



WTOP 103.5FM WASHINGTON, DC  
AND SIMULCAST STATIONS  
WTLP 103.9FM BRADDOCK HEIGHTS, MD  
WWWT 107.7FM MANASSAS, VA

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS LISTS  
1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2019  
JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> • MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>

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## Quarterly Issues/Programs List for WTOP 1st Quarter 2019 • January 1st – March 31st

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WTOP Radio is Washington's top news, traffic and weather station. Listeners in the Washington, D.C. community and surrounding area rely on WTOP for timely and accurate news and information that affects their daily lives. WTOP has identified the following as significant issues facing our community this quarter:

- 1. Government Shutdown** – The border wall-funding dispute between President Trump and Congress led to a 35-day partial government shutdown that ended on January 25. Federal employees and contractors were furloughed or required to work without pay. WTOP reported on the hardships workers endured, reaction and support services offered by the community, and updates from meetings as government officials worked to get a deal.
- 2. Local Government** – The Maryland General Assembly and Virginia General Assembly convened in January. WTOP reported on efforts by both legislatures, as well as scandals that had some calling for the resignations of Virginia's top officials and DC Council's vote to reprimand longtime council member Jack Evans.
- 3. National Security** – Reports on international security, intelligence, foreign policy, terrorism and cyber developments; An American detained in Russia; A local man arrested for terrorism; the Mueller investigation/Russia probe.
- 4. Roads and Transportation** – The latest information on Metro, road closures, construction, parking restrictions and transportation projects that affect area commuters.
- 5. Crime**– Incidents of recent crimes and how local law enforcement and community officials are responding to issues including hate crimes, racial tensions, gun violence, and Metro safety; Several high-profile arrests and cases WTOP has been following came to a close.
- 6. Business** – Covers stories related to the local economy, jobs, consumer information and real estate.
- 7. Education**– Issues related to local public schools and universities, including administrative challenges, curriculum changes, tuition, and creating a safe environment for students.
- 8. Weather Alerts** – Severe weather alerts help listeners stay safe; winter weather hampers commutes and closes schools, government and businesses. WTOP kept listeners informed about approaching storms and dangerous cold.

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### **MOST SIGNIFICANT ISSUE - RESPONSIVE PROGRAMS**

WTOP is the go-to news source for the Washington, D.C. region, providing listeners with 24-hour news and information, and traffic and weather every 10 minutes on the 8's. As part of our continuing effort to serve our listeners, WTOP has talked to elected officials and community leaders about the issues facing our area. Programming dealing with each issue listed is outlined below:

#### **GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN**

##### **Day 13: Dems pass funding plan without wall, Trump digs in**

January 3 & 4 • Every hour 10:04p through 10:04a • 30 seconds

January 4 • Live interviews 6:50a/ 7:10a/ 7:40a/ 8:10a • 2:30

On their first day in the majority, House Democrats on Thursday night passed a plan to re-open the government without funding President Donald Trump's promised border wall. The largely party-line votes came after Trump made a surprise appearance at the White House briefing room pledging to keep up the fight for his signature campaign promise. Both sides appeared at an impasse over Trump's demand for billions of dollars to build a wall along the U.S. border with Mexico. Congressional leaders will meet with Trump on Friday to try for a resolution.

##### **Furloughed feds stage rally to speak out against government shutdown**

January 4 • Every hour 11:05a through 11:05p • 48 seconds

With no end in sight to the partial government shutdown, a number of federal employees directly affected by the standoff staged a rally Friday in College Park, Maryland. The demonstrators, who work for the National Archives and Records Administration, have been furloughed since the shutdown started.

##### **'This hurts so much': Federal workers speak out about shutdown hardships**

January 8 • Every hour 5:05a through 11:05a • 50 seconds

Federal workers caught up in the partial government shutdown - now in its third week - said that without a regular paycheck, they're having to make some very tough choices. A dozen unionized federal employees and union leaders, brought together by Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., said the hardship is growing from the shutdown, and some spoke of cash-flow problems in the absence of a paycheck.







##### **Trump walks out of latest shutdown talks with Democrats, calls meeting 'waste of time'**

January 9 • Live 410p / 6:40p/ 7:10p/ 10:10p • 3:22

An abrupt end to a White House meeting between the President and Congressional leaders. Democrats came out of the latest shutdown talks at the White House on Wednesday claiming that President Donald Trump walked out in a "temper tantrum" when they repeated their refusal to meet his demand that they agree to fund his border wall and the president then tweeted that the negotiations were "a waste of time."


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-  **'There's a lot of people hurting right now': Labor unions rally to demand govt. reopen**  
January 10 ♦ 1:06p/ 2:05p/ 3:05p/ 4:06p/ 5:33p/ 6:51p ♦ 50 seconds  
Claiming national leaders are playing politics with people's lives, thousands gathered Thursday at AFL-CIO headquarters in downtown D.C. for a rally to demand an end to the partial government shutdown. "We're just really, really upset," AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka said before the rally began. "The message is this: Stop playing politics with our lives. Open the government. Do your jobs, so we can do our jobs."
-  **Md. senator: Shutdown is compromising safety; time to end it**  
January 14 ♦ 1:33p/ 2:33p/ 3:34p/ 4:34p ♦ 50 seconds  
Standing with representatives from unions who do everything from inspecting aircraft to performing security checks, Cardin, a Democrat from Maryland, said "the mission that the people behind me carry out to make sure that we keep air traffic as safe as possible is being compromised by this partial shutdown."
-  **Shutdown lawsuit: Judge decides not to issue order forcing gov't to pay workers**  
January 15 ♦ 3:05p/ 4:05p/ Every hour 5:32p through 11:32p ♦ 42 seconds  
January 16 ♦ 5:32a/ 6:05a/ 7:32a/ 8:06a/ 9:32a/ 10:05a ♦ 32 seconds  
Federal judge has decided the government can't be forced to pay federal employees during the ongoing partial government shutdown. A U.S. District judge in Washington declined a request by federal employee unions to issue a temporary restraining order blocking the government from requiring employees to show up for work without pay. The ruling relates to a lawsuit filed by the National Treasury Employees Union representing federal workers.
-  **DC mayor bucks fed gov't with bill to offer 'essential' workers unemployment**  
January 23 ♦ Every hour 5:05a through 10:05a / 11:32a ♦ 57 seconds  
D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser says she will introduce emergency legislation that she says would allow federal employees who live in D.C. and who have been working without pay during the partial government shutdown to file for unemployment benefits..
-  **House passes bill to end shutdown, sending it to Trump for signature**  
January 25 ♦ Live interviews 1:20p/ 1:40p/ 1:50p/ 2:05p ♦ 2:30  
Updates every half hour 2:30p though overnight ♦ 1:00  
Congress passed a bill Friday to reopen the federal government for three weeks, until Feb. 15, and President Donald Trump says he will sign the legislation. Trump announced the agreement to end the 35-day partial government shutdown earlier Friday, and the Senate unanimously passed it Friday afternoon. The House approved the bill hours later.
-  **DC region lost \$1.6 billion during shutdown, economist says**  
January 28 ♦ Every hour 5:05a through 5:07p ♦ 43 seconds  
The effects of the longest government shutdown in history went beyond the area's 145,000 federal employees and more than 100,000 federal contractors who missed their paychecks during the shutdown.

