

QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT

WNBW-TV

Third Quarter 2018

Date: October 5th, 2018

Submitted To: WNBW Public File

Re: WNBW-TV Quarterly Issues Report
Covering the period of July 1, 2018
through September 30, 2018

WNBW QUARTERLY ISSUES

Third Quarter 2018

Through informal ascertainment by written and oral communication with community members, it was determined that among the concerns of the Gainesville Community at-large were the following issues:

Crime

Education

Consumer Information

Health

Weather

Consumer Safety

WNBW-TV QUARTERLY ISSUES

Issue: Consumer Information

Program: Alachua County Talks

Type of Program: Public Affairs half hour weekly

Airdate: Sundays, Third Quarter 2018
July 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018

Airtime: Sundays, 5:30am plus various other available
times throughout the quarter

Duration: 30 minutes

Description: This weekly program is a locally produced discussion
program concerning various issues in the community
and county. It features people from our community who
are involved in bettering our lives and those who live
here.

WNBW-TV QUARTERLY ISSUES

Issue: Local Crime

Program: Gainesville Police Department on Duty

Type of Program: Locally produced half hour with Police Department

Airdate: Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays
Third Quarter 2018 July 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018

Airtime: Saturdays, 5:00am, Sundays, Mondays & Tuesdays
6:00am plus various other times available throughout the quarter.

Duration: 30 Minutes

Description: In cooperation with the Gainesville Police Department, we air this locally-produced show featuring current day-to-day problems that face this local law agency.

WNBW-TV QUARTERLY ISSUES

Issue: Community Public Affairs

Program: Ilene Silverman Show

Type of Program: Public Affairs

Airdate: Sundays Third Quarter 2018
July 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018

Airtime: 6:30am and various other times when available

Duration: 30 Minutes

Description: Ilene Silverman is a locally produced public affairs program which covers a wide array of community issues, including health, community events and community programs benefitting our citizens.

WNBW-TV QUARTERLY ISSUES

Issues: Crime/Health/Consumer Information/Political/
Education/Weather/Safety/Environment

Program: CBS4 News on NBC9

Type of Program: Daily half hour local News program

Airdate: Monday-Friday, Third Quarter 2018
July 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018

Airtime: 6pm and 11pm

Duration: 30 Minutes

Description: See attached for details on specific issues covered
throughout the quarter

Issue: Crime

Aug. 15

The woman who the Bradford County Sheriff's Office has dubbed the "gravesite grinch" has been sentenced.

Jenni Hudkins is known for stealing items from gravesites in Bradford county last December.

The families affected say no matter what the sentence is, it will not fix the emotional damage that was caused to them last Christmas.

"The day we went out and discovered everything was gone, the kids were with us," said Crystal Plemons whose items were stolen from her best friend's grave. "That's all they kept saying was, 'How could someone steal our stuff that we put for Aunt Jessica?' And I had no idea what to say to them." From plastic flowers to heavy cement memorabilia, Hudkins had no preference.

"My cousin called and said the bench was gone," said Alice Knapp, whose cement bench was stolen from her cousin's grave. "And I said, 'The bench from Tammy's grave?' And it was a heavy bench, it was a Florida Gator bench."

To Knapp, this item was special. Knapp said her aunt would not go visit her daughter's grave because she had nowhere to sit. When Knapp brought in the bench, she brought her family back together.

"I bought the bench, brought her out here and showed her and she just cried." Knapp said. "She was so happy. Her and I would come out here, cry together, laugh together, clean it up together. It's a part of our family. That's what we do."

Major Brad Smith of the Bradford County Sheriff's Office said 13 victims have been identified, but there are still items that have never been claimed. He thinks there are more victims out there who never reported losses or never noticed.

"This is something that really hit a lot of people at home," Smith said. "Deep down in their soul, at a time when they're trying to celebrate someone's life, they're having to be revictimized and suffering more emotional stress."

Authorities said Hudkins was feeding her prescription drug addiction by selling the items, no matter how small they were. Thefts totaled around \$1,000.

Hudkins has been sentenced to three years in prison and two years of drug offender probation.

Victims like Knapp said acts like these really do hurt, but she also hopes this instance will give Hudkins the help she really needs.

"She's still young enough to turn her life around, and it can happen," Knapp said. "And that is what my prayer is for her today, is that she turns her life around."

Sept. 5

Alachua County Sheriff's deputies say they've arrested a 16-year-old girl after she pointed an unloaded gun and threatened a student inside Buchholz High School.

Deputies say the student, who withdrew from the school last year, went on campus today before lunch with the sole purpose of confronting the 17-year-old victim, who is a student.

Here's what happened next, according to the sheriff's office: The suspect confronted the victim, took an unloaded, 9 mm handgun out of her backpack and pointed it at the victim while saying something to the effect of, "I'm going to shoot you."

Deputies say the victim was able to defuse the situation and went to class. The suspect went to the clinic where deputies say she was behaving strangely. The school resource officer arrived and deputies say the

suspect acted nervous and told the officer there was a gun in her backpack. After the deputy secured the gun and was escorting the suspect to the office, deputies say she started fighting the deputy and had to be taken to the patrol car instead. She was taken to the Juvenile Assessment Center and charged with multiple felonies.

Deputies say they don't know yet who the gun belonged to.

Sept. 24

The Gainesville Police Department is searching for the person who broke in the St. Augustine Catholic Church Friday.

After smashing a brick through a window, the vandal damaged and broke multiple religious items inside the church and did not steal anything.

A University of Florida student came in Friday morning to pray and saw the destruction inside the sanctuary. The student called Pastor David Ruchinski who is calling this 'an act of hate.'

"It's pretty shocking," Ruchinski said. "It's not the way you wanted to be awoken in the morning and it's just hard to think that somebody would do this to a church any church."

GPD spokesmen Ben Tobias said the sanctuary was 'tore a part.'

Police said there was about \$1,500 dollars in damages.

"The damages that were done will far outweigh any price you could put on it," Tobias said

One UF Sophomore who is involved in the church said he was shocked when he heard the news. "My reaction was anger and horror," Evan Cowie said. "They didn't steal anything which you would expect from a thief. This is someone who very deliberately went after what we believe."

Ruchinski said he is grateful for the outpouring of support from the community, and the help from the church.

"Immediately we just kicked into action and we had students that were here Friday who were cleaning up and putting things back in order," Ruchinski said.

There are currently no suspects identified but GPD is asking for your help identifying the suspect. If you have any information call Crime Stoppers at 352-372-STOP.

Issue: Education

July 13

Academics are usually the last thing on a kid's mind over their summer break, but at a recreational summer camp, there is an unsuspected educational program that has kids getting excited.

At the Porter's Community Center summer camp through the City of Gainesville, many campers talk about how they enjoy the new program I-Read within their day. To them, there is something different about these books that's attractive and grabs their attention at a first glance.

"They're not used to seeing books with faces like them. So sometimes the pictures mesmerize them," said Chauncy Walker, a recreational aid.

The goal of this new program, I-Read, is to provide minority campers with material that directly relates to their lives. The books contain characters that look and feel the way they do.

"Most of the textbooks that are currently in our school system really don't identify with the culture of a lot of kids who are actually struggling readers," said Gerard Duncan, president of Innovative Dads. "We felt like books that would give them the image of seeing themselves would be more attractive."

The program is a partnership between Innovative Dads, Gainesville Thrives and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

I-Read focuses mainly on African American literature that's age appropriate for elementary students.

"Kids will spend eight hours a day playing Xbox, but not eight minutes doing academic things so we can put books in front of kids that are different than other books," said Ben Dillard, PRCA recreational

supervisor. "They're culturally sensitive and kids can see things that are familiar with them and then hopefully that will peak their interest. "

I-Read is first being tested out at PRCA's summer camps, but after seeing such a great reaction from the kids, they are hoping to add it to after school programs in the fall.

July 24

Alachua County Public Schools is expanding its free meals program to 14 schools.

The program allows students at the schools to eat free breakfast and lunch regardless of family income.

The new schools are: Chiles Elementary, Eastside High, The Einstein School, Expressions Learning Academy, Ft. Clarke, Gainesville High, Glen Springs, High Springs Community School, Kanapaha, Loften Center, Newberry High, Oak View, Santa Fe High & Talbot.

The program is now in place at 46 total schools in Alachua County.

Parents with questions about the CEP program can contact the Food and Nutrition Services office at (352) 955-7539, ext.1561. During the summer, the office hours are Mondays through Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Sept. 14

Saturday afternoon, some Alachua county elementary school parking lots will be filled with little tailgaters.

Over 1,500 of Alachua county's 2,100 fifth graders will be going for free to the UF vs. Colorado State game for the first ever Fifth Graders Got Game field trip.

