

WAMU 88.5 American University Radio
Quarterly Issues-Programs Report
October 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023

Overview

WAMU 88.5 American University Radio is Washington D.C.'s NPR station serving the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and Suburban Maryland. The listening area comprises a population of six million people. The station has consistently ranked among the country's top public radio stations in audience share and size. Nielsen ratings put WAMU at the top of radio stations that serve the Washington D.C. region. The station supports diverse, equitable, and relevant award-winning programming, and puts us among the most respected and trusted voices in the world of traditional and emerging media.

Issues of importance addressed by locally produced programs.

The 1A Program

1A is a show about a changing America. Every weekday, host Jenn White convenes a conversation about the most prominent issues of our time. The show takes a deep and unflinching look at America, bringing context and insight to stories unfolding across the country and the world. Issues of local importance are inherent in the discussions because the nation's capital is the heart of our listening area.

With a name inspired by the First Amendment, 1A explores prominent issues such as policy, politics, technology, and what connects us across the fissures that divide the country. The program also delves into pop culture, sports, and humor. The goal of 1A is to function as a national mirror, taking time to help America look at itself and to ask what it wants to be.

On Fridays, the 1A Program features a two hour "News Roundup - Domestic and International". Guests include subject matter experts in news gathering, politics, economics, and international relations.

The 1A program is produced by WAMU and distributed by NPR to over 445 public radio stations throughout the United States. During this reporting period there were four issues of importance that accounted for a substantial amount of programming time. They are detailed below with examples of the programs that addressed those issues.

Arts, Culture and Entertainment

October 25: 11:00 AM 47 minutes: Jeremy Dutcher on revitalizing endangered language through music. Jeremy Dutcher is a Wolastoqiyik member of Tobique First Nation in New Brunswick, Canada. His community's native language is endangered. He's one of less than a thousand speakers. Dutcher's first album, sung totally in Wolastoqey, was a surprise hit, earning him the Polaris Prize, an honor given to the best Canadian album of the year. Five years later, he has a new record: Motewolonuwok. This time, he sings in both Wolastoqey and English. We talk to Jeremy about why music is central to language revitalization. Guest: **Jeremy Dutcher**, Musician, "Motewolonuwok"

November 6: 11:00 AM 46 minutes: What baby naming trends tell us about our culture. Last year in the United States, more than 12,000 babies were named Sophia, making it the fifth-most popular choice for baby girls — bested only by Olivia, Emma, Charlotte, and Amelia. Names contain a lot of information. Mostly, information about the one (or ones) doing the naming; less so about the child's actual identity. More parents are feeling the weight of the choice, with many turning to baby name consultants to help them curate a unique name for their child. What do names and naming trends tell us about our culture? How is America's penchant for individualism on display in the choices around what and what not we call ourselves and those who come after us? Guests are: **Nathan W. Pyle**, Creator, "Strange Planet" **Colleen Slager**, Baby Name Consultant, **Pamela Redmond**, Creator of the world's largest baby name website, *Nameberry*; author

of several books about baby names, **Kathryn Jezer-Morton**, Author of the column and newsletter series “Brooding” for The Cut, writer covering modern family life and digital culture

November 9: 11:00 AM 46 minutes: Fall food tips and tricks for the holidays. We’re gonna get a little cozy. Hygge. Comfy. Warm and fuzzy. And what better way than with our favorite fall dishes? With the turning leaves and shorter days, maybe you’ve finally pulled out the crock pot or roasted some veggies and thrown ‘em in a stew. Or maybe you’re dreaming of mooncakes. You could be looking for something new, especially as seasons change, Thanksgiving approaches, and we turn to the same dishes and decorative gourds we do every year. Guest: **Sohla El-Waylly** author; Chef

December 7: 11:20 AM 35 minutes: James Blake on ‘Playing Robots Into Heaven’. Since English-born musician James Blake splashed onto the music scene just over a decade ago, he’s collaborated with some of the industry’s biggest names. That’s everyone from Beyoncé and Pharrell Williams, to SZA, Frank Ocean and Rosalía. He’s also put out several critically acclaimed solo albums that showcase his range as a vocalist, DJ and musician, including his 2013 album “Overgrown,” which beat out David Bowie and Arctic Monkeys to win the Mercury Prize for album of the year. For his sixth album, “Playing Robots Into Heaven,” James takes us back to the electronic music scene of the early 2000s. How does one of the biggest names in music production put together his own albums? And how is he rethinking success more than a decade into his career? Guest: **James Blake**, Award-winning singer, songwriter and producer