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-  **Congress Oks border deal; Trump will sign, declare emergency**  
February 15 ♦ Every hour 5:05a through 10:05a ♦ 43 seconds / Live 9:10a ♦ 2:45  
10:50a ♦ 1:00 / Every hour 11:04a through overnight ♦ 56 seconds  
Congress lopsidedly approved a border security compromise Thursday that would avert a second painful government shutdown, but a new confrontation was ignited - this time over President Donald Trump's plan to bypass lawmakers and declare a national emergency to siphon billions from other federal coffers for his wall on the Mexican boundary.

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

-  **Supreme Court to hear Maryland redistricting case**  
January 4 ♦ 3:42p/ 4:33p/ 5:34p/ 6:34p/ 8:34p /9:42p/ 10:42p through overnight ♦ 54 seconds  
January 5 ♦ 5:33a/ 6:34a/ 7:40a/ 8:50a/ 9:20a/ 10:37a/ 11:36a/ ♦ 1:05  
The U.S. Supreme Court has announced it will hear a case involving alleged gerrymandering in Maryland's redistricting. The Supreme Court will also hear a North Carolina redistricting case. The two cases involve allegations that congressional districts were drawn in ways to give one party an advantage over the other. In the Maryland case, Benisek v. Lamone, it was charged that the rights of Republican voters were disenfranchised when the district was redrawn to give Democrats the edge over members of the GOP.
-  **Maryland General Assembly welcomes new faces, familiar issues**  
January 8 ♦ Every hour 9:22p through overnight ♦ 50 seconds  
January 9 ♦ 5:11a/ 6:11a/ 7:12a/ 8:21a/ 9:21a/ 10:06a/ 11:06a/12:07p ♦ 52 seconds  
Maryland's 90-day General Assembly session started with a new crop of freshmen lawmakers -17 senators and 44 delegates - and a wide range of issues listed as priorities. On the day before the legislative session opened, Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan announced an initiative to deal with crime in Baltimore City, and that included legislation in Annapolis. Among his proposals: introducing legislation to increase mandatory minimum sentences for repeat gun offenders. Hogan also called for a measure that would document how judges rule when it comes to sentencing. He has complained in the past about judges being too lenient in handling violent crime in Baltimore.
-  **Taxes, gambling among top issues as Va. General Assembly convenes**  
January 9 ♦ 8:51a/ 9:41a/10:06a/11:05a/12:06p/1:06p/ 2:20p/3:06p/4:43p/5:35p ♦ 50 seconds  
Taxes and spending, gambling and the environment are among some of the issues expected to dominate Virginia's General Assembly session that begins Wednesday afternoon. The big tax issue is whether Virginia should follow its usual practice of conforming to the federal tax code. Any action on that would have to happen quickly since taxpayers are preparing to file, but it has become controversial since the federal GOP tax bill that took effect in 2018 would lead to some higher state taxes for people taking a standard deduction.

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### **Ask the Governor**

January 30 • 10:05a • 54:00 minutes

Virginia Gov. Northam on road projects, teacher pay, shutdown impact, more - Speaking live on WTOP Wednesday, Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam said the four road projects announced Tuesday will help relieve some of Northern Virginia's worst traffic problems - and said the ball is in Maryland's court regarding the American Legion Bridge. A 3 percent pay raise for Virginia teachers is set to go into effect in July. Northam has proposed bumping that raise to 5 percent. While Republicans in the General Assembly broadly agree with the goal, the two sides have different ideas on how to pay for it. Northam said that 130,000 federal workers live in Virginia, and that roughly half of them didn't get paid during the shutdown. Northam said the controversy regarding made by Del. Kathy Tran on her late-term abortion bill was "overblown." Tran acknowledged during a hearing that her bill would allow abortions up until moments before birth. But existing state law already provides for abortions throughout the third trimester, if three doctors certify a woman's health would otherwise be substantially and irretrievably impaired. Northam reiterated his opposition to a Senate bill allowing guns in places of worship, saying, "This whole proliferation of guns is not the direction I would want to see Virginia go in. Virginia raised its age for tobacco from 18 to 21, and Northam said the tobacco industry recognized the problems posed by young smokers and vapers.

### **Northam says he is not person in racist yearbook photo, will not resign**

February 2 • Every hour 5:04a through 11:04p and overnight • 1:00

Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam says he "truly" does not believe he is the person in the racist yearbook photo that emerged Friday. He will not resign and is asking for the "opportunity to earn your forgiveness." Northam's statement to media came amid mounting pressure for him to relinquish the governorship, including from Virginia Democrats.

### **After calls for Northam resignation, Va. Dems hold off on Herring, Fairfax**

February 8 • Every hour 7:04a through 3:05p • 1:17

Several members of Virginia's congressional delegation agree that Gov. Ralph Northam should resign, but a statement they issued Thursday did not mention whether Attorney General Mark Herring or Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax should step down, as well. On Feb. 6, Herring admitted to putting on blackface in the 1980s when he was a college student. He has apologized. The delegation did not call for Herring's and Fairfax's resignation, but they said that they are talking with their constituents and will evaluate information as it becomes available.