"We want to inspire these kids to do better in school so that they can in fact go to college someday," said Kelley Kastamo, Alachua County Schools' partnership specialist. "So many people in the Gainesville area have never been either on the college campus or even to a football game. So, this will give them the chance to do that."

This trip ultimately is a way to give these kids a look at the exciting college lifestyle.

"This is an opportunity for them to be a part of the next big thing," said Elana Mayo, principal of C.W. Norton Elementary. "And to know that when we are talking about college, we are talking about, you can be a part of the band. You can be a part of the football team. You can be a part of the student body that just has pride in their school. The possibilities are endless."

These kids will be out grilling and playing games with their chaperones.

They'll get a lesson on the correct form of the gator chomp and the traditional cheers before bussing over to the Swamp at 2 pm.

This will be a memorable trip for these kids, but also a way to inspire them to see their collegiate potential.

Issue: Consumer Information

July 19th

After a quick and heavy rain storm on Monday, SW Sixth St. in Gainesville flooded, damaging cars and businesses.

"When I got there, I saw water just flooding in like a waterpark from the road," said Michael Sholty, whose car was flooded outside his workplace. "The water was at a level where if I started my car, the intake would take in all of the water and total the car."

Some experts are telling these employees their cars are totaled.

"There was this very far away feeling of, 'yeah, that's my car. I don't know when I'm going to see that again,'" said Suzanne Richardson, whose car was flooded outside her workplace. "One of my coworkers, when they lifted her car to be towed, there was just water draining from it."

Employees whose cars got flooded said the blame shouldn't just be put on the weather.

They said they saw water rushing from the ground and they believe a pipe broke.

"It was not an unusually high amount of water that day," Richardson said. "In fact, that next day we had that same amount of water without that effect. So, it was frustrating that the weather was being blamed instead of the incident."

The city said it might look like a pipe burst, but they say that's not what happened.

Spokesman Chip Skinner says the temporary drainage system in place just couldn't handle that much water that quickly.

"When we have to shut off an actual drainage pipe, then the water does tend to back up then come up through the manholes and things of that nature," Skinner said

The city says their contractors did nothing wrong and followed their plan. They say that plan will be changed in the future.

"The city is working with the contractor which it hired and looking at that storm water prevention plan," Skinner said. "Amend that and get additional pumps in there so we don't have future flooding issues if we have another one of those minor deluges."

Work continues as normal at the local businesses but no employees dare to use the parking lot at this time.

July 20th

The city commission voted 4-3 Thursday to raise GRU's electric rates by two percent.

GRU general manager Ed Bielarski said the rate increase will only mean about two dollars more a month on the average utility bill.

"The rate impact is about \$1.76 on the electric bill and two dollars and some odd cents overall," Bielarski said.

Some GRU customers say GRU's rates are already high and the increase will make it even harder for them to pay their utility bills.

However, Bielarski says their rates are competitive.

"Residential electric bills are not extremely high. Residential electric bills are a few dollars more than one of our competitors Clay Electric."

Bielarski says some customers may be seeing higher electric bills because of higher consumption.

"A lot of customers have problems with excessive bills because of consumption caused by a leaky pipe or something like that."

The rate increase will be used for raises for GRU employees and will also go toward software that includes smart meters.

The change will go into effect in October after the commission approves the final budget.

Aug. 31

When Austin Hopkins moved into Varsity House apartments, he never thought he would have to worry about parking, but now finding a place to park has become one of his number one concerns.

"It makes it ridiculously hard for us. It's something we shouldn't have to worry about as students," Hopkins said.

Residents at Varsity House can purchase a decal to reserve a spot in one of the nearly 380 spaces in the parking garage.

However, Hopkins says the complex sold out of decals before he even moved in -- and parking in the garage without a decal could mean getting your car towed.

"Starting September 1st when they start towing, I'm going to have to park in the southwest downtown garage which is in east Gainesville and take a least two buses back and forth," Hopkins said.

Residents are not allowed to park on the street and a nearby UF parking lot doesn't allow overnight parking, leaving Hopkins with very few options.

" I honestly don't know what I'm going to do."

It's not just varsity house -- Hopkins says it's a problem he and other students are seeing in multiple different apartment complexes near the UF campus.

" Some of them are having the same issue I am where they have no parking and they're going to have to end up parking somewhere else," Hopkins said.

CBS 4 reached out to management to see what they're doing to resolve the issue, but didn't get a response.

Hopkins said management claims to have plans for addressing the issue, but none of them will be an immediate fix to the problem.

"They've tried talking about extending the parking garage and making it bigger or taking out the gardening stuff and making that into parking, but it's not an immediate solution."

We'll continue to follow this story, but if you have a CBS 4 You story you'd like us to help you with, all you have to do is email us at news@mycbs4.com

Issue: Health

July 30th

After years of planning, University of Florida Health leaders celebrated the opening of a new \$36 million, 72,000-square-foot facility that combines various health practices at one location.

"It's a wonderful day. I think it's always exciting when you have something new and you feel like this has been something in process for the last, almost two years," said UF Health Internal Medicine Physician Dr. Katherine Huber.

This new facility, which will serve around 70,000 patients each year, will provide primary care services and specialties in allergy, child psychiatry, integrative medicine, psychology, and pain management.

"We were able to really plan what the facilities would look like around the specific therapies that we deliver. In this day in age with psychiatry, you don't just need a couch. There are some very specific techniques that we use and we were able to design the rooms accordingly," said UF Health Psychology Chair Dr. Regina Bussing.

The new outpatient pharmacy and clinical laboratory as well as the allergy, internal medicine, and integrative medicine practices are scheduled to open to patients on August 6. The family medicine and pain management practices will open August 13 followed by the psychology and child psychiatry practices on August 20.

The public will be able to tour the new facility this Wednesday from 6-8 p.m.

Sept. 24

The National Institutes of Health's All of Us is an educational program traveling around the country and on Friday the University of Florida was able to contribute to a nation-wide effort to improve health and accelerate research.

UF Health President Dr. David Nelson said he was 'concerned' about the long-term health of future generations.

"This is really the first generation in our history of mankind that there's predictions that our kids will not outlive their parents." Nelson said, "it is because some of the major diseases threatening the U.S. with obesity and diabetes."

UF has partnered with All of Us to change these predictions.

According to NIH “far too many diseases do not have a proven means of prevention, or effective treatment. We must gain better insights into the biological, environmental, and behavioral influences on these diseases to make a difference for the millions of people who suffer from them.”

The All of Us is asking people across the country to take a survey about their background and health. They ask that you provide your medical history and – if possible – a blood sample.

“This is an unprecedented national adventure where we are asking one million people as volunteers to help us understand what keeps people healthy, and how can we best manage illness if it happens and it’s about all of us,” said NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins.

Nelson says the community’s involvement is crucial to gain the information researchers need.

“I have two boys and my real goal is that by myself and our community coming together we really have a chance to see the benefits,” Nelson said.

UF Professor Betsy Shenkman said “the big message of why it’s important to go is to really be a part of the next generation of science.”

If you would like to be a part of this study head over to Depot Park on Saturday anytime between 10AM and 4PM.

Sept. 25

The University of Florida was recently named the third accredited LAM and Rare Lung disease clinic site in Florida by the LAM Foundation.

Assistant Professor of Medicine Ali Ataya, one of the clinic leaders said this disease most commonly affects women of 'childbearing' age. The rare disease LAM stands for lymphangioleiomyomatosis.

"Approximately three to eight women out of every million in the country have LAM. We manage approximately 15 patients with this disease," Ataya said.

There are only 33 sites in the nation helping over 1300 patients.

“Before the first FDA drug for this disease patients could die, need lung transplant...since the progression we have been able to improve quality of life,” Ataya said.

The symptoms are often misdiagnosed without proper imaging tests.

“They usually develop cysts in the lungs so they may have shortness of breath, coughing, or even lung collapse before they come to our care,” Ataya said.

The effects of LAM can be so drastic it can change someone’s life in an instant.

"I was diagnosed with LAM in 2016 I was only 29 so I was still at the peak of my career," said Frances Saldivar.

UF Health wants to spread awareness of the disease to continue helping more people across the nation.

“Goal is to bring in more patients and trials and spread the awareness of this disease in the state,” said Ali.

Issue: Weather

Sept. 3rd

A Levy County man says his wife has died after authorities say she was struck by lightning on Saturday.

The Levy County Sheriff’s Office says 49-year-old Norma Woeller was stripping bark from a tree in her yard when it was struck by lightning at 3:46 p.m. She was taken to UF Health.

Authorities have not released Woeller's condition but Woeller's husband, Richard, announced publicly on Facebook Sunday that his wife had died.

He also thanked paramedics for trying to save her and everyone for the outpouring of support.

Sept. 8th

Tropical Storm Florence is becoming a "better organized" weather system that will likely strengthen into a hurricane late Saturday, weather forecasters said.

