutmob app (it's free!) to get a free tartlet from the gluten-free bakery The Happy Tart in Alexandria for a limited time.

Bike To Work Day

Mar. 28th

Registration is open (and free) for this year's Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 16. In addition, the first 14,000 people to register and attend will get free t-shirts. Dozens of "pit stops" will be set up around the region to serve bicycle commuters on their way to work.

Toned Up Tuesdays

Mar. 28th

The newly opened Park at CityCenterDC is hosting Toned Up Tuesdays every Tuesday in April. Instructors from VIDA Fitness will lead a different exercise class every Tuesday evening starting at 6 p.m. at the corner of 10th and I Streets NW, weather permitting. The classes are free and open to the public.

Large Papa John's Pizza

Mar. 18th

Earn a free large Papa John's pizza with up to 3 toppings after placing one order of \$15 or more at papajohns.com or through their mobile apps before Monday, April 7. You must enter promo code STATS when you place your order.

United States Air Force Band Concerts

Mar. 18th

The United States Air Force Band has a bunch of free performances at 8 p.m. Thursday nights in March and April at the Lyceum in Alexandria. Seating is first come, first served.

Joy of Motion Dance Center class

Mar. 18th

Sign up to take one free class at a local Joy of Motion Dance Center between now and April 15 as part of the National Cherry Blossom Festival. Classes include Barre Body, Samba Fusion and Zumba Gold. Sign up online. Admission is first-come, first served.

Medieval Times

Mar. 18th

Medieval Times in Hanover, Maryland has a BOGO offer for Spring Break: Buy one full-price adult, ticket and you'll get a second ticket of equal or lesser value free. Must mention or use code SBWEB when you book. Offer valid for shows now through Sunday, April 27.

"Making Their Mark" exhibit

Mar. 18th

The "Making Their Mark: Stories Through Signatures" exhibit at the National Archives runs March 21, 2014-January 5, 2015. It includes Adolf Hitler's signature on his marriage certificate and will, an "X" signed by a slave who couldn't read, and a patent for shoes filed by Michael Jackson and others allowing him to do an amazing signature move on stage. Admission is free.

3 Stars Brewing Company tours

Mar. 18th

3 Stars Brewing Company in Northwest D.C. offers free brewery tours on Saturdays at 2 and 3 p.m. You must be at least 21 years old to take a tour.

Japanese Modern Art

Mar. 18th

The Arthur M. Sackler Gallery hosts "Kiyochika: Master of the Night", March 29 - July 27. The series of woodblock prints by Kobayashi Kiyochika, considered to be Japan's first modern artist, depicts life in Tokyo in the late 1800s. There are also free public programs in March and April related to the display.

D.C. Francophonie Cultural Festival

Mar. 15th

The D.C. Francophonie Cultural Festival, celebrating French-speaking countries around the world, is going on now through Tuesday, April 15, and many of the events are free.

Cherry Blossom Festival Petal Pass

Mar. 13th

Head to a Capital One Bank branch and pick up a free Petal Pass to get great discounts and freebies at participating shops, restaurants and attractions March 20-April 30. The pass is offered as part of the National Cherry Blossom Festival.

 **Maryland DNR fish app**

Mar. 12th

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has a free mobile app that will help you identify an unknown fish, find a nearby swimming spot, locate a dog-friendly park, and more.

 **Ocean City family fun**

Mar. 12th

Ocean City's "Free For All" is on for 2014. Check this list of free activities for the whole family while planning your trip. The fun includes Springfest in May, The OC Air Show in June, July 4 concerts and fireworks and more.

 **Art Show**

Mar. 7th

"Fade 2 Grey: Androgyny in Eighties Popular Music" by artist Adrian Loving is the first exhibit at the new home of Vivid Solutions Gallery within the Anacostia Arts Center in D.C. An opening reception will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, March 7, and the exhibition will run through April 25. Admission is free.

 **Colonial Williamsburg**

Mar. 4th

How about a trip to Colonial Williamsburg? Get a free round of golf or a free select spa service for each night you stay at the Williamsburg Lodge or Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel & Suites. Rates start at \$79 per person per night now through Thursday, April 10.

 **Bob Evans**

Mar. 4th

Get a free kids entree with every adult entree purchased all day, every weekday now through Friday, April 18, at Bob Evans. Dine-in only.

 **Beyond Bollywood exhibit**

Feb. 27th

"Beyond Bollywood: Indian Americans Shape the Nation," at the National Museum of Natural History runs from Feb. 27, 2014 through August 2015. It aims to dispel stereotypes and myths about Indian immigrants. Admission is free

 **Museum Tickets**

Feb. 27th

If you have a Bank of America or Merrill Lynch credit or debit card, you can get one free general admission ticket to 150 museums nationwide (including the Newseum and the National Museum of Women in the Arts) on the first full weekend of every month in 2014. The program is called "Museums on Us."

