

WAMU 88.5 American University Radio
Quarterly Issues-Programs Report
July 1, 2023, through September 30, 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

July 12: 11:20 AM 35 minutes: Local Spotlight: The Black Opry Residency is changing the face of Americana music. Americana music encompasses country, bluegrass, folk, and blues and has deep roots in Black musical traditions. As the sonic influences of southern Blacks gained international popularity in the early 20th century, the genre became increasingly whitewashed. But long before Lil Nas X pushed the boundaries of what constitutes country music, Black musicians across Americana were reclaiming space in the genre. Many of those musicians found celebration and support in the Black Opry, a collective of Black artists that perform Americana music, founded online by Holly G in Nashville. This year, the Black Opry partnered up with WXPN to launch the Black Opry Residency, a weeklong program that provides resources and support for unsigned Black Americana musicians. We explore how and why the residency program came to be and what it means for the future of Black Americana musicians. Guests are: **Holly G**, Founder and Co-Director of the Black Opry, **Denitia**, Singer-songwriter, **Bruce Warren**, Assistant General Manager for Programming, WXPN

August 15: 11:20 AM 34 minutes: 'Strange Planet' Satirizes The Absurdities Of Everyday. The wildly popular webcomic "Strange Planet" has attracted millions of followers by pointing out absurdities in everyday life. Beings on Strange Planet live in a place very similar to Earth and behave very similarly to humans. They just talk about it differently. On Strange Planet, coffee is "jitter liquid," socks are "foot tubes," alcohol is "mild poison," kissing is "mouth pushing," and raccoons are "greyscale finger bandits." The successful webcomic is expanding to books, merchandise, and now a new show on

Apple TV+, co-created by “Strange Planet” creator Nathan W. Pyle and “Rick and Morty” co-creator Dan Harmon. We talk to Pyle about his comic and absurdity. Guest: **Nathan W. Pyle**, Creator, "Strange Planet"

August 30: 11:00 AM 47 minutes: 1A visits the Kentucky State Fair. Since the 1840s, Americans have flocked to state fairs to witness the hallmarks of the country’s agricultural sector. Many fairs feature gargantuan produce and livestock, recipe competitions and domestic arts and crafts showcases. And no fair would be complete without staples like corndogs, funnel cakes, and deep-fried Oreos. In all their oddity, fairs have long served as a public gathering place and forum for conversation. While you might not think of the state fair as inherently political, elected officials and local parties use state fairs – especially in battleground states like Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Arizona – to reach voters and engage their parties. The 1A team takes a trip to the Kentucky State Fair to learn firsthand about its history, charm, and future. Guests: **Ryan Quarles**, Agriculture Commissioner of Kentucky, **Ryland Barton**, Managing Editor for Collaboratives at Louisville Public Media

September 25: 11:20 AM 34 minutes: Taylor Lorenz digs into social media’s biggest failures and the rise of the influencer. When you look back at the history of social media, there are a lot of viral cats. There were also some songs that you couldn’t escape, like Tay Zonday’s “Chocolate Rain.” These viral moments are part of the storied history of the internet, but anonymous connections across the globe also drove some of society’s worst behavior. The emergence of social media platforms allowed for the harassment of teenage girls, like the outpouring of hate for Rebecca Black’s “Friday.” Some creators experienced targeted vitriol for years, sometimes for simply telling the public to leave Britney Spears alone. Washington Post tech columnist Taylor Lorenz digs through it all in her new book “Extremely Online: The Untold Story of Fame, Influence, and Power on the Internet.” From mommy blogging to the behemoth of today’s TikTok, Lorenz traces social media’s history chronicling the moments that made the internet what it is today and what we can learn from its failures. Guest: **Taylor Lorenz**, Author, "Extremely Online: The Untold Story of Fame, Influence and Power on the Internet"; Technology Columnist Covering Online Culture, The Washington Post