The National Hurricane Center said Saturday the storm was expected to become a "major hurricane" by Tuesday as it passes between Bermuda and the Bahamas on Tuesday and Wednesday. The storm is expected to approach the southeast U.S. Coast on Thursday.

Officials in North Carolina were already bracing for impact.

Gov. Roy Cooper declared a State of Emergency on Friday evening, urging residents to use the weekend to prepare for the possibility of a natural disaster.

"We are entering the peak of hurricane season and we know well the unpredictability and power of these storms," Cooper said.

South Carolina's Emergency Management Division also advised coastal residents to start making contingency plans.

Swells generated by Florence could cause dangerous rip currents and coastal flooding Saturday in areas including coastal Delaware and New Jersey, the National Weather Service said.

At 11 a.m. EDT, the Miami-based hurricane center said Florence's maximum sustained winds were estimated to be 65 mph (100 kph). The storm was centered about 835 miles (1340 kilometers) southeast of Bermuda and moving west at 7 mph (11 kph).

Sept. 13th

As hurricane Florence's wrath nears the Carolina coast, many people are evacuating to the Sunshine State.

"They just kept saying this would be a life changing hurricane," said Judy Lerry, an evacuee from Little River, South Carolina. "So, we decided yesterday morning, you know what, a house is a house. We have insurance. In the car, we go."

The Lerry family left their belongings to make sure their family and pup Riley were all safe.

The Lerrys had to drive seven hours until they could find a vacant hotel that would also take Riley—landing them in Gainesville.

"It took us quite a while and it was late at night and we were tired and a little grumpy and yet it was nice to finally find a place with a bed and some place to rest our heads," said Scott Lerry, Judy's husband.

These evacuees may be states away from the storm, but their worries are staying in the Carolinas.

"I've got some friends that stayed in Charleston, a couple that stayed in Wilmington," said Chris Ware, a Charleston, South Carolina evacuee. "I pray for their safety and hope that everybody makes it out okay."

Issue: CONSUMER SAFETY

July 17th

Gainesville police say car burglaries are on the rise all over the city.

" We've been hit over the last year with almost 500 burglaries, which is about a 40 percent increase from last year's burglary rate," GPD officer Ben Tobias said.

Monday night police arrested a man with a history of burglary charges.

Police say 30 - year - old Jeremy Hernandez was walking around the Ridgeview neighborhood on NW 33 Ave looking inside cars and trying to find unlocked doors.

Police say this a common tactic criminals use when they're looking for a target.

" Just going around the parking lot and pulling on vehicles takes just a couple of minutes. If there is cash in there or anything else, that can be gone in just a few seconds," Tobias said.

Hernandez lives in the Cypress Glenn apartments, which has recently been plagued by a number of burglaries.

GPD said Hernandez may also be connected to other burglaries in the area.

The burglaries aren't confined to one specific area, so when it comes to keeping your valuables safe, police say the first thing you should do is make sure your car is locked.

"If it's important to you it's going to be important and valuable to somebody else as well, so I can't say enough lock your vehicles."

In addition to locking your car police say look out for any suspicious behavior in your neighborhood and report it to the police.

July 23rd

Robert Lang and his wife Amanda were huddled inside their mobile home during Sunday night's storm when they heard a loud bang.

"It was loud, it was really scary," homeowner Robert Lang said. "When I looked out the window to see if it was the tree, that's when the tree fell right over my head."

After the storm cleared, they found the entire tree on top of their home—with branches peeking through their ceiling.

They called a tree service, but without homeowner's insurance, they had to pay \$1,500 for the tree's removal. And that didn't include the stump.

"I assumed homeowner's insurance wouldn't be worth the cost, not to mention we are barely making it by as it is," Lang said.

They are just some of the many people at the Whitney Mobile Home Park in northwest Gainesville dealing with debris after the storm. They're not sure what to do since they don't own the trees.

"We aren't allowed to cut down the trees without verification through them, we can't put up fences without talking to them first, we cant to anything to the yards," Lang said. "We have to wait until it creates damage to do anything about it, and that's not fair."

CBS 4 News tried reaching out to the managers at Whitney Mobile Homes but calls went to voicemail, and their office was locked with a note saying they were closed due to staff training.

To keep this happening from to you, it's best to check with the property owner beforehand to know whose responsible for fallen trees, and if you can, get insurance.

For the Langs, they are just happy their family is safe.

"Us and our animals our safe so that's the most important thing," says Lang.

And hope, the damages are manageable,

"It's going to be tough," says Lang.

Sept. 24

Linda Swinburn's dog Bella was stripped from her leash and attacked in front of her Saturday, a neighbor's video shows.

"I tried to save her but I couldn't save her. They just kept pulling her apart," Swinburn said.

Witnesses say the three dogs jumped over their fence in the Northwood Pines neighborhood while Swinburn and Bella were walking on the road and did not hesitate to attack.

"She had Bella's leash and harness in her hand whipping it because at that point the dogs had ripped the harness and the leash off of Bella looking like they were playing a three-way tug of war," said Colleen Regan, a neighbor who videoed the attack.

"We spoke to the owners of the dogs and he says he usually has an electric fence that is plugged up in the yard," said officer Ben Tobias of the Gainesville Police Department. "For some reason, it was unplugged and that's why the dogs have gotten out that day."

That is not the first time the dogs have escaped the yard. Two animal complaints were filed against the owner this year. The first report was filed in April where a GPD officer said the dog escaped the fenced area and "acted aggressively" toward a neighbor walking his dog.

The second incident was in June. The report said the owner allowed his dog to be outside at large. The report says the dog chased a victim to her porch while barking and growling.

Swinburn and Regan say the neighbor did not care to help Swinburn or her dog on Saturday.

"He didn't care. He just called the dogs and they just walked in like nothing happened," Swinburn said.

"The man then just closed the door behind him," Regan said. "He did not come out and offer any sort of help to check on Linda or Bella."

Meanwhile Swinburn was left heartbroken and struggling in the middle of the road.

"We did also have to request EMS that day because the lady, the owner of the dog, was hyperventilating having seen this vicious attack unfold in front of her," Tobias said.

As Bella was left almost lifeless, she made sure to say one last goodbye to Swinburn.

"Linda was curled up in the front yard," Regan said. "Her family came out of the house and Bella stood up in the yard and ran to Linda, like it was like a 'I'll be okay' kind of thing."

Bella had one last loving memory to her mother of four years.

"She was a true angel," Swinburn said. "They say you rescue them, but she rescued me."

The second incident was in June. The report said the owner allowed his dog to be outside at large. The report says the dog chased a victim to her porch while barking and growling.

Swinburn and Regan say the neighbor did not care to help Swinburn or her dog on Saturday.

"He didn't care. He just called the dogs and they just walked in like nothing happened," Swinburn said.

"The man then just closed the door behind him," Regan said. "He did not come out and offer any sort of help to check on Linda or Bella."

Meanwhile Swinburn was left heartbroken and struggling in the middle of the road.

"We did also have to request EMS that day because the lady, the owner of the dog, was hyperventilating having seen this vicious attack unfold in front of her," Tobias said.

As Bella was left almost lifeless, she made sure to say one last goodbye to Swinburn.

"Linda was curled up in the front yard,"

Public Service Announcement List Third Quarter 2018

Poison Control – Poison Helpline - PSA that encourages people to call the Poison Control helpline for any questions or issues with mixing medications, swallowing household cleaners, paint or mushrooms, or being bit by a bug, snake or spider. The helpline is there for any home, work or outdoor questions and is staffed by medical professionals.

Homeland Security – Protect Your Everyday – This PSA shows Americans from every walk of life just doing what they do each and every day. It talks about how sometimes something might happen that does not seem quite right, that it is not paranoia, it is about standing up and protecting our community. All the details add up to make a bigger picture. It encourages viewers, if they see something, to say something.

National Parks Foundation – Parks – A visually exciting PSA showing how our National Parks are everything from natural wonders to historical wonders. Encourages viewers to, get out there, and find your park.

Buzzed Driving Prevention- Neon Signs – Approximately every 51 minutes, someone is killed in a drunk driving crash. Everyone knows that buzzed driving can have devastating physical consequences, but did you know it can have huge financial consequences as well.

Arbor Day Foundation- Replanting Trees- PSA designed to educate on the importance of continuing to plant trees. This is essential to the well- being of our planet.

Foundation for a Better Life – values.com – A series of kid friendly PSA's which encourage viewers to respect one another and the world around us.

-Open Door- Even the simple act of holding a door open can have impact. We can all do our part to make our world better.

Let 'em In- A frustrating moment in traffic is usually short-lived but can put anyone into a bad mood. Likewise, a kind gesture in those tense situations can have a positive effect on the person receiving our kindness and, of course, on us. "Let 'Em In" will be bring a smile when your viewers recall this happening to them. We think they will enjoy this simple reminder.