D.C. Parks and Rec

Feb. 27th

Did you know D.C.'s Department of Parks and Recreation offers free outdoor recreation excursions for families on the second Saturday of every month, now through Sept. 13, 2014? The fun includes kayaking, biking, horseback riding and more. All events are free, but advance registration is required.

25 years of work by Garry Winogrand

Feb 26th

25 years of work by Garry Winogrand, considered one of the most important photographers of the 20th century, is on exhibit at the National Gallery of Art from March 2-June 8, 2014. Admission is free.

Bloomin' Onion and NASCAR

Feb 26th

Every time Kevin Harvick finishes in the top 10 of NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race in 2014, you'll get a free Bloomin' Onion with any purchase at Outback Steakhouse on the Monday following the race. Just mention the promotion to your server.

Dunkin Donuts

Feb. 21st

You'll get a free medium beverage when you sign up for Dunkin Donuts' "DD Perks" rewards program, another on your birthday, and another each time you earn 200 reward points.

Orchid Exhibit

Feb. 21st

See orchids from all over the world displayed in playful ways with topiaries and fountains at The U.S. Botanic Garden's "Orchid Symphony" exhibit, Feb. 22-April 27. Admission is free.

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Senior ID

Feb. 18th

If you're 60 years old or better and live in Montgomery or Prince George's County, get your hands on a free Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Senior ID. The ID will get you free access to community centers, senior activity centers and activities.

A Cool Exhibit

Feb. 7th

What does it mean to be "cool"? The "American Cool" exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery explores this with photos of 100 people including Miles Davis, Johnny Depp, Billie Holiday, Jay-Z and Elvis Presley. Visitors can play film and music clips, and music made by some of the musicians featured in the photos will be playing in the galleries. The exhibition runs from Feb. 7-Sept. 7, 2014, and admission is free.

 **University of Maryland College Park**

Feb. 7th

If you're a student at the University of Maryland College Park, don't miss UMD's Free Stuff page, loaded with free events for every month of the year.

 **Alamo Drafthouse Cinema**

Feb. 7th

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema at One Loudoun is now offering a free rewards program called Alamo Victory. Sign up and you'll get a free movie ticket on your birthday, along with at least two other special offers each year (think sneak previews, T-shirts, movie ticket discounts).

 **The Brixton**

Feb. 7th

The Brixton in D.C. is now hosting "Tuesdays with Funnie" - free shows every Tuesday at 8 p.m., featuring a blend of comedy, music, improv and vaudeville-style entertainment.

 **Lost Society**

Feb. 7th

Wine Wednesdays! Get a free bottle of house wine (choose red or white) when you buy any two entrees at Lost Society in D.C., every Wednesday night from 5:30-10 p.m.

 **Washington Nationals**

Feb. 7th

Washington Nationals 2014 Natitude Flex Packs allow fans to pick a pack of tickets to four games and get a ticket to a fifth game free. Each pack of four comes with a voucher for a free ticket redeemable for any other game in 2014 (except Opening Day).

 **Glory Days Grill**

Feb. 7th

Every time the Caps score 5 or more goals at any home game, you can redeem your Caps ticket stub or seat locator tab at Glory Days Grill locations for free wings with any purchase. Choose from 8 grilled/regular boneless wings, or 6 chicken wings. Offer valid for seven days after the game.

 **Folger Shakespeare Library**

Feb. 7th

The Folger Shakespeare Library in D.C. is celebrating Shakespeare's 450th birthday by displaying some of its most interesting items in an exhibition called "Shakespeare's the Thing." It's free to see and will remain on display now through June 15. Highlights include a forger's faked love letter from Shakespeare to Anne Hathaway, a copy of the 1623 First Folio and a collector's-edition Barbie doll dressed as Titania from A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Water Country USA

Feb. 7th

The 2-Park Preschool Pass means unlimited admission to both Busch Gardens Williamsburg and Water Country USA for kids age 3-5 from March 16-September 1, 2014. Start the registration process at the link, and you'll be e-mailed a voucher you can take to the ticket window.

Free Acupuncture for Vets

Jan. 30th

Family Acupuncture Center in Silver Spring is now offering free, community-style acupuncture treatments for military veterans and active duty service members from 9 a.m.-noon on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. No appointments are necessary.

Wolf Trap's "Discovery Series at The Barns" Tickets

Jan. 29th

Buy one adult ticket to one of Wolf Trap's "Discovery Series at The Barns" shows, and you'll get one child (under 18) ticket free. Add the tickets to your online cart and use code BARNSKIDS to get the freebie. Also, college students can get "Discovery Series" tickets for 50% off, with code STUDENT50. The 2013-2014 series runs through Friday, April 11.