World Affairs

October 9: 10:00 AM 47 minutes: Israel declared war on Hamas after hundreds were killed in surprise attacks. Israel has not suffered a blow like this in 50 years. Not since Syrian and Egyptian forces crossed the southern border on Yom Kippur in 1973 has Israel reeled from such a heavy and deadly assault. It was a relatively poor country then, isolated from its Arab neighbors who pledged to its destruction. The country is now rich, with embassies that crisscross the Middle East. Israel’s military and intelligence services are the envy of the region. Death tolls are hard to verify. But Israeli officials say more than 600 Israelis have been killed in attacks from Gaza since Saturday. As many as 100 Israeli soldiers and civilians were kidnapped when Palestinian militants crossed the border and raided communities. Retaliatory Israeli air strikes have killed more than 400 people in the Gaza Strip, with 2,300 wounded, Palestinian officials say. We get the latest and hear how the U.S. and the world is responding. Guests: **Joyce Karam**, Senior News Editor, *Al-Monitor*, **Charles Lister**, Counterterrorism Director, Middle East Institute, **Robbie Gramer**, Diplomacy and National Security Reporter; *Foreign Policy*

October 10: 10:00 AM 12 minutes: The earthquakes in Afghanistan. Multiple earthquakes struck Afghanistan this past Saturday The strongest registered a 6.3 on the Richter scale according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The death toll is now estimated to be in the thousands. Six villages, according to the Taliban’s Ministry of Information and Culture, have been destroyed. The quakes were near Herat, Afghanistan’s third-largest city. Guest: **Pashtana Durrani**, Social and political rights activist; Founder, LEARN Afghanistan

November 16: 10:00 AM 11 minutes: Biden and Xi meet face-to-face after a fraught year. U.S. President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping greeted each other with a handshake on Wednesday as they met on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperative Conference – or APEC – at a grand estate south of San Francisco. It was the first meeting between the two leaders in over a year of heightened tensions between the two nations. High on the agenda is the issue of lowering the strain between the two nations over military conflicts, drug trafficking, and artificial intelligence. The meeting also occurred against the backdrop of two major global conflicts – the war in the Middle East and the war in Ukraine. Not expected from the summit though is a long list of outcomes or even a joint leaders’ statement. We get an analysis of the visit between President Biden and Xi with David Rennie, the Beijing bureau chief for The Economist and co-host of the “Drum Tower” podcast. Guest: **David Rennie**, Beijing Bureau Chief, *The Economist*, Founder and Editor of Pluribus News

December 6: 11:00 AM 12 minutes: As the ceasefire between Israel and Hamas ends, the humanitarian crisis in Gaza worsens. The humanitarian crisis in Gaza is worsening. Israel's latest war effort is focused on the southern parts of the strip, where millions of displaced Palestinians have sought refuge. And as infrastructure in Gaza – including hospitals – is destroyed, aid organizations are struggling to reach those in need. More than 16,000 Palestinians have been killed since the start of the conflict – 70 percent of those killed are women and children according to the Gaza Ministry of Health. According to U.N. figures from before the seven-day ceasefire, 80 percent of Gaza's 2.3 million citizens have been displaced. The ceasefire, which ended on Nov. 30, allowed humanitarian aid to reach those trapped in Gaza. But what happens now that fighting has resumed? We check in with UNICEF on the efforts to provide lifesaving supplies to Gaza. Guests: **Joe English**, UNICEF Emergency Communication Specialist

Politics

October 4: 10:20 AM 35 minutes: What to expect from the new Supreme Court term. The Supreme Court's new term is underway, but the country is still dealing with the fallout from the last one. According to a Gallup poll, the Supreme Court's approval is at a historic low. 47% of Americans say they have a fair amount of trust in the judicial branch and 58% of Americans say they disapprove of the job the Supreme Court is doing. This term, the Supreme Court's docket includes cases surrounding election integrity, gerrymandering, climate change, and affirmative action. Having overturned *Roe v Wade* this summer, what should we expect from the Supreme Court's new term? Guests: **Leah Litman**, Professor, University of Michigan Law School, Co-Host, *Strict Scrutiny* podcast, **Eric Segall**, Professor at the Georgia State University College of Law; author of "Supreme Myths: Why the Supreme Court Is Not a Court" and "Originalism as Faith"