-Road Rage- PSA that shows a father getting angry at being cut off in traffic. His young daughter reminds him that "We don't say words like that". A reminder that we all need to be careful of our tempers and that our children need us to keep it under control.

-Imagine- Every good thing that has ever been achieved began with an idea—a dream that something better is actually possible. Skeptics likely doubted, friends wondered, and still the idea survived. Our society depends upon ordinary people to think the extraordinary—someone to simply ask, even in the face of criticism, why not? Could a cure for an incurable disease exist, how far is too far to travel, can children's hunger be alleviated, can everyone get a good education? John Lennon's "Imagine" provides a thoughtful and inspiring backdrop for you to Imagine... the Possibilities.

-Hall of Fame- Achievement comes in many forms. For some it's attaining a top grade in school, losing weight or excelling in a sport, for others it's overcoming an obstacle,

attaining accolades at work or building a relationship. Whatever the goal, it takes much effort, skill and courage to achieve great things. Set to the uplifting song "Hall of Fame" this message inspires viewers to achieve their own goals

-Everything I Do - "Everything I do, I do it for you." That enduring lyric performed by Bryan Adams has inspired millions around the world. It holds a message of compassion, commitment...and caring. Enjoy the range of tender and inspiring moments depicted in our newest video—from firemen rescuing a small child to a mother moving heaven and earth just to get everyone off to school. The hope is, in some small way that watching this message will help you recognize your own caring nature and "pass it on"!

-Oliver With a Twist - British orphan Oliver Twist always seems to find a way into our hearts. For this TV commercial, we add our own spin to the famous scene in Oliver's story when he asks for more food at the orphanage. This tale takes on a twist of fate by way of practicing good manners!

-Ballet - There is a special something about successful people. Even when they fail there is an inner strength that keeps them moving forward. Popular books share insights and often delve deep to explain this phenomena with sports legends, business executives, scientists, inventors, educators and artists. We think you will enjoy a charming but instructional moment in a young ballerina's life with Justin Bieber's "Born to Be Somebody." This young girl reminds us that underlying every accomplishment in the face of opposition is the all-important trait of Confidence... Pass It On.

Southeastern Guide Dogs- Jackie and Gibson- PSA that introduces future guide dogs as puppies. Tells the viewer how these dogs help delivers freedom, confidence, and independence to those who need help.

Southeastern Guide Dogs- Puppies with a Purpose- PSA that introduces future guide dogs as puppies. Tells the viewer how these dogs help delivers freedom, confidence, and independence to those who need help.

Salute America's Heroes- Bet on a Vet- This PSA campaign urges employers everywhere to Bet on a Vet by hiring a veteran into their workplace. Campaign sponsored by The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes.

National Volunteer Fire Council- Make Me a Firefighter- With 87% of U.S. communities protected by volunteer firefighters, raising awareness of the need for volunteer fire service personnel is critical to ensuring public safety. The NVFC is asking for your support by airing these PSAs to help get the word out about this need. The PSAs end with a call-to-action to visit www.MakeMeAFirefighter.org, where viewers can learn more, find local volunteer opportunities, and connect directly with their respective local fire department.

World Wildlife Federation- Anything is Possible and Protect Our Earth- There are environmental issues that impact our planet. The only way we can spark change is to work together and truly make a difference. This PSA shows a beautiful array of animals to help educate on conservation efforts.

Make the Connection- US Department of Veterans- Strength over Silence- PSA designed to educate Veterans to reach out for mental health support. Reaching out is a strength not a weakness. There is help for our Vets.

Partnership for Drug- Free Kids Campaign- A series of PSAs to help understand the signs of drug use/abuse and the help that is available for those who need it.

-Heroin- Parents realize that their daughter has gone much further with drug experimentation than they ever imagined.

-Mind Your Meds- Make sure that the meds prescribed to you are being safeguarded against abuse.

-Pain Killers- Shows the importance of understanding the meds that you are taking.

-Opiates- A very big problem is the abundance of Opiates and how readily available they are.

-Susan- A mother opens up about her child's drug problem.

Narcanon- Addiction - While many people are affected by alcohol abuse, most don't know where to turn for help. This PSA lets people know that there is help for those in our community who feel like they have no control. Together, we can help individuals gain that control and get their life back.

Teacher Recruitment- I Dare You! - There's tremendous opportunity on the horizon in America's classrooms, with half of our teacher's ready to retire over the next decade. Filling their shoes will be challenging, since 9 of 10 top-tier students don't view teaching as a desirable profession. The potential shortfall could hinder our ability to lead the global economy. The human costs could also be enormous, since research shows that students with top teachers earn an average of \$50,000 more than their peers over the course of their lifetimes. America urgently needs a pipeline of engaged, energized students who want to teach, particularly African Americans and Hispanics who make up 40% of today's K-12 students. The teacher recruitment PSAs make a compelling case for teaching as an innovative, fulfilling career for those who want to make more of their lives.

Best Friend Animal Society- Save Them All Anthem- Goofy grins and soothing purrs. Ridiculous ears and reassuring paws. They motivate us to get moving, and remind us when to slow down. They provide us with a much-needed laugh, companionship and unconditional love. They are our best friends. This PSA shares this special reminder of what's important in life and help Best Friends spread the word about adopting your next pet. Together, we can *Save Them All*®.

Pediatric ER- R Baby- PSA that reminds all parents the Pediatric ER is very different from an adult ER and to remember to take your children to the experts that know children and can take care of their needs

Social Security Administration: Life's Journey- A PSA which reminds people that Social Security is there through all the phases of their life's journey. Securing today and tomorrow is the message.

Humane Society- -Bentley- Each year, 6-8 million dogs and cats will enter shelters and rescue groups, yet only half will be adopted. This leaves millions of healthy and treatable dogs and cats who still need our help to find a home. Millions of Americans will look for a new cat or dog to bring home. This PSA encourages them to find their furry friends at shelters and rescue groups. While not every shelter cat or dog will be a social media star, they all will star as someone's new best friend. Air new PSAs to encourage your community to Start a Story. Adopt today.

US Food and Drug Administration- Safe Use of Acetaminophen- Acetaminophen is an active ingredient found in hundreds of over-the-counter (OTC) and prescription medicines that are used to relieve pain and fever. It is also combined with other active ingredients in medicines that treat allergy, cough, colds, flu, and sleeplessness. In prescription medicines, acetaminophen is found with other active ingredients to treat moderate to severe pain. Using two or more medicines that contain acetaminophen or using more acetaminophen than directed can cause serious liver damage. The FDA has taken action to improve consumer safety regarding the safe use of acetaminophen. To learn more visit www.fda.gov/otcpaininfo

Poison Control- Make the Call- 2,200,000 poisonings occur annually, with nearly 50% of all exposures involving children younger than age 6. To address this threat, the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) continues its Poison Help campaign with the "Make the Call" series of PSAs. The new installment of the campaign aims to reduce poisonings among Medicare and Medicaid audiences. By calling a Poison Help line, hospital visits can be prevented as 68% of calls are controlled by direction provided over the phone. Airing these PSAs can help us further the cause and help raise awareness for when to call the Poison Help line, and help eliminate poisonings and the \$1.8 billion in medical costs and productivity loss.

Pace Center for Girls: PACE serves over 2,000 girls each year and PACE has changed the life trajectory of over 37,000 girls since its inception. PACE began as a community response to the realization that girls involved with the justice system were either being placed in programs designed for boys or placed further into the system for their own protection. This PSA informs the public of what they do and how they can support.

National Pediatric Cancer Foundation: PSA on the reality of Pediatric Cancer. Encourages viewers to give the gift of hope to children battling cancer.

City of Hope: City of Hope is a leading research and treatment center for cancer, diabetes and other life-threatening diseases. This PSA illustrates how their scientists are speeding life-saving discoveries to life.

Distracted Driving: While distracted driving from smartphone use is leading to even more car accidents and deaths, Florida remains one of only four states in the U.S. where texting-while-driving is a secondary offense, meaning law enforcement officers can just cite a motorist if they've committed another moving violation. Legislation making way through the Florida Legislature this Session could change that, but in the meantime, NFL legend Brett Favre is taking to the airwaves to warn Floridians of the dangers of such proclivity.

Cystic Fibrosis: This family focused PSA tells the viewer what CF is and what they can do to help research for a cure.

Senior Companions: By helping seniors in their daily live, you can make a friend and a difference. Help make independence a reality by joining Senior Companions.

Smile Train: Smile Train is an international children's charity with a sustainable approach to a single, solvable problem: cleft lip and palate. Millions of children in developing countries with unrepaired clefts live in shame, but more importantly, have difficulty eating, breathing and speaking. Cleft repair surgery is simple, and the transformation is immediate. Our sustainable model provides training and funding to empower local doctors in 85+ developing countries to provide 100%-free cleft repair surgery in their communities. Their message is "You can save a life."