Pottery Barn Kids Story Time

Jan. 29th

Pottery Barn Kids stores in our region host free weekly story times for kids of all ages every Tuesday from 11-11:30 a.m.

Free Educational Comedy Shows at Science Club

Jan. 21st

Laugh while you learn at the free weekly educational comedy show "After Class @ The Science Club", every Thursday from 8:30-11 p.m. The show features top comedians from around the area.

Bird identification app

Jan. 10th

See a pretty bird you can't identify in your yard? Try the free Merlin Bird ID app available on iTunes from Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology. You describe the bird, and the app gives you results based on other bird sightings in your area, as well as the time of year. The app includes more than 1,000 bird photos as well as bird songs and calls you can listen to.

Turn photos into greeting cards

Jan. 10th

Use your own photos to create free printable greeting cards, calendars, coloring pages and more from Snapfish. New designs are added regularly.

 **District Taco**

Jan. 10th

With the free District Taco app from iTunes, you'll earn \$10 in credit for every \$100 you spend, get a free meal on your birthday, and more.

 **Donut Connection**

Jan. 2nd

Donut Connection has a bunch of online printable coupons good through Dec. 31, 2014 at participating locations. One will get you two doughnuts free when you buy a jumbo coffee. Another is good for a free small coffee when you buy a half dozen doughnuts.

 **"Spirit & Opportunity: 10 Years Roving Across Mars"**

Jan. 2nd

A decade after they landed on the Red Planet, the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in D.C. is celebrating the Mars rovers with an exhibition called "Spirit & Opportunity: 10 Years Roving Across Mars", running Jan. 3-Sept. 14. You'll see some of the amazing photographs they took. There will also be a free panel discussion about what's been accomplished so far on Mars, and what's to come in the future. The discussion will take place at the museum at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7.

 **Bike lessons and rides**


Jan. 2nd

Bicycle SPACE, a bike shop in Northwest DC, offers free rides and classes every week. Some are aimed at beginners, while others are meant for more experienced riders.

 **Pizza for kids**

Jan. 2nd

Kids eat free from noon-5 p.m. every Sunday at Radius Pizza in Mount Pleasant.

 **Amazon gift card via TurboTax**

Jan. 2nd

Get up to an extra 10% on top of your federal tax refund when you file your taxes with TurboTax and use some or all of your federal refund to buy an Amazon gift card from TurboTax. Your refund must be at least \$100 to take advantage of the deal. You'll get an extra 5% if you use TurboTax Basic, and an extra 10% with Turbo Tax Deluxe, Premium, and Home & Business.

WTOP PET OF THE WEEK

In 2013, WTOP Living partnered with the Washington Animal Rescue League to feature a Pet of the Week available for adoption. Founded in 1914, the Washington Animal Rescue League is the oldest animal shelter in Washington D.C. Its mission includes rescuing, rehabilitating and finding homes for animals who have nowhere else to go. The League also supports animals through affordable veterinary care, community outreach and education.



Pet of the Week: Winifred

Meet Winifred! A sweet 5-year-old English bulldog.
Mar. 24th



Pet of the Week: Lily and Frankie

Lily and Frankie are a bonded dynamic duo.
Mar. 18th



Pet of the Week: Sinbad

Sinbad is an extremely handsome two year-old Rottweiler who came to WARL from a partner shelter in Baltimore.
Mar. 10th



Pet of the Week: Meyer

Although he's acclimated to life at the shelter and gets lots of attention from staff and volunteers, Meyer would much rather have a real home.

Mar. 5th



Pet of the Week: Figaro

This 9-week-old puppy arrived at WARL from down South with several littermates.

Feb. 24th



Pet of the Week: Smushie

This 7-year-old purebred Pekingese arrived at the Washington Animal Rescue League from South Carolina with his best friend, who has since been adopted. Now Smushie is inconsolable. Will your home help him feel better?

Feb. 17th



Pet of the Week: Easy Peasy

Looking for a friendly canine companion who's sure to get noticed? Easy Peasy is your girl.
Feb. 10th



Pet of the Week: Seahawk, the Super Bowl puppy

In honor of the Seahawks' Super Bowl victory, this week's Pet of the Week is the team's canine namesake.
Feb. 3rd



Pet of the Week: Poinsettia

Meet Poinsettia, a darling, petite, 3-year-old pit bull terrier mix. She's looking for a great home.
Jan. 27th



Pets of the Week: Terry Boot and Susan Bones

Say hello to Terry Boot and Susan Bones -- this week's Pets of the Week.
Jan. 20th



Pet of the Week: Candy, a sweet little Lab mix

Candy is the perfect name for this sweet, 2-year-old chocolate Lab mix. She is looking for her forever home.