November 2: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: 1A Remaking America: The off-year elections of 2023. Abortion is on the ballot in Ohio. The Kentucky governor's race is drawing national attention and millions of dollars in out-of-state spending. Eyes are also on Virginia as Republicans and Democrats vie for control of the state's legislature. What's at stake in the 2023 Elections? And what could they signal for the rest of the country next November when it comes to key issues? Guests: **Reid Wilson**, Founder and Editor of *Pluribus News*, **Sylvia Goodman**, Capitol reporter, Kentucky Public Radio, **Julie Carr Smyth**

November 14: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: What could *United States vs. Rahimi* mean for the gun rights of domestic abusers?. Guns, and who gets to have access to them, is one of the most hotly debated issues in our country. The Supreme Court will weigh in on gun rights once more in the coming months in the case of a 23-year-old Texas man named Zackey Rahimi. His case challenges a federal law that's been around for nearly two decades that strips gun ownership rights from people under domestic violence protection orders. How should the high court regulate who gets access to guns? And how might the outcome of the case shape gun rights as we know them? Guests: **Wendy Schiller**, Director of the Taubman Center for American Politics and Policy at Brown University, co-author of *Inequality Across State Lines: How Policymakers Have Failed Domestic Violence Victims in the United States*, **Jacob Charles**, Law Professor at Pepperdine University, **Natalia Otero**, Executive Director and Founder, DC SAFE, **Jennifer Carlson**, Sociology Professor at Arizona State University

December 5: 11:00 AM 12 minutes: Presidential immunity and Donald Trump's legal woes. As part of his presidential farewell address George Washington said, "The very idea of the power and the right of the people to establish government – presupposes the duty of every individual to obey the established government." Late last week, a federal judge in Washington D.C. used those words to reject Donald Trump's motion to dismiss his criminal charges based on a claim of "presidential immunity." U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan's decision amounts to a sharp rejection of challenges the Trump defense team had raised to their client's four-count indictment. Trump's trial is expected to center on the Republican candidate's multi-pronged efforts to undo the 2020 election. Chutkan's response to Trump happened on the same day a federal appeals court ruled that the former president could be sued for inciting the insurrection. The ruling is likely to be appealed in the hope that it push the trial on election interference charges past the 2024 election. 1A explores presidential immunity and Trump's legal standing. Guest: **Todd Zwillich**, Politics Reporter. *Health*

Relationships and Mental Health

December 12: 11:00 AM 46 minutes: How our relationships with our phones affect us. You're working on a task, trying to focus, maybe even reading a book. And then... a phone notification goes off. You get a text message, maybe a TikTok notification. How could you not pick up your phone to check what it's about? And then one thing leads to another. Suddenly you've lost 30 minutes scrolling through Instagram. A report from Common Sense Media found that teens get over 230 of these distracting notifications each day. Some get over four thousand. But teens aren't the only ones inundated. According to market research company Insider Intelligence, American adults spend four and a half hours a day on their phones. Smartphones and social media apps are lauded by their industries for their addictive design. Now, lawmakers in Utah, New Jersey, and North Carolina are taking action to protect kids from the reach of social media. How are we being affected by the constant presence of our phones? And what can we do to claim back our focus?. Guests: **Amanda Lenhart**, Head of Research, Common Sense Media; serves on the Technical Advisory Panel to the American Academy of Pediatrics Center on Social Media and Youth Mental Health, **Manoush Zomorodi**, Host, NPR's Ted Radio Hour and the new series, "Body Electric;" author, "Bored and Brilliant: How Spacing Out Can Unlock Your Most Creative Self", **Clifford Sussman**, MD, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist; Internet and Gaming Addiction Specialist **Lucía Magis-Weinberg**, MD, Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Washington where she leads the International Adolescent Connection and Technology Laboratory