Politics

July 10: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: Aspen Ideas Festival: The role of guns in America. The conversation around guns in America is never easy. But it is necessary. Those who support gun safety legislation, and self-proclaimed defenders of the second amendment, are divided on the role guns should –or should not –play in our lives. Gun violence is a problem. More Americans died of gun-related injuries in 2021 than any other year on record. That’s according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This includes both murders and suicides involving guns. Recent data from the Pew Research Center says on a per capita basis, there were 14.6 gun deaths per 100,000 people in 2021, the highest rate since the early 1990s. But that is still well below the peak of 16.3 gun deaths per 100,000 people in 1974. Most Americans want some form of gun control. Some 64 percent of people support stricter gun laws. according to a recent CNN poll. Why then is it so hard to get anything done when it comes to gun legislation? And how do we move a stalled conversation forward? It’s an important debate – and one we had at this year’s Aspen Ideas Festival. Today, we hear highlights from those who joined us on stage. Guests: **Congresswoman Lucy McBath, Clark Neily, John Feinblatt, Jennifer Carlson**

August 22: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: How Cable News Changes American Politics And Culture. A white Bronco chased down the Los Angeles freeway. The collapse of two Manhattan skyscrapers. The insurrection at the U.S. Capitol. All of these seminal moments in American history were broadcast on cable news. For more than 80 years, cable television has been at the center of American politics and culture. While streaming platforms have driven many families to cut the cord, there are still more than 72 million active cable subscribers according to the National Cable and Telecommunications Association. News remains a huge part of Americans’ cable television diet. But the industry is at a crossroads, with cable subscriptions down 30 percent over the past decade. Giants of the industry like CNN, Fox News, and MSNBC have cut their staffs. How has cable news shaped our politics and culture? And what role will it play in the 2024 Presidential election? The new book “24/7 Politics: Cable Television and the Fragmenting of America from Watergate to Fox News” examines all these questions and more. Guests: **Brian Stelter**, Special Correspondent at Vanity Fair, **Kathryn Cramer Brownell**, Associate Professor of History at Purdue University and author of 24/7 Politics

September 6 11:00 AM 12 minutes: Why recent decisions on redistricting may have a big impact on 2024. On Tuesday, a panel of federal judges struck down Alabama’s 2022 voting map. The decision comes after months of back-and-forth between the Alabama legislature and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama over compliance with the Voting Rights Act. The court had directed Alabama to create a second majority-Black voting district. Though 27 percent of state residents are Black, Black voters make up the majority in only one of seven voting districts. The 3-judge panel wrote, “The law requires the creation of an additional district that affords Black Alabamians, like everyone else, a fair and reasonable opportunity to elect candidates of their choice. The 2023 Plan plainly fails to do so.” On Saturday, a Florida judge issued a similar ruling saying the existing congressional map there violates the state constitution by diluting the influence of Black voters. And there’s another legal challenge underway in Georgia. Opening statements began Tuesday in what’s expected to be a two-week trial. How will these redistricting cases impact the 2024 elections? Guest: **Reid Wilson**, Founder and Editor of Pluribus News

September 28 10:00 AM 46 minutes: Here’s what happened at the second 2024 GOP primary debate. Seven Republicans qualified for last night’s presidential primary debate: Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, former Vice President Mike Pence, businessman Vivek Ramaswamy, former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum, former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, and South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott. At the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California, the candidates gathered on stage without the current front-runner: former President Donald Trump, who was, at the same time, meeting with auto workers in Michigan. So, did Trump’s absence loom as one might have expected it to? And where are the candidates finding space for alignment and disagreement with both Trump and each other? Guests: **Rina Shah**, Political Commentator and Strategist, **Gabe Fleisher**, Founder & Editor-in-Chief, "Wake Up To Politics", **Alex Thompson**, National Political Correspondent, Axios