### **School calendar debate shifts to Maryland House**

February 12 • 1:11p/ Every hour 2:06p through 11:06p • 45 seconds

Maryland's Senate has approved a bill that would let school districts set their calendars to open before Labor Day if they choose. Senate Bill 128 passed 31-13, with three absences recorded. Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, who instituted the post-Labor Day start to school with his 2016 executive order, announced at a news conference last week that he would work to make sure the current law remains in place.

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-  **Maryland lawmakers to debate who will oversee state’s alcohol laws**  
February 22 • 5:12a/ 6:12a/ 8:07a/ 9:07a/ 10:20a/ 11:52a • 50 seconds  
The day before state legislative committees were to hold hearings over who should be regulating Maryland’s alcohol industry, key players in the debate held dueling news conferences featuring a healthy dose of trash talking. On the side of the status quo, Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot, whose office oversees the state’s alcohol enforcement unit, told reporters that the proposed legislation is “reckless, costly and unnecessary.” Del. Warren Miller, a Republican whose district includes Howard and Carroll counties, and Sen. Ben Kramer, a Democrat from Montgomery County, are the key leaders of an effort to move alcohol regulation (along with tobacco and motor fuel) away from the comptroller’s office.
-  **DC Council votes to reprimand Jack Evans**  
March 19 • Every hour 12:04p through 11:04p and overnight • 50 seconds  
The D.C. Council voted unanimously to formally reprimand Council Member Jack Evans after allegations the longtime District lawmaker used his public office for personal gain. Going beyond the official reprimand, D.C. Council Chair Phil Mendelson also stripped Evans of his responsibilities on the powerful finance committee, specifically in the area of tax abatements. Evans was also removed from his position overseeing EventsDC and the Commission on Arts and Humanities. Evans, the council’s longest-serving member, has been under fire for weeks after reports emerged he used his government email to seek business opportunities with law firms that lobby the D.C. government.
-  **Hogan vetoes minimum wage hike, school start bill; Dems can override**  
March 27 • 6:10p/ Every hour, 7:05p through overnight • 43 seconds  
March 28 • 5:10a/ Every hour, 6:06a through 10:06a • 41 seconds  
Gov. Larry Hogan has vetoed a measure to raise Maryland’s minimum wage to \$15, as well as a measure to give local school boards the ability to decide whether school starts before or after Labor Day - but it’s unlikely to matter. The Republican governor announced the vetoes on Wednesday. He also vetoed a bill that would remove regulatory authority over alcohol, tobacco and gasoline from the Maryland comptroller’s office. Democrats who control the General Assembly will have time to attempt veto overrides before the legislative session ends April 8 at midnight.
-  **Md. governor, congressional delegation discuss BW Parkway’s future**  
March 29 • 5:05a/ 6:05a/ 7:05a/ 8:05a/ 9:10a/ 10:1a/ 11:20a • 46 seconds  
Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan and members of the state’s congressional delegation met in Annapolis to talk about federal issues of interest to the state, including the condition and future of the Baltimore Washington Parkway. Hogan recently wrote a letter to the members of the delegation urging them to support his efforts to have the state take over the road, saying conditions on the parkway had reached “a breaking point.” Referring to Hogan’s proposal to have Maryland modernize the parkway with toll lanes, Sen. Chris Van Hollen said, “The larger questions about the future of the whole corridor are something that we’ll continue to engage in conversations over.”

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### NATIONAL SECURITY

-  **EXCLUSIVE: Russian, Chinese espionage pose difficult challenge for FBI**  
January 4 • Every hour, 5:40a through 10:40a/ 12:40p/ 2:51p • 53 seconds  
Penetrating U.S. intelligence, American businesses and the nation's political system are the number one priorities for both Russia and China. Caught in a seemingly unending stream of ongoing spy scandals with the Kremlin - and a swell of Chinese espionage cases - the FBI appears to be facing its stiffest counterintelligence challenges in decades. These challenges, however, have already been underway for some time and didn't appear out of the blue, according to Nancy McNamara, the head of the Washington Field Office of the FBI.
  
-  **Family of American detained in Russia details 'strange' occurrences**  
January 10 • Every hour, 7:34a through 10:34 p • 48 seconds  
January 11 • 4:40p/ 7:40p • 2:30  
An American who was detained in Russia has now been formally charged with Espionage. Paul Whelan flew into Moscow on Dec. 22. He was there to attend the wedding of a fellow former Marine on Dec. 28. After participating in a tour of the Kremlin and the armory with the people who were attending the wedding, he just disappeared. David Whelan, Paul Whelan's twin brother, told WTOP how he found out the Michigan man was being detained in Russia, accused of espionage - and intelligence experts weigh in on why he might have been targeted.
  
-  **Pentagon can move forward with transgender limits**  
January 11 • 9:50a/ 10:35a/ 11:34a/ 12:34p through 8:34p • 43 seconds  
The Supreme Court rules the Pentagon can move forward with a plan to limit transgender military service while lawsuits continue. The Trump administration can go ahead with its plan to restrict military service by transgender men and women while court challenges continue, the Supreme Court said Tuesday. The high court split 5-4 in allowing the plan to take effect, with the court's five conservatives greenlighting it and its four liberal members saying they would not have. The order from the court was brief and procedural, with no elaboration from the justices.
  
-  **The Hunt: Recidivism, other issues facing US fight against terrorism**  
February 6 • 7:35p / February 9 • 12:35p • 2:06  
The U.S. has done a good job of locking up people who are convicted of terrorism. But on this week's edition of The Hunt, Lucinda Creighton, Senior Advisor to the Counter Extremism Project, says many of those people are going to get out of prison soon, creating a whole new problem for the U.S. Longform interview available on WTOP.com.