Jan. 13th



Pet of the Week: Chalupa

Meet Chalupa, the first Pet of the Week for 2014! This sweet cocker spaniel mix is as cute as a button, with a personality to match.

Jan. 6th



Pet of the Week: Jacquard

Meet Jacquard! This four year old Pomeranian came to the Washington Animal Rescue League from a rescue partner.

Dec. 30th

TICKET BUSTERS

With hundreds of new traffic cameras (speed, traffic, and red light) in the D.C. area and a record number of parking tickets being written, more stories are surfacing about flaws in these systems. WTOP Sprawl and Crawl Reporter Ari Ashe will lead the "Ticket Busters", sharing the stories and fighting the good fight and fines of wrongly ticketed commuters.

🔊 New speed cameras help drivers avoid tickets

New speed cameras recently unveiled in Laurel are being called a prototype -- they tell drivers how fast they're going before they reach the camera.

Mar. 27th

🔊 Short trip on 495 Express Lanes cost \$100

A short trip on the 495 Express Lanes cost a Northern Virginia driver more than \$100, the result of miscommunication and conflicting stories.

Mar. 26th

🔊 Driver charged twice for ticket on his rental car

A driver who received a ticket on his rental car for an expired meter got charged twice for the ticket, an issue that highlights the different rules that apply to rental cars and car sharing services.

Mar. 20th

🔊 Woman beats Maryland ticket when town doesn't show up in court

Several months after WTOP Ticketbuster broke a story that caused serious questions to be asked about speed-camera accuracy in Morningside, another driver has come forward to tell her story.

Mar. 19th

🔊 Driver charged with \$6,000 in tolls on 495 Express Lanes

A Fairfax County man who commutes on the 495 Express Lanes each day was sent a court summons and told he'd have to pay \$6,000 in tolls, penalties and fees, WTOP Ticketbuster has learned.

Mar. 13th

🔊 Ticketbuster: Two years and counting in wait for bad-ticket refund

A Northern Virginia man who fought his ticket and won his case in June 2012 waited nearly two years to get the refund check he was promised in eight to 10 weeks, WTOP Ticketbuster has learned.

Mar. 12th

🔊 D.C. program to catch bad tickets is not working properly

Two years after the District of Columbia began the TicPix program to catch erroneous parking tickets, a top official admits it has not worked as planned.

Mar. 7th

- 🎧 **D.C. officials admit problems with ticket writers, hearing examiners**
Two D.C. officials say they believe a case recently profiled on WTOP Ticketbuster highlights problems at the Department of Public Works and Department of Motor Vehicles where innocent drivers are forced to pay tickets incorrectly.
Mar. 6th
- 🎧 **D.C. withholds more than \$10K in refunds for bad tickets**
More than \$10,000 the District of Columbia officials owe in refunds to drivers who were wrongly ticketed throughout the past five years hasn't been paid, according to documents obtained by ABC7 On Your Side.
Feb. 27th
- 🎧 **Nearly identical plates causing major hassle for Virginia woman**
Two jurisdictions have very different responses after a woman gets an erroneous ticket.
Feb. 26th
- 🎧 **App will help fight parking tickets**
There seems to be an app for everything these days, and soon there will be one to fight bad parking tickets.
Feb. 25th
- 🎧 **Lawmakers seek to restore trust in speed cameras**
A measure would create an ombudsman in each county and town that would serve as a customer service liaison between police and drivers.
Feb. 19th
- 🎧 **Ticketbuster: Third time's the charm on erroneous D.C. parking ticket**
A federal employee and Ticketbuster each failed before finally getting a plainly erroneous parking ticket overturned.
Feb. 12th
- 🎧 **Why reporting a broken parking meter may not help you**
Every parking meter in the District of Columbia has a sticker on it that tells drivers to report a broken meter by calling 311, but one man tells WTOP Ticketbuster that operators aren't properly trained and drivers need to beware.
Feb. 6th
- 🎧 **Morningside asked to review speed cameras**
Del. Aisha Braveboy calls for an independent review of the speed cameras on Suitland Road in Morningside, Md.
Feb. 3rd

🔊 Adjudication for D.C. ticket goes on 2 years

A D.C. resident fighting a ticket since early 2012 tells WTOP TicketBuster he's fed up with delays and angry his ticket has been before an appeals board without resolution for almost two years.
Jan. 9th

🔊 WTOP Ticketbuster: Right-turn-on-red tickets create confusion

Red-light cameras are common in Maryland, Virginia and the District, but many drivers complained to WTOP Ticketbuster about a specific kind of ticket in 2013.
Jan. 2nd