World Affairs

July 17 10:00 AM 47 minutes: 1A travels to Lviv, Ukraine. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees estimates that there are at least 5.9 million internally displaced people in Ukraine. Lviv has become a destination for many refugees because of its proximity to Poland, its multi-ethnic history and its relative safety. The missile strike on an apartment building in the Lviv city center on July 6 that killed ten people was the worst attack on the city since the start of the war. 1A Producers Avery Jessa Chapnick and Chris Remington traveled to Lviv to meet with several organizations working to support Ukrainian refugees. They heard stories from some of the most vulnerable people to Russia’s ongoing war of aggression in Ukraine, the children and the elderly. Guests: **Chris Remington**, 1A Producer, **Greg Myre**, **Hanna Shelest**, Director of Security Programmes at Foreign Policy Council “Ukrainian Prism”, Avery Jessa Chapnick, Producer, 1A; freelance journalist

July 25 10:00 AM 46 minutes: The life of a conflict correspondent. Why would someone run towards conflict and war? Well if you’re a foreign correspondent, it’s your job. There’s physical danger involved, for sure. But there are also ethical landmines to avoid as a foreigner reporting on a community’s crisis. We sit down with two correspondents who have reported from some of the most dangerous war zones. Whether it’s getting held up by police in Sudan or a close call in a bombing in Afghanistan, journalists Sean Carberry and Jane Ferguson have had their fair share of nery moments. We talk about their respective, recent memoirs and what attracted them to this line of work. Guests: **Jane Ferguson**, Author, “No Ordinary Assignment”; Special Correspondent, PBS NewsHour; Contributor, New Yorker, **Sean Carberry**, Author, “Passport Stamps: Searching the World for a War to Call Home”; Managing Editor, National Defense Magazine; former NPR Kabul Correspondent

September 11 11:00 AM 12 minutes: Joe Biden goes to the G20 and Vietnam. President Biden is on his way home after a busy weekend overseas. This morning he wrapped his visit to Vietnam after spotlighting new business deals and partnerships. And he paid his respects at a memorial honoring his late friend and colleague Senator John McCain – who was held in prison in Hanoi during the Vietnam War. All of that followed his time in New Delhi to attend the G20 Summit. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi went into the weekend to prove to the world the power of his country on the global stage. That’s as he vies for a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council. So, what are the key takeaways from the weekend? Guests: **Karishma Mehrotra**, South Asian Correspondent, The Washington Post

September 21 10:00 AM 46 minutes: The fight against global donor fatigue. The 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly is underway in New York City this week. Heads of state from countries around the globe are meeting to discuss some of the most pressing issues facing the planet. President Joe Biden addressed the assembly this week and called for global unity against Russia as it continues its invasion of Ukraine. “Russia believes that the world will grow weary and allow it to brutalize Ukraine without consequence,” Biden said in his speech. “If we allow Ukraine to be carved up, is the independence of any nation secure?” But the war in Ukraine is just one of the many crises facing UN leaders. Earlier this month, an earthquake in Morocco killed at least 2,000 people. And less than a week after the earthquake, flooding in Libya killed nearly 4,000 people. Given that so much is going on in the world right now, the demand for charitable donations is high, meaning that those in positions to give might not be so inclined at this point in time. The United Nations Development Chief Achim Steiner calls global donor fatigue a “political choice” and a “tragic error” by Western countries. We get an update from the United Nations General Assembly and explore the causes and solutions to global donor fatigue. Guests: **Elise Labott**, Journalist-in-Residence, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service **Una Osili**, Associate Dean for Research and International Programs at the Lily School for Philanthropy at the University of Indiana, **Patricia “Patty” McIlreavy**, CEO and President of the Center for Disaster Philanthropy