American Academy of Pediatrics: PSAs on When to Introduce Toddlers to Apps and Multimedia Devices at home and at school and an Anti-Bullying message. The American Academy of Pediatrics is the nation's largest association of pediatricians and is dedicated to the health and well-being of all children.

Gift of Life – Organ Donation: Well-known TV actress Kristen Bell has teamed up with Gift of Life Marrow Registry in our fight against blood cancer and has recorded a :30 second and a :60 PSA. Each year 20,000 Americans with blood cancer are searching for their life-saving bone marrow match. Only 30% of patients will find a matching donor within their families. Please consider airing our PSA so we may educate those in your local community on the urgent need to join the bone marrow registry.

Q3-2018 FULL MEASURE

Full Measure is a broadcast focusing on investigative, original and accountability reporting unique in today's media. The host is Sharyl Attkisson. The show format will include a major investigative piece each week on topics ranging from immigration issues at home and abroad, government waste, national security concerns and vulnerabilities, whistleblower reports on government abuse and misdeeds. Full Measure is produced by and airs nationally on stations of the Sinclair Broadcast Group. The program also streams live on all Sinclair websites on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. ET.

July1	SIGAR the IQ for Afghanistan on waste	IsraelTheWall/ reporting on the border wall with Gaza that works	Tax Havens offshore accounts and who has them
July8	Trump Year	Brit Social Arrests new policy to crackdown on terrorist sharing	Hakwam Korean schools of excellence, that take a toll
July15	Robot Tax if we build them, should we tax them	Molenbeek the terror neighborhood in Belgium	Singapore Pulse American expats share thoughts
July22	Hollywood Hypocrisy: in the #metoo movement	Military Sex: how the Pentagon may be part of the solution	ISIS Philippines New warnings from State Dept
July29	THE SMEAR The new technique to eliminate people	Afghan Author Journo reflections on Afghan	Digital Dangers Gallup poll on digital use in school
Aug5	Snowflakes a look at a sensitive generation	Snowflakes-2	Paying the Dead A member of Congress wants to stop wasted SS payments
Aug12	NORRIS 2 following	DNA Database	Debt & Crisis

	their efforts to restrict MRI dyes	Why giving up your dna might not be such a good idea	Why running a national debt is a problem
--	------------------------------------	--	--

Aug19	SEAL Suicides Traumatic brain injury and how it's impacting our military	SEALS-2	Right to Try/Johnson giving terminally ill patients better access to experimental drugs.
-------	---	---------	--

Aug26	Asbestos. It's still out there	Terror commerce: stopping the threat by watching online	Surviving Media when the media attacks
-------	--------------------------------	---	--

Sept2	ROUNDTABLE A discussion with correspondent on some of the stories of the season.	ROUNDTABLE	ROUNDTABLE
-------	--	------------	------------

Sept 9	Blackwater: New trial for one member of infamous Iraqi shootout.	Paraguay-Hezbollah A funding center for terrorist group to our southern border.	Lara Trump interview with the daughter-in-law in chief, on campaigns past and future
--------	--	---	--

Sept 16	Sanctuary A Cali city in a sanctuary state, that doesn't want to be one.	PuertoRico How was the death count post hurricane so wrong?	Project Censored discussion on media influence
---------	--	---	--

Sept 23	Tobacco The lawsuits fought by victims, who got nothing in big payout.	Flood Funding why federal flood insurance program doesn't work.	HiEd/LowStandards How some universities are giving an edge to out of state students. And why.
---------	--	---	---

Sept 30	MeadowsFBI Intv with Congressman on withholding documents	SmartCities why going all in on internet of things, might not be all good	Hezbollah Update/Thuman significant arrest following story of Sept9
---------	---	---	---

2018 3RD QUARTER MEET THE PRESS TOPICS

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

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

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

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

MTP EXCLUSIVE: 'NOBODY SHOULD BE SURPRISED,' SAYS GRAHAM ON INCREASED NUCLEAR PRODUCTION FROM NORTH KOREA, FIRST REPORTED BY NBC NEWS FRIDAY

PLUS: Sen. Graham (R-S.C.): Roe v. Wade "Has Been Affirmed Over the Years"

EXCLUSIVE: Sen. Cantwell (D-Wash.) "Would Love" a Delayed Vote on Supreme Court Justice

EXCLUSIVE: Ocasio-Cortez: "There are a Lot of Districts in This Country That are New York-14, That Have Changed a Lot in the Last 20 Years and Whose Representation Has Not"

JULY 1, 2018 – In an exclusive interview that aired this morning on "Meet the Press," **Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.)** reacts to [NBC News' exclusive reporting](#) Friday that, according to U.S. officials, North Korea has increased nuclear production at secret sites, telling moderator Chuck Todd, "Nobody should be surprised. ... It's now a time to bring their program to an end one way or the other."

On the issue of abortion at the Supreme Court justice confirmation hearing, the South Carolina senator says, "You don't overturn precedent unless there's a good reason." "I would tell my pro-life friends, you can be pro-life and conservative, but you can also believe in stare decisis," continues Graham. "Roe v. Wade, in many different ways, has been affirmed over the years."

Graham also addressed Thursday's House Judiciary Committee hearing with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein and FBI Director Christopher Wray, sharing that he trusts Rosenstein but has "problems with the way he's interacted with Congress, adding, "I don't have any reason to ask him to be removed. I want Mueller to do his job." [Watch the full interview.](#)

Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.) tells Todd in an exclusive interview this morning that she “would love” a delayed vote on the Supreme Court nominee to “make sure we have enough time.” Cantwell advises her fellow Democratic senators: “If they vote for somebody who's going to change precedent, it could be a career-ending move.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the new Democratic nominee for New York’s 14th congressional district, also joins the broadcast in an exclusive interview this morning, telling Todd that her win is representative of “a lot of districts in this country... that have changed a lot in the last 20 years and whose representation has not.” When asked what she would have said to Rep. Joe Crowley (D-N.Y.) had he reached out to her on how to win her vote as a constituent, prior to her deciding to run, Ocasio-Cortez replies, “The problem is that that never happened.” She also addressed embracing the label of “democratic socialist”: “The definition of democratic socialism to me, again, is the fact that in a modern, moral and wealthy society, no American should be too poor to live.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

The Boston Herald’s **Kimberly Atkins**, Democratic strategist **Cornell Belcher**, CBN News’ **David Brody** and NBC News’ **Hallie Jackson** join this morning’s roundtable to discuss the week in politics, including the new Supreme Court justice opening with the news of Justice Kennedy’s retirement. On the president using Roe v. Wade as a litmus test, [Jackson shares](#), “One way that I have heard that people close to the president are trying to inoculate against him of that is to push him toward picking a woman.”

[Read the full transcript of “Meet the Press”](#) this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.

MTP EXCLUSIVE: SEN. BLUNT: SENATE ‘CAN CONFIRM ANY OF FOUR NAMES BEING MENTIONED’ FOR SCOTUS, ‘I HOPE’ TRUMP LISTENS TO TEAM ON NORTH KOREA & RUSSIA

PLUS: Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) on North Korea: “It Was a Mistake to Give the Military Exercises Up”

EXCLUSIVE: Senate Minority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.): McConnell “Trying to Play to His Political Advantage” on Senate Supreme Court Confirmation Rules

ALSO: Trump Lawyer Rudy Giuliani Says Trump Sitting Down with Putin is “a Sign of How Confident the President is That He Did Nothing Wrong”

JULY 8, 2018 – In an exclusive interview, **Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.)** previews the confirmation battle over President Trump’s Supreme Court nominee, telling moderator Chuck Todd that the

Senate “can confirm any of the four names being mentioned,” adding, “the president has to think about who is the easiest to get confirmed here.”

Ahead of the president’s summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Blunt says, “It’s fine to talk to the Russians, but the president should clearly understand that neither the Russians nor dictators like Kim Jong-un are going to be charmed by anybody.”

“He’s genuinely optimistic about anything he is involved in at the time,” shares Blunt when asked by Todd if Trump’s remarks hours after meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un are “the naiveté of a first-term president.” “It was a mistake to give the military exercises up,” asserts the Missouri senator.