October 17: 11:00 AM 46 minutes: Why how we talk about gender matters. Back in 2015, Schuyler Bailar made headlines for being the first openly transgender athlete to compete on a Division 1 NCAA sports team. Now, he's an advocate for transgender inclusion. His new book is called "He/She/They: How We Talk About Gender and Why It Matters." In the years since Schuyler raced as a member of the Harvard men's swim team, the battle over transgender inclusion in sports has become more contentious. Since 2020, 18 states have passed laws restricting participation in sports for trans women and girls and five other states passed laws applying to all trans athletes, according to an ESPN analysis. Why does the way we talk about gender matter? Schuyler answers your questions and more. Guest: **Schuyler Bailar** trans advocate, first openly transgender athlete to compete on a Division 1 NC-AA men's sports team; author, "He/She/They: How We Talk About Gender and Why It Matters"

November 30: 10:00 AM 12 minutes: Life expectancy and suicide. How long can an average American expect to live? Recent trends in the U.S. have caused concern since the start of the pandemic. Now, we have new data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. According to the CDC, life expectancy rose in 2022. That's the first gain since the pandemic. An average American can expect to live 77.5 years, up 1.1 years from 2021. But the suicide rate is climbing. We talk about the new life expectancy data and discuss what it means, post-pandemic. Guest: **Joel Achenbach** Science and Politics Reporter, The Washington Post

December 12: 11:20 AM 35 minutes: Rapper, author, and former child soldier Emmanuel Jal on overcoming trauma. Emmanuel Jal was born in the early 1980s, not long before his home country of Sudan descended into civil war. The violence tore his family apart and he became a child soldier to survive. Emmanuel is profiled in the 2008 documentary "War Child." It follows him to a refugee camp, where he recounts his story to a classroom of young men. As a teenager, Emmanuel discovered the best language through which to tell his story: music. In the time since he's released seven studio albums. He is also the author of two books: "War Child: A Child Soldier's Story" and "My Life is Art: 11 Pillars for a Positive and Purposeful Life." The latter is his latest literary work and it details his strategy for living with trauma – a process he calls "My Life is Art." We spoke to Emmanuel about his life, and work and how they intersect. Guest: **Emmanuel Jal**, Musician; Author, "My Life is Art: 11 Pillars for a Positive and Purposeful Life"

Other notable 1A Programs that address issues of importance include:

October 2: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: The science of synesthesia and super sensors

October 3: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: Carl Hiaasen, banned book week, and censorship in schools

October 5: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: From solar panels to national policies, what climate solutions actually help?

October 19: 10:00 AM 47 minutes: Three mayors walk into a public radio station

November 1: 11:40 AM 31 minutes: The evolution of Día de los Muertos

November 7: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: What happens when private security patrols public streets?

November 15: 10:20 AM 34 minutes: Why the history of Reconstruction is important today

December 5: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: What OpenAI's board drama tells us about the future of artificial intelligence

December 13: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: How medical aid in dying is bringing autonomy to end-of-life decisions

The Politics Hour with Kojo Nnamdi

This program focuses exclusively on issues of importance in our listening area, and connects the dots between events happening in Washington DC and the state houses in Annapolis, Maryland and Richmond, Virginia. With resident analyst Tom Sherwood, the program maintains a vital forum for the public to engage with elected officials and hold them accountable.

On Fridays in this reporting period, Kojo and resident analyst Tom Sherwood hosted governors, statewide office holders, city and county elected officials, regional appointed officials, and candidates for public office. There were eleven locally produced editions of The Politics Hour totaling 531 minutes of programming.

In addition to probing the guests on their views, listeners are encouraged to call in and ask questions directly of the guests.

Examples of programming to address issues of local importance include:

Local Politics

November 3: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: It's almost Election Day in Virginia, and control of the legislature is at stake. Control of Virginia's legislature is up for grabs as residents head to the polls next week. All 140 seats in Virginia's General Assembly are on the ballot this year. Currently, Republicans hold the House of Delegates, and the Democrats narrowly control the state senate, but that could change after Tuesday's elections. The outcome could have major implications for abortion rights, tax cuts, statewide educational reforms, and climate policies throughout the commonwealth. WAMU's Northern Virginia reporter Margaret Barthel gives us a preview of what's at stake. Plus, how will early voting impact the results? As more cannabis dispensaries open in Maryland, Prince George's County is weighing whether to restrict where they can operate. The state is paying close attention and deciding if it should intervene. Prince George's County Council Vice Chair Wala Blegay joins Kojo and Tom to discuss the potential legislation and what it might mean for the cannabis industry in the county. Plus, a new bill will require many apartment buildings to install surveillance cameras as the county looks to curb crime. while we're at it. Join us for our weekly review of the politics, policies, and personalities of the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.