Health

July 5 10:00 AM 46 minutes: How youth sports affect America’s kids. Kids these days are busy. Even when school is out and it’s time to close the books (or maybe, a laptop) time in the summer can fill up quickly. Often, with sports. Whether they’re kicking a ball with the neighbors, going to the park for a game of pick-up basketball, traveling in Little League, heading to the Y for a swim, or even hitting a heavy bag, sports are everywhere in our early lives. But over the years, that’s changed a bit. 27 percent of parents say their children lost interest in playing sports. And just like all of us adults, screentime can make up a good chunk of the day. Kids between 8 and 12 have about 4 to 6 hours of screentime, and teens have up to 9 hours. But getting involved in organized sports as a kid can be expensive. Some communities pull together to offer discounted programs or transportation for kids who don’t have access to it. How have youth sports changed over the years? How do we pick what sport to play? How competitive should they be for a kid? What influences what kind of sports kids are drawn to? We put together a panel to talk about the effects playing sports has on kids. Guests: **Katrina Piercy**, Leader of the National Youth Sports Strategy at the U.S. Department of Health; Registered Dietitian; Clinical Exercise Physiologist, **Chris Berry**, District Executive Director, YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City, **Wayne B. Moss**, Executive Director, National Council of Youth Sports

July 6 11:00 AM 46 minutes: In Good Health: How chronic noise exposure affects the human body. Noise is unavoidable. Whether it’s the rumbling of a freight train as it moves along the tracks in your backyard or the constant drip of your leaky faucet – we’re surrounded by it. Qualities of sound, like frequency and loudness, impact how your body responds to a particular source of noise. A growing body of research says that chronic noise exposure is putting nearly a third of Americans at heightened risk of hypertension, stroke, and heart attacks. How do researchers understand the effects of chronic noise exposure? And how can we take steps to limit noise in our environments? We convene a panel of experts to discuss. This is the latest installment of our series, “In Good Health,” where we explore issues and topics relating to human health. Guests: **Peter James**, Environmental Epidemiologist and Associate Professor at Harvard Medical School, **Jamie Banks**, President of Quiet Communities, Chair of the Noise & Health Committee at the American Public Health Association, **Dr. Mathias Basner**, Sleep Researcher and Professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

August 10 11:20 AM 34 minutes: The first pill to treat postpartum depression is here. Having a baby can be a beautiful experience. Those early weeks with a newborn can be exhausting, but also rewarding. For some mothers though, this period after birth can be one of the darkest and most difficult times of their lives. Roughly one in seven people experiences postpartum depression according to the American Psychiatric Association. And one 2019 study found that as many as 50 percent of pregnant people with postpartum depression are never diagnosed. There’s been only one medication specifically made to treat postpartum depression. An infusion that costs 34,000 dollars. But last week, the FDA approved the second-ever postpartum treatment and the first-ever postpartum pill. Doctors hope this will be a more accessible option that will also raise awareness about the condition. We speak to two of the principal investigators on the drug trial about what this new pill means for the future of postpartum treatment. Guests: **Dr. Samantha Meltzer-Brody**,

Director, the Center for Women's Mood Disorder at UNC-Chapel Hill, **Dr. Kristina Deligiannidis**, Professor, the Institute of Behavioral Science at the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research

September 26 10:00 AM 45 minutes: How to add some more spice to your life and diet. Imagine a tasting platter with food from around the world. You spin it and it lands on India. You taste curry, coriander, saffron, and turmeric. Spin it again and you taste harissa, sumac, and za'atar in the Middle East. You get hints of lemongrass, basil, and chili from Thailand on your third spin. And on your last, you end up in the U.S. with cinnamon, nutmeg, and pumpkin spice, just in time for Fall. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, spice consumption per capita among Americans has more than tripled since 1966. Spices aren't just about taste. They can also be beneficial to our health. One 2019 study from the Journal of A.O.A.C. International found that certain spices can lower the risk of chronic disease and help fight inflammation. We talk about how can you incorporate spices into your dishes at home with a spice shop owner, a professional chef, and a doctor. Guests: **Dr. Geeta Maker-Clark**, Co-Director, Culinary Medicine Program at the University of Chicago's School of Medicine, Physician of family and integrative medicine with the Northshore Medical Group, **Angel Gregorio**, Owner, The Spice Suite, **Lior Lev Sercarz**, Chef and Owner, La Boîte; Author, "A Middle Eastern Pantry: Essential Ingredients for Classic and Contemporary Recipes"

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

July 10: 10:00 AM 446 minutes: What we know and don't know about the future of college admissions

July 19: 11:00 AM 46 minutes: Strikes are on the rise. But are labor unions missing their moment?