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-  **Analysis: With Maryland arrest, growing concerns about domestic terrorism**  
February 21 • Live Interview – latest on arrest at 2:31p • 2:45  
Every hour 3:31p through 11:31p and overnight • 56 seconds  
The arrest of Christopher Paul Hasson is a symptom of a shift in thinking inside the law enforcement community - that the most dangerous terror threats to the U.S. are extremists living here. For almost 20 years, deep, well-founded worries about international terrorists penetrating the homeland and launching massive, catastrophic attacks such as that of 9/11 have driven policies and practices. But now, there is profound concern that the most dangerous terror threats to the U.S. are people living here, with a variety of extremist views.
-  **EXCLUSIVE: Convicted Russian agent could be released in April**  
March 14 • Every hour 5:35a through 9:35a/ 12:35p • 52 seconds  
Maria Butina, 30, a Russian gun-rights enthusiast who pled guilty to a conspiracy charge as part of a Kremlin plot to infiltrate conservative U.S. political groups, could be released from jail next month and deported. In an exclusive interview with WTOP, the attorney for Russian gun-rights enthusiast Maria Butina says she could be released from prison as early as mid-April.
-  **The Hunt: The impact of the New Zealand terror attack**  
March 20 • 7:35p/ March 23 • 12:35p • 2:11  
The terror attack in New Zealand that claimed 50 lives is troubling on many levels to security experts around the world. In this week's edition of The Hunt with WTOP's National Security Correspondent J.J. Green, the president of Security One Solutions, Bruce Alexander, describes the problem.
-  **Trump didn't coordinate with Russia in 2016, report declares**  
March 22 • Live 5:31p • 4:00 / Every hour 6:04p through overnight • 50 seconds  
March 23 • 5:04a through 1:04p • 47 seconds  
March 24 • 10:10a/ 1:10p • 1:54 / Every hour 5:30a through 6:30p • 1:49  
After 2 years of investigating, Robert Mueller has turned over his Russia report to the Justice Department. Special counsel Robert Mueller did not find evidence that President Donald Trump's campaign "conspired or coordinated" with Russia to influence the 2016 presidential election but reached no conclusion on whether Trump obstructed justice, Attorney General William Barr declared Sunday. That brought a hearty claim of vindication from Trump but set the stage for new rounds of political and legal fighting. Trump cheered the outcome but also laid bare his resentment after two years of investigations that have shadowed his administration. "It's a shame that our country has had to go through this. To be honest, it's a shame that your president has had to go through this," he said. Democrats pointed out that Mueller found evidence for and against obstruction and demanded to see his full report. They insisted that even the summary by the president's attorney general hardly put him in the clear.

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### **ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION**

#### **I-66 tolls turn 1 year old. Are they working?**

January 4 • 3:05p/ 4:21p/ 5:24p/ 6:12p/ 7:50p/ 9:40p/ 10:41p/ 11:40p/ overnight • 40 seconds  
An average of 13,946 vehicles with at least two total people inside and an E-ZPass Flex in HOV mode have used the road each day during the expanded hours and an average of 18,279 vehicles pay a toll each weekday, a Department of Transportation review of the first year with the new rules said. Driving alone each way at rush hour on Interstate 66 inside the Beltway during newly expanded HOV hours cost an average of \$12.59 in the first year of tolls for solo drivers, a policy Virginia transportation officials say helped move more people through the congested corridor.

#### **Va. Gov. Ralph Northam, GOP lawmakers agree on plan to toll I-81**

January 8 • 11:22a/ 12:21p/ 1:06p/ 2:22p/ 3:22p/ 4:22p/ 5:22p/ 7:22p • 43 seconds  
Virginia will put tolls on Interstate 81 to fund a series of upgrades meant to address intermittent hours-long traffic jams that can seemingly strike at random. Gov. Ralph Northam and Republican lawmakers representing the I-81 corridor announced their support Tuesday for tolling rather than a regional gas tax that was also considered. The legislative proposal that's expected to be approved in the short session beginning Wednesday would set limits on toll prices and provide for a discounted annual pass for cars that would allow unlimited use of the highway.

#### **Purple Line lawsuit is over - but still causing problems**

January 10 • 10:21a/ 11:06a/ 12:21p/ 1:22p/ 2:35p/ 3:52p • 44 seconds

January 11 • 5:20a/ 6:20a/ 8:21a/ 9:21a • 40 seconds

More than a year after construction began on the Purple Line, a lawsuit that initially halted the light-rail project is still causing problems. Project leaders said they are struggling to make up for lost time. Construction started in August 2017. It was scheduled to get underway long before that, but was delayed as Maryland transportation officials successfully fought a federal lawsuit that had been filed by project opponents. Thursday's forum followed reports that the opening of the Purple Line could be far behind schedule, possibly opening in February 2023 or even later.






#### **DC mayor vetoes bill decriminalizing fare evasion on Metro**

January 17 • 5:06a/ 6:06a/ 7:06a/ 8:06a/ 9:06a/ 10:23a • 43 seconds

The move follows the D.C. Council's approval of the bill in a 10-2 vote last month. It would make evasion a civil offense, subject to a fine of up to \$50. Currently a criminal offense, fare evaders face arrest, jail time and a significantly higher fine. Mayor Bowser said the bill could encourage lawlessness and be financially damaging to Metro.





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-  **New DC signs banning right turns on red to go up starting Feb. 19**  
February 5 • 10:21a/ 11:06a/12:06p/ 1:06p /2:22p/ • 43 seconds  
February 11 • 4:52p/ 6:52p/ 7:21p/ 8:50p/ 9:22p/ 10:51p/ 11:11p/ overnight • 45 seconds  
“No right turn on red” signs will start going up in dozens of new D.C. locations starting February 19, as long as weather permits. The District Department of Transportation is banning right turns on red at about 100 new intersections throughout the city, and the signs will be installed over the next six months by the end of July. The effort supports Mayor Muriel Bowser’s Vision Zero Initiative that was launched in 2016, aimed at eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries in the nation’s capital by 2024.
-  **GW Parkway pothole patching set for Presidents Day**  
February 16 • 5:50a/ 6:22a/7:22a/ 8:43a/ 9:22a/ 10:51a/ 11:12a • 45 seconds  
More than 33 million people drive the gentle curves of the George Washington Parkway along the steep banks of the Potomac River every year. The northern section of the scenic byway, which opened in 1962, is showing its age, with this winter’s temperature swings causing an outbreak of potholes and road divots. While many workers will get a holiday weekend, essential crews will be on duty and doing their best to patch road damage.
-  **BW Parkway, one of DC area’s worst roads for potholes, finally gets patch-up**  
February 25 • 1:52p • 23 seconds / Every 10 minutes during live traffic • 20 seconds  
Crews are working today to repair part of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway between Maryland Route 197 and Maryland Route 198, which for weeks has been riddled with potholes and deteriorated pavement. Part of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway has been terrorizing drivers for weeks with it’s potholes and deteriorated pavement. The WTOP Traffic Center has been hearing from listeners for days about their concerns over swerving and suddenly breaking to avoid the damage. It’s unclear how long the repairs will take.
-  **Officials try to improve BW Parkway as drivers dodge damaging potholes**  
March 5 • 1:20p/ 2:11p/ 3:21p/ 4:22p/ 5:12p/ 7:50p/ 9:51p/ 10:14p / overnight • 46 seconds  
It doesn’t take long for drivers on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway to come across massive potholes that could cause serious damage to their vehicle. And speeding along the uneven roadway also puts others in danger. To promote safe driving, the National Park Service has lowered the speed limit from 55 mph to 40 mph on a stretch of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. It’s a step toward improving conditions on the busy, pothole-riddled parkway.
-  **Bumpy stretch of BW Parkway remains ‘absolute nightmare’**  
March 11 • Every hour, 12:05p through overnight • 46 seconds  
A bumpy and damaged stretch of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway in Laurel, Maryland, remains a major problem for drivers even after the speed limit was lowered to make things safer. Earlier this month, the National Park Service said it was reducing the parkway’s speed limit from 55 mph to 40 mph between Maryland routes 197 and 32. However, helicopter footage from Monday morning showed the conditions may be worse than they have ever been.