Todd questions if the president listens to his team for the North Korea and Russia summits, and Blunt replies, “I hope so. ... He’s comfortable with the team he’s put around himself for the first time in his presidency, and hopefully that will show up in these talks.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

“One Republican senator can decide the fate of any Supreme Court nominee,” shares **Senate Minority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.)** in an exclusive interview this morning. The Illinois senator calls the Supreme Court confirmation hearing rules of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) “totally inconsistent”: “He’s either wrong the first time or wrong the second time. The net result is he’s trying to play to his political advantage.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Trump lawyer **Rudy Giuliani** also joins the broadcast, telling Todd that “it’s great” if Trump lawyer Michael Cohen wants to cooperate with the feds “because it’s going to lead to nothing.” On the president’s upcoming Russia Summit, Giuliani says, “He has to sit down with Vladimir Putin. ... It’s a sign of how confident the president is that he did nothing wrong.” “But Putin’s going to have to meet him more than halfway,” he adds. [Watch the full interview.](#)

NBC News’ **Mark Murray**, USA TODAY’s **Susan Page**, AEI’s **Danielle Pletka** and The Washington Post’s **Eugene Robinson** join the broadcast’s roundtable for insight on the week in politics. On the four names being floated for the Supreme Court opening, [Robinson notes](#), “If conservatives would take a breath and look at these candidates they’d see they’re all really conservative as far as we know, as far as we can tell from anything they’ve written. I mean, there’s nothing that I’ve seen pointed out in any of their writings that indicates they’re closet liberals.”

MTP: US AMB. TO RUSSIA HUNTSMAN: TOMORROW ‘ISN’T A SUMMIT’ BETWEEN PRES. TRUMP AND RUSSIAN PRES. PUTIN, ‘THE AGENDA IS THE PRESIDENT’S’

PLUS: “I Don’t Know If He’ll Make the Ask” Says Huntsman of Trump Asking Putin to Extradite the 12 Russian Intel Officers Charged by Mueller on Friday

ALSO: Sen. Warner (D-Va.) “Would Feel Much Better if There Were Other Americans in the Room” with Trump and Putin, Since Trump “Kind of Goes in and Wings It”

TONIGHT & TOMORROW: Lester Holt Anchors “NBC Nightly News” Live from Helsinki

JULY 15, 2018 – “It isn’t a summit... This is a meeting,” says **U.S. Ambassador to Russia Jon Huntsman** on “Meet the Press” of President Trump’s meeting tomorrow with Russian President Putin in Helsinki. “No state dinner, no joint statement, no deliverables that are going to be pre-packaged. You don't know what's going to come out of this meeting.”

When asked if Trump will ask Putin to extradite the 12 Russian intel officers charged by Special Counsel Mueller on Friday and if the paperwork has begun, Huntsman tells moderator Chuck Todd: “I don't know if he'll make the ask, but it may be part of the agenda. It may be part of their bilateral meeting together. We'll have to see.”

“The agenda is the president's. Everything will be his call, but I think it's highly unlikely that you'll see any change in Crimea,” shares Huntsman regarding NATO’s position that Crimea belongs to Ukraine and not Russia. [Watch the full interview.](#)

Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.), vice chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee, also joined the broadcast, telling Todd: “I really would feel much better if there were other Americans in the room making sure that we make the point that the first and top point of this agenda should be no further Russian interference in our elections,” after noting Trump “doesn't do a lot of prep work for these meetings. He kind of goes in and wings it.”

Reacting to the indictments by Mueller on Friday, Warner notes, “It appears a rather strange coincidence that the very day that Mr. Trump calls on the Russians to hack into Clinton emails, well, the Russian spies actually try to take that action.”

“It’s abysmal that this administration has not made 2018 election security a higher priority,” says Warner. “I would feel a lot better if there was a concerted, whole-of-government effort to make sure not only at the state and local registrar level, but on the companies that manipulate and own the voter files and maintain the voter files behind the scenes. I think we need to really step up our game.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

In an exclusive interview, **Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska)** tells Todd: “If the president is giving in on lifting sanctions without Putin taking action, I think that would be a mistake.” The Alaska senator says that if Putin “wants a better relationship... he’s got to take actions to make that happen.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Tune in tonight as “NBC Nightly News” anchor Lester Holt broadcasts live from Helsinki ahead of the president’s meeting tomorrow with Putin. [Read more about NBC News’ in-depth coverage.](#)

Radio host **Hugh Hewitt**, NPR's **Joshua Johnson**, TIME's **Elise Jordan** and The Cook Political Report's **Amy Walter** preview tomorrow's meeting on the show's roundtable, [with Johnson pointing out that](#), with Bitcoin, the Russians "literally minted money to hack our election system. Now, the president saying, "Well, I don't know if I'm going to ask for extradition" is stunning. If someone broke into the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and stole American dollars to commit a crime against the United States, it would be an immediate call for extradition."

[Read the full transcript](#) of "Meet the Press" this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.

JULY 22, 2018 – PREEMPTED DUE TO EARLY SPORTS (THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF)

THIS SUNDAY: FORMER TRUMP CAMPAIGN AIDE SAM NUNBERG AND OHIO SENATOR ROB PORTMAN (R) JOIN "MEET THE PRESS WITH CHUCK TODD" IN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS

—

EXCLUSIVE

Sam Nunberg

Former Donald Trump Campaign Aide

—

EXCLUSIVE

Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio)

—

Michael Isikoff

Chief Investigative Correspondent, Yahoo! News; Author, "Russian Roulette: The Inside Story of Putin's War on America & the Election of Donald Trump"

—

ROUNDTABLE

Matthew Continetti

Editor-in-Chief, Washington Free Beacon

Eddie Glaude Jr.

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

Andrea Mitchell

NBC News Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent; Anchor, MSNBC's "Andrea Mitchell Reports"

Peggy Noonan

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

MTP EXCLUSIVE: SEN. BLUNT ON PRESIDENT'S "FAKE NEWS" TWEETS: 'NOT MY POINT OF VIEW,' WON'T ANSWER IF HE BELIEVES 'A LOT OF THE NEWS IS NOT ACCURATE'

EXCLUSIVE: Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) Reacts to Sen. Warren's Charge That Criminal Justice System is "Racist... Front to Back": "The Solutions Are There for Us"

EXCLUSIVE: Klobuchar Brushes Off Cynthia Nixon's Call for Socialism in the Democratic Party: "I Make of It That She's in a Primary in New York State and Running for Office"

AUGUST 5, 2018 – In an exclusive interview on "Meet the Press," **Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.)** reacts to President Donald Trump's tweets this morning calling the media the "enemy of the people" and "dangerous & sick": "It's not my point of view. ... But you could certainly find people on the news saying things about the president that are not appropriate."

"The president really believes that a lot of the news is not accurate," adds Blunt. When asked by moderator Chuck Todd if he too believes that, Blunt replies, "There's a vast variety of how the same news is reported, so somebody is not – that middle of the road news that people my age grew up with is no longer the news." [Watch the interview](#), including the senator's defense of Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.).

Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), who is running for her third term in the Senate, responds to two high-profile Democrats on the broadcast this morning in an exclusive interview. On claims by Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) that the criminal justice system is "racist... front to back," Klobuchar, a former county prosecutor, says she worked with "good" people, but "we know that there is racism in the system that needs to be fixed."

When asked about New York gubernatorial candidate Cynthia Nixon's call for socialists to fit into the party, the senator brushed off the rhetoric as "she's in a primary in New York state and running for office," adding "but what I've seen in our party is that, yes, there are divides along certain issues, but what unites us is so much stronger." [Watch the full interview](#), including the Minnesota senator noting she is "very concerned" about the legitimacy of the 2018 midterm elections.

Republican strategist **Mike Murphy** joins Todd to dissect Republican primary ads, specifically those from candidates who, as Todd puts it, “have noticed the trend: that the closer you are to Mr. Trump, the closer you are to winning.” Murphy predicts the 2020 presidential election: “My bet is you're going to have somebody Trumpian. ... If we have a bumpy midterm, the whole Trump thing in '19 could be a whole new ballgame.” [Watch the conversation.](#)

Republican strategist **Al Cardenas**, The New York Times’ **Helene Cooper**, The Washington Post’s **Robert Costa** and POLITICO’s **Eliana Johnson** discuss “QAnon,” described by NBC News national security analyst **Clint Watts** as “this idea that there is a secret source inside the intelligence community.” [Costa notes:](#) “There's not really an expectation inside of this White House that the president's going to somehow speak out on QAnon.” [Watch the discussion.](#)

[Read the full transcript](#) of “Meet the Press” this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.

MTP EXCLUSIVE: OMAROSA MANIGAULT NEWMAN: I ‘HEARD THE TAPE’ OF PRESIDENT SAYING N-WORD, ‘WAS COMPLICIT WITH THIS WHITE HOUSE DECEIVING THIS NATION’

EXCLUSIVE: “Meet the Press with Chuck Todd” Plays Audio from Manigault Newman, Which She Says is a Recording of Her Firing by White House Chief of Staff Kelly

PLUS: Manigault Newman Calls for White House to Release Her Personnel File

ALSO: Tune in to “TODAY” Tomorrow for More From Manigault Newman

AUGUST 12, 2018 – “I have heard the tape” of President Donald Trump saying the n-word, and “when he talks that way, the way he did on this tape, it confirmed that he is truly a racist,” **Omarosa Manigault Newman**, former assistant to the president, tells “Meet the Press” moderator Chuck Todd this morning in an exclusive interview.