August 14: 11:20 AM 34 minutes: Local Spotlight: The not-so-sweet past of Sugar Land, Texas

August 15: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: Plugged In: How The IRA Is Changing Housing In America

August 15: 11:00 AM 12 minutes: Why did the wildfires in Maui become so devastating?

August 31: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: The 'new' homeschoolers

September 20: 10:00 AM 46 minutes: The scramble to build 'missing middle housing'

September 25: 10:20 AM 34 minutes: Who do we think gets to think about the Roman Empire?

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.

Every Friday 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

September 1: 12:06 PM 50 minutes: The future is now for both Prince George's County and County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. Multi-million-dollar development along Metro's Blue Line. The possible arrival of the FBI headquarters. FedEx Field's future as the home of the Washington Commanders. Prince George's County could see a lot of change in the coming years. County Executive Angela Alsobrooks joins the show to talk about the future of Prince George's

County, as well as her own. After protracted negotiations, there appears to finally be a deal on Virginia's budget. Both sides are claiming victory in a process that was somewhat secretive. Virginia Mercury's Sarah Vogelsong breaks down the deal for us, what we know and don't know about what's in the budget, and how it might impact our region. An unusual dry spell may force the District to pull drinking water from backup reservoirs for the first time in over a decade. WAMU's environment reporter Jacob Fenston talks with Kojo and Tom about what this means, how local government might manage this potential crisis, and how climate change plays into the current situation. Plus, Fenston tells us about what it was like to be one of the first to taste the lab-grown chicken that is currently being served at one local restaurant.

September 8: 12:06 PM 50 minutes: It's time to go back to school in the D.C. region. As enrollment at Arlington public schools continues to increase, there's pressure to build more schools in the county. Superintendent Francisco Durán joins the show to discuss how he's managing that. Plus, earlier this summer, Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin released guidelines on how to treat transgender and nonbinary students. We ask how the district is responding to the state-issued policies. COVID rates are again ticking up in the region, with positive cases leading some schools to return to mask mandates. Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent Monifa McKnight sits down with Kojo and Tom to talk about it. Keeping students safe from on-campus violence is also at the top of many locals' minds, particularly in light of a fight that broke out after a football game at a Montgomery County high school this past weekend. We ask McKnight what the county is doing about that. Sorting political fact from fiction, and having fun 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.

September 22: 12:06 PM 50 minutes: D.C. Council Member Charles Allen talks crime, traffic violence, and RFK Stadium. The D.C. Council is back from summer recess and lawmakers are debating a wide variety of bills. That includes legislation about crime, dangerous drivers, and ebikes. Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen joins the show to discuss a number of his own bills, as well as his thoughts on what his colleagues are proposing. Plus, a bill extending D.C.'s lease on the RFK Stadium site is moving forward in Congress. Does that mean a new home for the Washington Commanders is next? We ask Allen about the possibility of a new football stadium and why it could be years before we see any development on the site. A federal shutdown appears to be looming and the impact on this region could be massive. U.S. Senator Tim Kaine (D-Virginia) talks with Kojo and Tom about what is being done to prevent it and what locals can expect if a shutdown happens. Virginia Rep. Jennifer Wexton announced her retirement earlier this week because of a recent medical diagnosis. We ask Sen. Kaine his thoughts, including the political ramifications of the open seat.