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-  **Cone Zone: Updates on work zones in DC, Maryland and Virginia**  
March 15 • Every hour 5:06a to 9:12a/11:12a • 51 seconds  
Where in the D.C. area will your commute be slowed by work zones? Hundreds of road repairs and upgrades are happening far and wide across our region. Some projects are sprawling while others are more subtle. If you're wondering about a work zone that's holding up your commute let us know about it.
-  **10-foot sinkhole: Northbound GW Parkway to remain closed through weekend**  
March 22 • Live 1:10p • 3:00 / Every hour, 9:05a through overnight • 45 seconds  
The northbound lanes of a major stretch of the George Washington Parkway in Virginia will remain closed through the weekend as road crews and engineers assess a large sinkhole that opened up underneath the road following heavy rain Thursday night. The closures affect all of the northbound lanes of the parkway between the Capital Beltway and Virginia Route 123. Jonathan Schaffer from the National Park Service joined WTOP live
-  **Emergency pothole repairs set for BW Parkway, Md. senator says**  
March 27 • Every hour 12:04p through 11:05p • 44 seconds  
March 31 • Every hour 8:04a through 1:04p / 3:50p/ 4:50p • 50  
Chris Van Hollen told WTOP Wednesday that contracting to repair the potholes will soon begin. It follows a meeting that the Maryland Democrat had recently with the National Park Service to discuss the situation. In a statement Wednesday afternoon, the National Park Service said it will close portions for the parkway for two nights this weekend for enhanced patching: From 7:30 p.m. Friday to 5 a.m. Saturday, the southbound parkway will be closed from Maryland routes 198 to 197. From 7:30 p.m. Saturday to 5 a.m. Sunday, the northbound lanes on that same section will be closed.
-  **After 13-hour shutdown, lanes reopen on Inner Loop at American Legion Bridge**  
March 28 & 29 • *Special update*, Every hour 2:04p through 3:04a • 1:00  
Updates every 10 minutes during live traffic reports on the 8's • 2:00  
After a horrific traffic backup that shut the Inner Loop of the Capital Beltway for more than 13 hours on Thursday, area drivers managed a normal morning commute. Lanes reopened on the Inner Loop on the American Legion Bridge just before 3 a.m. Friday after a tanker-truck overturned around 1:50 p.m. Thursday, closing lanes for hours and snarling traffic all over the D.C. area just before the evening rush hour.

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### **CRIME**



#### **Man sentenced for 2016 Prince George's Co. police station attack**

January 10 • 6:07p/ 7:07p/ 8:07p/ 9:07p/ 10:07p • 55 seconds

January 11 • 5:10a/ 6:12a/ 8:12a/ 9:13a/ 11:20a • 56 seconds

The man who opened fire on a Prince George's County police station in 2016, leading to the death of police officer Jacai Colson, has been sentenced to 195 years in prison. A jury last fall convicted 25-year-old Michael Ford of second-degree murder and other charges in the death of 28-year-old Jacai Colson, who was shot by a fellow officer during the melee at the Landover, Maryland, police station. Before the judge, Ford apologized to the Colson family and to the community, saying he couldn't think clearly because of mental health issues which went untreated. However, Judge Lawrence Hill said the ripple effect caused by Ford's actions could not be quantified.



#### **4 life sentences without parole in DC mansion murder killings**

February 1 • Every hour, 12:06p through 11:06p and overnight • 59 seconds

Daron Wint has been sentenced to four life sentences without the possibility of release in the D.C. deaths of Savvas, Amy and Philip Savopoulos and Vera Figueroa. The judge cited the "incomprehensible suffering" of the victims. That is the harshest penalty Daron Wint could face in the District, and the sentence sought by prosecutors. Wint was convicted last fall of four counts of first-degree premeditated murder in the deaths of Savvas and Amy Savopoulos; their 10-year-old son, Philip; and Vera Figueroa, the family's housekeeper. Firefighters discovered their bodies inside the family's burning Northwest mansion in May 2015. Wint was also convicted of a slew of other counts, including burglary, arson and extortion.



#### **Man charged with stabbing DC runner to death found not competent**

February 12 • 4:05p/ 5:05p/ 6:05p/ 7:04p/ 8:06p/ 9:20p/ 10:06p/ 11:20p • 40 seconds

The man charged with fatally stabbing a D.C. woman last September as she was out for an evening run has been deemed temporarily not competent to move forward with court proceedings. A mental health screening for 23-year-old Anthony Crawford was ordered at a hearing last week, and the determination that he was not competent at this time was made Tuesday, a spokesman with the U.S. Attorney's Office in D.C. told WTOP.