Manigault Newman, author of “Unhinged: An Insider’s Account of the Trump White House,” continues: “I was complicit with this White House deceiving this nation. They continue to deceive this nation by how mentally declined he is, how difficult it is for him to process complex information, how he is not engaged in some of the most important decisions that impacts our country. I was complicit and for that I regret.”

[The broadcast aired exclusive audio](#) from Manigault Newman, which she says is a recording of her firing by White House Chief of Staff John Kelly in the Situation Room on December 12th. “It’s very obvious a threat,” she tells Todd, calling for the White House to release her personnel file in response to the “significant integrity issues” Kelly mentions on the tape: “Release it so

the American people can see that I worked my butt off to make a difference in this country, and they were looking for ways to frame me, and then, they tried to buy off my silence, which is also unlawful.”

When asked by Todd how often she taped people, Manigault Newman replies, “I protected myself because this is a White House where everybody lies.” [Watch the full interview](#), and tune in to “TODAY” tomorrow morning for more from Manigault Newman.

In an exclusive interview, **Ohio Gov. John Kasich (R)** addresses this past Tuesday’s special election – “It wasn’t a good night because this is a district that you should be winning by, you know, overwhelming numbers” – as well as [a possible 2020 run](#): “I really don’t know what I’m going to do. Maybe I will. Maybe I won’t. I don’t know.” [Watch the full interview](#).

The New York Times’ **David Brooks**, former **Rep. Donna Edwards (D-Md.)**, former **Gov. Pat McCrory (R-N.C.)** and **NBC News’ Kristen Welker** join the broadcast’s roundtable for insight and analysis, including on Todd’s exclusive Manigault Newman interview. “To me, the dangerous thing, it’s all intermixed with the most sensitive subject in American history, which is race. And so you combine poisoning politics with racial bigotry and racial unfairness, and it can get very ugly. If this tape exists and it comes out in October that will put race right in the middle of the election in a very explosive way,” [reflects Brooks](#).

[Read the full transcript](#) of “Meet the Press” this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.

‘TRUTH ISN’T TRUTH,’ SAYS GIULIANI ON “MEET THE PRESS” IN DISCUSSION OF THE PRESIDENT POSSIBLY TESTIFYING TO SPECIAL COUNSEL

PLUS: Giuliani Says Trump Tower Meeting “Originally for the Purpose of Getting Information about Clinton”

ALSO: Former CIA Director Brennan Tells Moderator Chuck Todd He’s “Been Contacted by a Number of Lawyers... About the Basis for a Complaint, an Injunction” Against President Trump

AUGUST 19, 2018 – [“Truth isn’t truth,”](#) Rudy Giuliani, lawyer for President Donald Trump, tells “Meet the Press” moderator Chuck Todd this morning in a discussion of the president possibly testifying to special counsel Robert Mueller.

“I am not going to be rushed into having him testify so that he gets trapped into perjury,” says Giuliani. “And when you tell me that, you know, he should testify because he’s going to tell the truth and he shouldn’t worry, well that’s so silly because it’s somebody’s version of the truth.”

Not the truth.” When Todd replies, “Truth is truth,” Giuliani responds, “No, it isn’t truth. Truth isn’t truth. ... Donald Trump says I didn’t talk about Flynn with Comey. Comey says you did talk about it, so tell me what the truth is.”

Giuliani also shares the June 2016 Trump Tower meeting “was originally for the purpose of getting information about Clinton,” adding that Trump “didn’t know about that meeting. He found out about it after and by the time he found out about it, it was nothing.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

“I stand very much by” calling the president’s behavior treasonous, says former CIA Director **John Brennan**, also a senior national security and intelligence analyst for NBC News.

Brennan tells Todd he has “been contacted by a number of lawyers, and they have already given me their thoughts about the basis for a complaint, an injunction to try and prevent him from doing this in the future.” He also says, “I admire and respect Gina Haspel, and I want her to stay as C.I.A. Director because I think it’s important that the institution of the C.I.A. and the professionals be protected from this very, very abusive White House and Mr. Trump.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

PBS’ **Yamiche Alcindor**, radio show host **Hugh Hewitt**, NBC News’ **Carol Lee** and The Washington Post’s **Eugene Robinson** joined the broadcast this morning for insight and analysis, with Robinson reacting to Giuliani’s interview: “An extraordinary thing. Just throws more logs onto the fire of this administration’s truthfulness and candor. Or lack thereof. It’s just an amazing thing,” adding “it’s the new alternative facts.” [Watch the discussion.](#)

[Read the full transcript](#) of “Meet the Press” this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.

MTP EXCLUSIVE: HILLARY CLINTON SAYS ‘OUR INSTITUTIONS ARE BEING SEVERELY TESTED RIGHT NOW,’ INCLUDING SEN. JOHN MCCAIN’S ‘BELOVED SENATE’

PLUS: Sen. Jeff Flake on his Endorsement in the Arizona Race: “Nobody Would be Asking for it ... This is the President’s Party Right Now”

EXCLUSIVE: Rep. Jerrold Nadler Says “the Role of Congress is not to Protect the President” but to Hold Him “Accountable to the American People”

NEW: President Donald Trump’s Job Approval Rating Remains Stable in New NBC News/WSJ Poll

AUGUST 26, 2018 – In an exclusive phone interview this morning on *Meet the Press*, **former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton** remembered Sen. John McCain, telling moderator Chuck Todd, “He leaves a legacy of service and courage,” adding that he “understood that we’ve been through perilous times before at home and abroad. But our institutions are being severely tested right now, including his beloved Senate. And he was, in every way he knew how, trying to sound the alarm.”

Clinton also addressed McCain’s belief in the Senate as an institution and said: “He really understood in the marrow of his bones what it means to be an American and how important it was for us to, yes, disagree and differ. But at the end of the day to come together, to work together, to trust each other to get things done.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Sen. Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.) joined *Meet the Press* this morning, remembering Sen. McCain: “It was like having a big brother who nobody wanted to mess with,” adding, “I don’t know that we’ll ever see anybody who’s like John McCain. I think he’s one of a kind. I think we can certainly try to follow his example and seeing the good in our opponents and recognizing that people may be on the other side of the aisle or have a different philosophy but they’re our friends and they’re fellow Americans.”

When asked if his endorsement in the upcoming Arizona race would help or hurt a Republican candidate, Flake said: “Nobody would be asking for it in the Republican primary I can tell you that ... this is very much, and you know I’m not happy about it but this is the president’s party right now. And I think that we’ll be sorry for that in the future, but that’s the case right now.”

On the possibility that President Trump would fire Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Flake said it would be a “big mistake” and “the first domino to fall”. Flake added: “There may be a few isolated voices saying that the president ought to fire him now. I can tell you as a body we’re saying, ‘Please don’t’.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

“I think the Mueller investigation has to continue, first and foremost. And the Committee has to defend the Mueller investigation against the president’s and the Republicans in Congress’ attempts to sabotage it, to discredit it, and to discredit the FBI and the Department of Justice,” said **Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.)**, the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, in an exclusive interview this morning. Nadler added: “The role of Congress is not to protect the president, it’s to hold the president and any president accountable to the American people. And we ought to be holding investigations.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

New NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll numbers, conducted before and after last week’s conviction of Trump’s former campaign chairman Paul Manafort and the guilty plea of his former lawyer Michael Cohen, debuted on this morning’s broadcast and show that President Trump’s job approval rating remains virtually unchanged following last week’s events. [Read more.](#)

NBC News' **Tom Brokaw** and **Andrea Mitchell** also joined the program this morning, remembering Sen. McCain, [who had the most appearances of any guest on Meet the Press](#), appearing 73 times over the course of his political career. Brokaw [noted](#): "We're missing that in our public life these days, the kind of authenticity that [McCain] brought to the arena." CBN News' **David Brody**, NBC News' **Hallie Jackson**, NPR's **Joshua Johnson** and USA TODAY's **Susan Page** joined the broadcast's [roundtable](#) for insight and analysis on the week in politics and the legacy of Sen. McCain.

[Read the full transcript](#) of *Meet the Press* this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.

MTP EXCLUSIVE: SEN. DAN SULLIVAN ON AG JEFF SESSIONS: 'HE'S DOING A GOOD JOB,' IT WOULDN'T BE 'POLITICALLY WISE' TO FIRE HIM

EXCLUSIVE: Sen. Amy Klobuchar Says Brett Kavanaugh's Confirmation is "Not Normal"

EXCLUSIVE: Klobuchar Says Rep. Keith Ellison "Hasn't Asked me to Campaign with Him... I Will Campaign with our Ticket when the Time Comes"

PLUS: Mayor Andrew Gillum says Rep. Ron DeSantis' Rhetoric "Has to be Toned Down"

SEPTEMBER 2, 2018 – In an exclusive interview this morning on *Meet the Press*, **Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska)** responded to moderator Chuck Todd's question on whether Attorney General Jeff Sessions has committed any fireable offenses and said: "As I mentioned, he can do it. Would it be politically wise? I don't think so. And I support Jeff Sessions in the job he's doing right now."