December 1: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: D.C. Council Chair Phil Mendelson on the Mayor's latest crime and policing bill. This week, the public weighed in on D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser's latest crime and policing bill. D.C. Council Chair Phil Mendelson was there for the hours of testimony. He joins us in the studio to give his thoughts about the issue and what comes next. Plus, the Washington Teachers Union is urging the school system to come back to the table for contract negotiations. We ask Chairman Mendelson what the Council can do to get the two sides to agree on new terms. A judge ruled earlier this week that a Montgomery County gun law that bans the concealed carry of a firearm outside of one's home or business is not allowed under state law. The judge said he will issue a permanent injunction preventing the county from enforcing the provision. County Executive Marc Elrich joins Kojo and Tom in the studio to weigh in on the

ruling. And a new council bill would loosen parking requirements for new housing developments. How might this legislation tackle two pressing problems at once?

December 22: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: The year that was in local politics — and what's to come in 2024. It was quite a year in local politics. Last spring, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser's longtime top aide resigned amid scandal; Congress blocked D.C.'s overhaul of its criminal code; and Arlington eliminated single-family zoning. Then, over the summer, Maryland legalized recreational marijuana, the District got a new police chief, Montgomery County passed rent control legislation, and the D.C. Council approved an emergency crime bill. The fall and winter had the District moving closer to gaining control of the RFK Stadium site, Prince George's County being selected as the new home for the FBI, and, finally, the Wizards and Caps announcing a plan to move to Alexandria. Our panel of reporters provides insight and analysis of the year that was and what might be in store in 2024. Josh Kurtz of Maryland Matters, Washington Post's Teo Armus, and WAMU reporter Jenny Gathright join us. We also sit down with Arlington County Board Chair Christian Dorsey to talk about the vote this week that makes ranked choice voting a permanent fixture in county elections. And we ask what's next for the long-time board member after he steps down from the role at the end of this year.

Economy

October 6: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: Councilmember Edward Burroughs wants to phase out the tipped minimum wage in Prince George's County. It's an all-Maryland Politics Hour this week. In Montgomery County, councilmembers continue questioning school leaders about an ongoing investigation into a school principal who was promoted despite sexual harassment allegations. At-Large Councilmember Gabe Albornoz sits down with Kojo and Tom to discuss. Plus, a new stricter gun law took effect in Maryland this past weekend, but a federal judge had already struck down parts of it. We ask Councilmember Albornoz his thoughts and how it compares to legislation he introduced last year. Prince George's County is considering a bill that would increase the minimum wage for tipped workers, following other local jurisdictions. Councilmember Edward Burroughs introduced the legislation and will join the show. And a bill that will allow councilmembers to vote virtually finally passed, but not without some controversy and political debate. We get Councilmember Burroughs' take on it all.

December 8: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: How will data centers and eliminating single-family zoning impact Virginia's housing supply? We are talking land use this week on The Politics Hour. A major vote on a massive data center in Prince William County is set for next week. The issue has split local Democrats and will have huge ramifications on the future of the suburban county. Virginia state Senator-elect (and current Delegate) Danica Roem joins the show to weigh in on data centers and what the Board of Supervisors should be doing with the land. Plus, the Democratic sweep in the Virginia General Assembly elections last month has the local party making big legislative plans. Sen.-elect Roem gives us a preview of the upcoming session. The Alexandria City Council voted to eliminate single-family-only zoning as part of its "Zoning for Housing" plan with the goal of boosting the city's housing supply. City Councilmember John Chapman gets behind the mic to discuss why, despite voting in favor it, he still has some reservations. And Councilmember Chapman tells us what's being done to keep schools and students safe.