Economy

July 28: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: Is football only a few plays away from coming back to the District? On Thursday, a new bipartisan bill was introduced in the House that could be the next play in bringing football back to the District. The D.C. Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium Campus Revitalization Act would extend the land lease between D.C. and the federal government for another 99 years while also allowing the construction of a new stadium on the site. D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser has continued to be a fan of any effort to bring the team back to the District, while Council Chair Phil Mendelson has remained more skeptical. Both will join us on the show to weigh in on this bill and what comes next. The Montgomery County Council has approved a 6% rent cap increase after plenty of debate and compromise. The lead author of the legislation was Councilmember Natali Fani-González. She sits down with Kojo and our guest analyst Morgan Baskin to discuss how this compromise came to be, what it means for residents, and the next steps. Plus, a public hearing was held this week about pedestrian safety in the county. We ask Fani-González what can be done to keep locals safe while walking and biking in their communities. Sorting political fact from fiction, and having fun 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.

August 4: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: Maryland Governor Wes Moore on education reform, the FBI, and keeping the Commanders. It's been an eventful first seven months in office for Maryland Governor Wes Moore. Cannabis became legal in the state. The Washington Commanders were finally sold and are exploring the possibility of moving from FedEx Field. A decision appears to be coming soon on where the new FBI headquarters might go. Education reform is being implemented across the state. Governor Wes Moore joins Kojo and Tom to discuss all of that and more. While Moore is early in his political career, Virginia State Senator Dick Saslaw is set to retire at the end of the year from his post as

Virginia State Senate majority leader after more than five decades. But before that happens, the long-time state senator remains in the middle of tense state budget negotiations. We talk to Senator Saslaw about those negotiations, reaching across the aisle, and his long career.

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Crime

July 14: 12:06 PM 49 minutes: D.C. Councilmember Zachary Parker explains his support for an emergency crime bill. The D.C. Council passed an emergency public safety bill this week, legislation some think will help stem the increase in violent crime across the city. Others disagree. Councilmember Zachary Parker voted for the bill, despite some backlash due to his support. He joins Kojo and Tom to explain why he gave his vote to this legislation. Plus, the Council voted unanimously to have the city's inspector general review the recent sexual harassment investigation into former deputy mayor John Falcicchio. We ask Parker what it means and when the review might take place. With marijuana now legal in Maryland, a new bill is circulating in Prince George's County that would restrict where dispensaries can go. We talk to Councilmember Krystal Oriadha about why she introduced the legislation and her concerns about cannabis legalization. Plus, Prince George's County Schools are introducing new safety measures that will take effect when students return in the fall. We get Oriadha's take on the new rules, including requiring clear backpacks and installing metal detectors.

August 11: 12:06 PM 40 minutes: D.C. Councilmember Trayon White on why the National Guard might help stop the violence. Gun violence continues to claim more lives in the District. In 2023, 161 people have been murdered in the city – a 28% increase over this time last year. It's prompted Ward 8 Councilmember Trayon White to call for the National Guard to be potentially brought in. He joins the show to talk about the violence that has wreaked havoc in his ward and why he thinks the National Guard might be the answer. Just three months ago, Representative Gerry Connolly's staff members were attacked in his office. He talks to Kojo and Tom about how he and his staff are recovering and have dealt with the trauma of that day. Before becoming a Congressman, Connolly was Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. He discusses how a lack of a state budget can severely impact a county's budget.

September 15: 12:06 PM 38 minutes: U.S. Attorney for D.C. Matthew Graves on addressing the city's surge in gun violence. Violent crime in D.C. continues to increase at a rate the city hasn't seen in decades. It's left locals shaken and officials looking for answers. Because of the District's unique status, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Matthew Graves is the one who prosecutes most adult crimes in the city. He joins Kojo and Tom to discuss how his office manages prosecutions, why they chose not to prosecute many who've been arrested, and what else can be done. Plus, the D.C. Council is back this month with a hefty legislative session on its docket. WAMU/DCist reporter Colleen Grablick joins the show to break down a number of the major bills the Council is taking up this session. Those include legislation addressing public safety, increasing penalties for dangerous drivers, and improving the availability of affordable housing.

WAMU also produces **The Big Broadcast** with Murray Horwitz and **Hot Jazz Saturday Night** with Rob Bamberger.