#### **Army staff sergeant convicted of murdering his wife, Prince William Co. police officer sentenced to 2 consecutive life terms**

March 7 • 12:35p/ 2:05p/ 3:20p/ 4:05p/ 5:05p/ 6:20p/ 7:06p/ 8:21p/ 9:05p/10:05p • 40 seconds

The Army staff sergeant convicted of capital murder for killing his wife and rookie Prince William County police officer Ashley Guindon three years ago was formally sentenced Thursday to two consecutive life sentences. Ronald Hamilton apologized in a letter to the judge saying he failed to keep his vow as a husband and father and that he prays everyday for people affected by his actions. In February of 2016, police responded to a domestic at Hamilton's Woodbridge home where he'd shot his wife. He killed Guindon and injured two other officers with an AK-47.



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-  **Prince George's Co. police officer indicted on assault charges**  
March 7 • 4:05p/5:06p/ 6:06p/ 7:35p/ 8:05p/ 9:35p/ 10:05p/ 11:40p • 46 seconds  
A Prince George's County police officer has been indicted on assault and misconduct in office charges. He is accused of repeatedly punching a man during an October arrest in Temple Hills, Maryland. Cpl. Stephen Downey, who is white, punched the handcuffed man, who is black, "numerous times" after the officer had put a seat belt on him in the front seat of a police cruiser, according to Prince George's County State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy. Downey had been responding to a call at a CVS pharmacy, she said during a news conference Thursday afternoon.
-  **Man on FBI's Most Wanted list arrested by Prince George's Co. police**  
March 7 • Every hour 3:04p through 11:04p and overnight • 1:00  
A man on the FBI's Most Wanted list has been arrested by Prince George's County police. Lamont Stephenson, 43, was arrested Thursday in Prince George's County, local and federal law enforcement sources confirmed to WTOP. Stephenson was wanted since 2014 on charges he murdered of his fiancée in New Jersey. He also allegedly killed her dog in the attack. According to Prince George's County Police Chief Hank Stawinski, Stephenson is believed to have been living in the D.C. area since fleeing New Jersey to avoid prosecution. Additionally, multiple sources tell WTOP's Megan Cloherty that Stephenson is also connected to the deadly stabbing of a woman in her D.C. apartment on Wednesday.
-  **Supreme Court to consider new Va. Sentencings for Beltway sniper Lee Boyd Malvo**  
March 18 • 10:04a/ Every hour 12:05p through 11:05p and overnight • 46 seconds  
The United States Supreme Court will consider whether younger Beltway sniper Lee Boyd Malvo should be resentenced in Virginia, where he received four convictions, and was sentenced to life in prison, with no chance of parole. The High Court announced Monday that Malvo's case will be heard during its October term. Malvo was 17 years old in 2002, when he and John Allen Muhammad killed 10 strangers in a sniper spree that spanned three weeks, leaving victims in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.
-  **Prince George's Co. man linked to 3 sex assaults arrested**  
March 21 • 5:06p/ Every hour 6:04p to 11:04p and overnight • 1:04  
March 22 • 5:04a/6:04a/ 7:05a/ 8:07a • 49 seconds  
A New Carrollton, Maryland, man has been arrested and charged in connection with three sexual assaults that happened over 14 years. Two of his victims were Howard University students at the time, and police are concerned there are more victims. Julian Everett, 35, posed as a Howard University student for two of the attacks and lured his victims using social media unofficially affiliated with the university, Prince George's County police Chief Henry Stawinski said Thursday.

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-  **Man convicted in Charlottesville rally car attack pleads guilty to hate crimes**  
March 27 • 4:10p/ 5:05p/ 6:11p/ 7:06p/ 8:13p/ 9:04p/ 10:13p • 33 seconds  
James Alex Fields Jr., the man convicted in the deadly car attack at a Charlottesville white nationalist rally, pleads guilty to federal hate crime charges.  
Fields, 21, was convicted in December of first-degree murder and other state charges for killing anti-racism activist Heather Heyer and injuring dozens of others.
-  **8 life sentences given in killing of Reston teen**  
March 28 • 1:06p/ 3:06p/ 4:11p/ 5:11p/ 6:20p/ 7:11p/ 8:21p/ 9:06p/ 11:06p • 53 seconds  
A Sterling, Virginia, man receives eight life sentences in the abduction, rape and killing of a 17-year-old Reston girl. Darwin Martinez-Torres attacked 17-year-old Nabra Hassanen in June 2017 as she was walking back to a mosque with friends after a pre-dawn fast food meal ahead of Ramadan services. A Fairfax County judge sentenced Martinez-Torres to eight life sentences for Hassanen's murder, rape and abduction.

### **BUSINESS**

-  **CBS restored for Verizon FIOS customers**  
January 3 • 7:20p.m., Every hour, 8:50p.m. through overnight • 44 seconds  
January 4 • Every hour, 5:12 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. • 44 seconds  
The channel blackout, which affected an estimated million viewers, began Tuesday. An earlier Verizon statement said it centered on Tegna's proposed rate increase. Tegna, the owner of WUSA-TV (Ch. 9), and Verizon announced the deal Thursday evening and will return the channel to customers of its Fios. The deal means Sunday's Chargers-Ravens wild card game will air on Channel 9.
-  **Johns Hopkins buys Newseum building for \$373M**  
January 25 • Every hour, 12:25 p.m. through overnight • 15 seconds  
Johns Hopkins University is buying the Pennsylvania Avenue home of the Newseum for \$372.5 million, allowing Johns Hopkins to consolidate and expand its local academic facilities into a single building. The Newseum will remain open to the public at its current location through 2019. The new space will be used for current and future research, education and engagement, Johns Hopkins said in a statement. For the financially struggling museum it means much needed funding for its owner, the Freedom Forum, that will enable it to search for a new location in the Washington area.