December 15: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: Wizards and Caps' move to Virginia and Metro's budget crisis. It's been a big news week. On Wednesday, Virginia officials and Monumental Sports announced a region-shaking deal to move the Washington Wizards and Capitals from D.C.'s Capital One Arena to a new complex to be built in Alexandria's Potomac Yard neighborhood by 2028. The announcement left D.C. officials reeling, and some local sports fans happy, others very unhappy. Virginia state Senator and soon-to-be Majority Leader Scott Surovell discusses what the proposed deal could mean for Alexandria and the General Assembly's role in all of this. Metro unveiled its budget earlier this week, proposing massive service cuts as a budget crisis looms. The closing of Metro stations, eliminating bus routes, layoffs, and fare hikes are all on the table if Metro does not receive the additional subsidies from D.C., Maryland, and Virginia it's asking for. General Manager Randy Clarke joins the show to lay out what's needed to avoid the catastrophic cuts. Finally, controversy continues to swirl around the General Services Administration's decision last month to relocate the FBI headquarters to Maryland. This week, a U.S. House hearing was held where an FBI official again questioned the process

in which the Greenbelt was chosen. Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks weighs in and explains why she thinks Prince George's County is the right place for the FBI headquarters.

Government

October 27: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: D.C. Attorney General Brian Schwalb weighs in on the Mayor's latest public safety proposal. D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser has unveiled her latest crime bill to address increasing violent crime in the city. The legislation calls for rolling back some police reforms and reinstating temporary "drug-free zones." D.C. Attorney General Brian Schwalb is responsible for prosecuting many of the crimes committed in the District. He joins us to share his thoughts on the proposal and what it would mean for his office. Plus, why D.C. and 41 other states are suing the social media giant Meta and how the largest environmental settlement in the District's history came to be. A recently published investigation from WAMU's Criminal Justice reporter Jenny Gathright found that some D.C. police officers worked so much overtime they became the city's highest-paid employees, even out-earning the Mayor. Gathright sits down with Kojo and Tom to discuss her reporting. And, she also weighs in on the Mayor's public safety legislation and the chances it will be approved by the D.C. Council next month.

November 10: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: Democrats dominate Virginia elections as Maryland wins big with FBI headquarters. It's a jam-packed week as we dive into the ramifications of this week's Virginia elections and the announcement that the FBI headquarters is planning a move to Prince George's County. This week, word came that federal officials had chosen a site in Greenbelt, Maryland to be the new home of the FBI headquarters. It's a decision that's been years in the making and has sent shockwaves through the local political landscape. Long-time U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer has advocated for years to bring the headquarters to Prince George's County. He joins Kojo and Tom to discuss the news. Virginians went to the polls on Tuesday and voted to give Democrats full control of the General Assembly. The outcome is a major blow to Gov. Glenn Youngkin, who campaigned hard for a Republican "trifecta" in Richmond. WAMU's Northern Virginia reporter Margaret Barthel breaks down what it all means. Then, the Chair of the Virginia Democratic Party Susan Swecker is in studio to tell us why she thinks Virginia Democrats had such success at the polls this year. Finally, data centers were at the top of voters' minds this week in Prince William County. Deshundra Jefferson was a big winner there, campaigning against the massive Prince William Digital Gateway project. The Prince William County Board of Supervisors Chair-elect joins the show this week to discuss her victory and the county's future.

November 17: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: FBI fallout and narrowly avoiding shutdown. Late last week, the General Services Administration announced it had selected a site in Prince George's County as the new home for the FBI headquarters. This decision didn't sit well with many Virginia elected officials, who were angling to have Fairfax County be the FBI's new home. U.S. Senator Mark Warner tells us why he's calling for an investigation into the selection process. Plus, the federal government once again narrowly avoided a federal shutdown. We ask Sen. Warner what impact these constant shutdown threats are having on the commonwealth's federal workforce. A new bill introduced in the D.C. Council this week would prevent property owners with histories of housing code violations from renting to tenants. WAMU's Housing and Development reporter Morgan Baskin joins the show to break down the legislation. As thousands this week rallied on the National Mall in support of Israel, Montgomery County officials are responding to an immigrant rights organization's recent statements about the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict. Montgomery County Council Vice Chair Andrew Friedson is in studio with Kojo and Tom to give his thoughts. Plus, new legislation would require public restrooms in the county to supply free menstrual products.