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-  **Google to double its Virginia workforce**  
February 14 • 8:55a/10:25a /2:25p/ Every hour, 3:55p through overnight • 15 seconds  
Google said it will invest \$13 billion throughout 2019 in data centers and offices across the U.S., with major expansions in 14 states, including Virginia. Google already has a large presence in Reston. In 2017, it announced plans for a big data center expansion in Northern Virginia after acquiring land in Loudoun County. As of Wednesday evening, Google had hundreds of job openings in Reston posted online. It is unclear what, if any, incentives the tech giant is getting from Virginia or Fairfax County for its local expansion.
-  **Hilton named by Fortune as best company to work for; 6 local businesses make list**  
February 14 • 9:25a/11:55a/12:25p/1:25p/ 5:55p through overnight • 20 seconds  
Hilton, based in McLean, is among seven Maryland and Virginia companies to make Fortune's list. The company, which has more than 5,400 managed and franchised properties in 106 countries, climbed 32 spots since last year's list. Six other companies in the D.C. area also made the list: No. 29: Navy Federal Credit Union in Vienna, Virginia; No. 31: Marriott International Inc. in Bethesda, Maryland; No. 33: CarMax in Richmond, Virginia; No. 39: Capital One Financial Corp. in McLean, Virginia; No. 86: Custom Ink in Fairfax, Virginia; No. 98: Mars Inc. in McLean, Virginia
-  **Sports betting coming to dc**  
February 19 • Every hour, 12:06p to 4:06p • 42 seconds/ Live 1:40p • 3:02  
Every hour, 5:52p through overnight • 1:00  
The D.C. Council gave final approval to a bill that puts sports betting on the fast track. The D.C. Lottery will assume the role of being the city's sole operator of gaming. D.C. joins a handful of states that legalized sports betting following a Supreme Court decision to end a federal ban on the practice.
-  **AT&T, Time Warner merger ok'd by U.S. appeals court**  
February 26 • 10:55a/1:55p/6:36p/6:55p/7:55p/8:36p/8:55p through overnight • 30 seconds  
February 27 • 5:25a/7:25a • 19 seconds  
A federal appeals court on Tuesday cleared AT&T's takeover of Time Warner, rejecting the Trump administration's claims that the \$81 billion deal will harm consumers and reduce competition in the TV industry. The ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington came in the high-stakes competition case, approving one of the biggest media marriages ever. It was completed last spring, soon after a federal trial judge approved it.
-  **The former Greene Turtle at Capital One Arena to become sports betting location**  
March 27 • Every half hour, 12:45p to 11:45p through overnight • 30 seconds  
Washington Capitals & Wizards owner Ted Leonsis says the Green Turtle bar inside Capital One Arena will turn into a sportsbook. Will be able to enter from outside, or inside depending on sport. It will have an operator that will create distance between team ownership. The Turtle accepted an early lease buyout from Monumental Sports and Entertainment and will close the 12-year-old arena location at the end of the Washington Wizards' regular season on April 9, with a pop-up lounge remaining open through postseason Wizards and Capitals home games.



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### EDUCATION


-  **Virginia teachers rally for more education funding**  
January 28 ♦ 12:35p/ 1:34p/ 4:34p/ 5:21p/ Every hour 6:07p through 11:07p ♦ 42 seconds  
Teachers from around Virginia gathered Monday in Richmond for a large demonstration as educators, students, parents and other community members demanded more money dedicated to education. The schedule included a stop at Richmond’s Monroe Park and a rally in front of the state’s Capitol building. “We are marching and rallying to get more public education funding in the commonwealth of Virginia,” said Kevin Hickerson, president of the Fairfax Education Association. More than 50 members from Hickerson’s union made the trip there.
-  **After scandals, Virginia schools must address racism, state superintendent says**  
February 25 ♦ 4:20p/ 6:05p/ 8:05p ♦ 34 seconds  
With Virginia’s governor trying to move past a racist photo in his medical school yearbook, the state’s superintendent of public instruction has now sent a message to all Virginia school systems calling on them to address racism and bigotry. The letter from James Lane calls Northam and Attorney General Mark Herring’s actions “unacceptable and hurtful”. Herring admits to going to a college party in blackface. He dressed up as rapper Kurtis Blow. The superintendent’s letter also pushed for consequences for racially insensitive activities, such as an Underground Railroad exercise at a Loudoun County school.
-  **Montgomery Co. Council to act on resolution on lead in water**  
February 26 ♦ 6:05a/ 7:11a/ 8:06a/ 9:06a/ 10:04a/ 11:04a/ 12:04p/ 1:06p ♦ 48 seconds  
The level of lead in the water that feeds into school buildings in Maryland remains a concern. Now school leaders are doing more to tackle the issue. The Montgomery County Council will be taking up a resolution on lowering acceptable levels of lead in water in the county school system. A public hearing on the issue is set for March 19. Anne Arundel school systems continue to test for lead. The latest results, according to a report in the Capital Gazette, show unacceptable levels in five percent of the tested outlets since March of last year. The testing will continue through July 1.
-  **Georgetown named in sweeping college admissions cheating scandal**  
March 12 ♦ Every hour 12:04p to 11:04p and overnight ♦ 45 seconds to 1:00  
Fifty people, including Hollywood stars Felicity Huffman and Lori Loughlin, were charged Tuesday in a scheme in which wealthy parents allegedly bribed college coaches and other insiders to get their children into some of the nation’s most elite schools. Federal authorities called it the biggest college admissions scam ever prosecuted by the U.S. Justice Department, with the parents accused of paying an estimated \$25 million in bribes. The racketeering conspiracy charges were unsealed Tuesday against the coaches at schools including Wake Forest University, Georgetown and the University of Southern California.

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-  **Va. among 21 states failing to keep lead out of school water; DC, Md. improve**  
March 22 ♦ 5:11a/ 6:12a/ 7:07a/ 8:13a/ 10:42a/ ♦ 54 seconds  
This week, a new report has given Virginia and 21 other states a failing grade for their efforts in keeping lead out of the water used to drink and cook at schools. The Environment America Research and Policy Center and U.S. Public Interest Rights Group report “Get the Lead Out” gave Maryland a C after earning an F in the report two years ago and gave D.C. a B+, an improvement from a B in 2017.
-  **DC sues 7, charging school residency fraud; seeks \$700,000**  
March 27 ♦ 1:10p / 2:11p/ 3:10p/ 4:33p/ 5:11p/ 6:07p/ 7:13p/ 8:06p ♦ 48 seconds  
DC is filing suit against three families it says intentionally ripped off the city's school system. DC's Attorney general says they lied about living in Maryland to send their kids to city schools tuition-free. The statement from Attorney General Karl Racine's office also says one parent committed fraud to receive public benefits. Nonresident tuition at D.C. public schools ranges from \$10,000 to \$14,000 a year, Racine's office said in the statement, but even then, D.C. residents on a particular school's waiting list get priority.
-  **Maryland schools can once again open before Labor Day following veto override**  
March 29 ♦ 1:05p/ 2:06p/ 3:06p/ 4:06p/ 5:06p/ 6:12p/ 7:12p/ 8:21p ♦ 50 seconds  
School boards across the state of Maryland WILL get the chance to decide when classes resume after summer vacation. This after the Maryland House of Delegates overrides Gov. Larry Hogan's veto of a measure which gives local districts more control over their calendars. The senate overrode the Republican governor's veto on Thursday. This is defeat for Hogan who issued an executive order in 2016 to have schools start after Labor day - a move he claims helps tourism in the state.

### WEATHER ALERTS

-  **First snowstorm in months likely this weekend; impacts moderate**  
January 11 ♦ Every hour 10:04 am through overnight ♦ 44 seconds  
Updates every 10 minutes on the 8's  
The first snowstorm the D.C. area has seen since November looks ready to begin Saturday in the early afternoon. Winter storm warnings have been posted for parts of the area from 10 a.m. Saturday until 1 p.m. Sunday in Fauquier, Prince William and Stafford counties in Virginia and Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties in Maryland. Potential accumulations are looking like 4 to 7 inches for most of the D.C. area, Storm Team4 Meteorologist Doug Kammerer said Friday afternoon.

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-  **First snow of the year brings closings, and nasty road conditions**  
January 13 & 14 • Every hour 12:04p through 9:04a • 50 seconds  
The D.C. region endured its first major snowstorm of 2019, bringing with it rounds of closures and icy road conditions. Most schools in the WTOP listening area had announced they'd be closed Monday on account of the snow. Federal offices in the D.C. region would also be closed Monday, the Office of Personnel Management announced Sunday night. Metro suspended all services on bus and rail and Dulles International briefly had a ground stop.
-  **Subzero wind chills make for sunny, blustery MLK Day**  
January 21 • Every half hour 5:04a through 1:31p • 43 seconds  
Weather updates every 10 minutes throughout the day  
Those attending Martin Luther King Jr. Day events around the Tidal Basin Monday should prepare to bundle up. Although plenty of sun is in store for Monday, high temperatures probably won't break out of the teens until Tuesday. It'll feel even colder with wind chills in the negatives across most of the area. According to the National Weather Service, American University observed a wind chill of negative 13 degrees just before 8 a.m. on Monday.
-  **With another round of winter weather on the way, DC-area crews preparing**  
February 19 • 11:20a/ Every hour 1:05p through 7:06p • 46 seconds  
Crews across the D.C. area are expecting a few challenges as more winter weather approaches, but transportation officials say their main priority is making sure roadways are properly treated, and have a common message for would-be drivers. Charlie Gischlar, with the Maryland State Highway Administration, told WTOP they've been preparing for the winter weather heading our way since last week. Ellen Kamilakis, with the Virginia Department of Transportation, said crews have gotten a head start treating many of the roadways, but the main challenge will be traffic tie-ups, which could slow down efforts to keep the roads clear.
-  **Snowstorm's aftermath: Power outages throughout Virginia**  
February 21 • Every hour 5:05a through 11:05a • 20 seconds  
A day after the D.C. area was blanketed in snow and then had a wintry mix fall upon it, some parts of the region experienced power outages in the storm's aftermath. Power was knocked out Thursday morning for hundreds in Northern Virginia. Crews said it was due to downed power lines and hoped to have power restored late in the morning. The power outages in Spotsylvania County affected several schools, causing public schools in the county to close.
-  **2019 DC cherry blossom peak bloom prediction dates announced**  
March 6 • 10:10a/ 11:04a/ 12:04p/ 1:04p/ 2:06p/ 3:06p/ 4:13p/ 5:13p/ 6:20p • 51 seconds  
It's a quintessential sign of spring's imminence: D.C.'s beloved cherry blossoms blooming along the Tidal Basin. The Yoshino cherry trees are predicted to reach peak bloom between April 3 to 6, The National Park Service announced Wednesday morning. "The development of the cherry blossoms are dependent on the weather," said an NPS spokesman. "Regardless of when the blooms open, we have a full month of flowers and festivities to look forward to during the National Cherry Blossom Festival."

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### **Cherry blossom peak bloom predicted to be earlier than anticipated**

March 26 • 1:07p/ 2:06p/ 3:06p/4:06/ 5:06p/ 6:20p • 23 seconds

The peak bloom for the cherry blossoms along D.C.'s Tidal Basin has been pushed up to April 1, the National Park Service tweeted Tuesday. Warm weather is bringing the cherry blossoms to their peak a few days earlier than originally anticipated. The peak bloom is when 70 percent of the cherry blossoms surrounding the Tidal Basin are open. The peak bloom had been predicted for April 3 to April 6.

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### **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

WTOP broadcast 28 public service campaigns 1,957 times between January 1 and March 31 at various times of day. Each announcement was 30 or 60 seconds.

- 🎧 Al Anon
- 🎧 American Academy of Physician Assistants – Your PA can
- 🎧 Antibiotics Awareness (CDC)
- 🎧 BestFriends.org
- 🎧 CASA of Prince George’s County
- 🎧 Casey Cares
- 🎧 Children’s Miracle Network
- 🎧 Code of Support
- 🎧 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) National Capital Area
- 🎧 D.A.R.E. – Opioid RX prevention
- 🎧 Easterseals – Bright Stars
- 🎧 FCAG – Summer camp fair
- 🎧 Geico Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington
- 🎧 Kars 4 Kids Mentor Program
- 🎧 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – LLS Ball
- 🎧 Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic Walk for Wishes
- 🎧 March of Dimes March for Babies
- 🎧 Math Festival (Mathematical Sciences Research Institute)
- 🎧 National Cryptologic Museum
- 🎧 Newseum Free School Admission Program
- 🎧 Poison Help Line
- 🎧 Sepsis (Get ahead of Sepsis - CDC)
- 🎧 Sisters 4 Fitness
- 🎧 Toyota – Takota Airbag recall
- 🎧 Veterans History Project (Library of Congress)
- 🎧 Washington Literacy Center
- 🎧 The Women’s Center
- 🎧 World Wildlife Fund