Sullivan added: "I supported Jeff Sessions when he was nominated. I certainly voted for him and I think he's doing a good job." [Watch the full interview.](#)

Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) also joined the broadcast in an exclusive interview telling Todd that Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation is "not normal," adding: "We are not able to see 100,000 documents because the administration has said we can't see them, exerting their executive power; 148,000 documents that I've seen that you cannot see because they will not allow us to make them public so I can't even tell you about them right now on this show."

"I think that you could ask some very interesting questions about these documents that I'm unable to even say," she said.

Klobuchar also said she'd be in favor of bringing back the 60-vote threshold for Supreme Court nominees, saying of the filibuster: "I would prefer to bring it back," but adding that she doubts it would happen because no party in power is going to want to "hamstring themselves."

On if Democrats should walk out of the Kavanaugh hearing, Klobuchar said: "I think it's much more powerful, if we go in there, and we ask the questions... And if we just walked out, it would simply be one side asking the questions."

On whether she would campaign for Rep. Keith Ellison, Klobuchar said: "[I will campaign with our ticket when the time comes](#)," adding: "Right now, I'm focused on Judge Kavanaugh. He hasn't asked me to campaign with him. I -- that is where we are right now. And we have an incredibly strong ticket in Minnesota." [Watch the full interview](#).

When asked about Republican Congressman Ron DeSantis, Tallahassee mayor and Democratic Nominee for Governor of Florida, **Andrew Gillum** said DeSantis' "rhetoric, in my opinion, [has to be toned down](#)."

"We cannot afford to weaponize race and to go to the bottom of the barrel here," Gillum added, "honestly, people are going to take their cues from what their leadership says. And in this case, Ron DeSantis is the leader."

On the FBI anti-corruption investigation underway in Tallahassee, Gillum said: "I am a lot more circumspect about everything." Gillum said on being elected to public office at 23, "I was a bit naive that everyone that comes into my space has good intentions," adding: "Anyone who has done anything wrong ought to be held fully accountable." [Watch the full interview](#).

The Boston Herald's **Kimberly Atkins**, Washington Free Beacon's **Matthew Continetti**, The New York Times Magazine's **Mark Leibovich** and The Cook Political Report's **Amy Walter** [join the broadcast's roundtable](#) for insight and analysis on the week in politics.

Read the [full transcript](#) of *Meet the Press* this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.

MTP: SEN. BEN SASSE TELLS CHUCK TODD: "THERE'S JUST WAY TOO MUCH DRAMA EVERY DAY" IN THE WHITE HOUSE; IT'S "A REALITY SHOW, SOAP OPERA PRESIDENCY"

PLUS: Kellyanne Conway on Woodward Book: "I Didn't Bring the Request to the President Directly"

EXCLUSIVE: Senate Minority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) Says the Mueller Investigation is "The Issue of the Moment" Compared to Roe vs. Wade in Kavanaugh Hearings

ALSO: Kellyanne Conway on Whether There's an Investigation into the NYT Op-Ed: "Nobody is Investigating an Op-Ed," Adding that Pres. Trump "Thinks That We Should Find Out Who This Person Is"

SEPTEMBER 9, 2018 – This morning on *Meet the Press*, **Sen. Ben Sasse (R-Neb.)** told moderator Chuck Todd that “there’s just way too much drama every day,” which is “distracting” the country from more serious issues. Sasse said, “I don’t have any desire to beat this president up, but it’s pretty clear that this White House is a reality-show, soap-opera presidency.”

Sasse added, “What you’d like is the president to not worry so much about the short-term of staffing but the long-term of vision-casting for America, pull us together as a people, help us deliberate about where we should go and then build a team of great, big-cause, low-ego people around you.” He said, “Right now it feels like there’s just way too much drama every day and that distracts us from the longer term stuff we should be focused on together.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Counselor to President Donald Trump, Kellyanne Conway told Todd that she “did not” stop the president from speaking with Bob Woodward for his book, but when pressed on whether or not she brought the request to Pres. Trump, she added, “I didn’t bring the request to the president directly.”

On the topic of *The New York Times* op-ed, Conway said “nobody is investigating an op-ed” but said that Pres. Trump “has said publicly that he thinks that we should find out who this person is.” She added, “I don’t believe in giving this person so much elevation and oxygen”...”but we all want to know who it is.” When Todd pressed her on whether it’s possible Pres. Trump gave an order to the Department of Justice to investigate, Conway replied, “he has said publicly what he feels.” Conway added, “If the Attorney General, the Department of Justice and FBI feels like they have oversight over a matter like this then they will make that decision.”

Conway also told Todd that the Chief of Staff, General John Kelly, is in charge of the staff and that “he is” doing his job, adding that she’s “pro-General Kelly as Chief of Staff.” As for who’s not listening to Gen. Kelly, Conway said, “These are people in books and in I guess anonymous op-eds. I’m not even sure they know the president or know John Kelly. It’s not clear to me, who are I think motivated by conceit and deceit. And that person is going to suss out himself or herself because cowards like criminals always tell the wrong person. They always confess their crime to the wrong person.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

Senate Minority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) also joined the broadcast in an exclusive interview telling Todd that he believes the Mueller investigation is more important than *Roe vs. Wade* in questioning Kavanaugh, saying “the issue of the moment, clearly, is this situation with the Mueller investigation.” Durbin told Todd that all of the issues are “of importance” but “I can tell you we were focused on *Roe*, we were focused on the Affordable Care Act and denying health insurance coverage to millions of Americans. We tried to go after the fundamental issue and the one I think is the most important at this moment in history and that is what this man, Brett Kavanaugh, would do on the Supreme Court if he’s confronted with a question involving the White House, the Mueller investigation.”

Durbin also spoke about reports of lack of control in the West Wing, telling Todd: "This is a matter of great seriousness and gravity. We should not be dismissing it...We are talking about consistent reporting over and over again about unpredictable, unprepared, unstable behavior by this president. In a matter of great national security and defense can we trust this president to make the proper decision, to make a thoughtful decision. These are things that I think should be addressed by his own party. But instead we hear the silence of the lambs." [Watch the full interview.](#)

Democratic strategist **Cornell Belcher**, The Resurgent's **Erick Erickson**, AEI's **Danielle Pletka** and NBC News' **Katy Tur** [joined the broadcast's roundtable](#) for insight and analysis on the week in politics.

[Read the full transcript](#) of *Meet the Press* this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.

MTP: FEMA ADMINISTRATOR BROCK LONG ON HURRICANE MARIA DEATH TOLL: 'THE NUMBERS ARE ALL OVER THE PLACE'

ALSO: Long on Reports White House Considered Replacing Him: "Secretary Nielsen Has Never Asked Me to Resign"

EXCLUSIVE: Rep. Adam Schiff On Impact Of Manafort Plea: "Anyone Who Gets Indicted By Bob Mueller Goes Down"

EXCLUSIVE: Alan Dershowitz on Manafort Deal: "A Very Bad Day for the Trump Administration"

SEPTEMBER 16, 2018 – In an interview this morning on *Meet the Press*, **FEMA Administrator Brock Long** argued to moderator Chuck Todd that findings from multiple academic studies about the number of deaths attributed to Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico were "all over the place," adding that "I think the president is being taken out of context there."

He continued: "What happens is... you might see more deaths indirectly occur as time goes on because people have heart attacks due to stress. They fall off their house trying to fix their roof. They die in car crashes because they went through an intersection where the stoplights weren't working... There's all kinds of studies on this that we take a look at. Spousal abuse goes through the roof. You can't blame spousal abuse, you know, after a disaster on anybody."

Long also denied reports that Secretary of Homeland Security Kirstjen Nielsen recently asked him to step down in the midst of an investigation into whether he misused government vehicles in traveling to and from his home in North Carolina on the weekends, saying: "Secretary Nielsen has never asked me to resign...these vehicles are designed to provide secure communications

and the program was actually developed in 2008 — it ran for me the same way it's run for anybody else. It's my understanding that maybe some policies were not developed around these vehicles that we will clear up." [Watch the full interview.](#)

Also this morning in an exclusive interview, **Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.)**, ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee, spoke about Friday's announcement that Special Counsel Robert Mueller has reached a plea deal with Paul Manafort to cooperate in the Russia inquiry: "This sends a message to anyone who is in Bob Mueller's crosshairs right now, you better get to the special counsel and make your deal now. Because anyone who gets indicted by Bob Mueller goes down. And the longer you wait to come clean, the worse deal you're gonna get, the more time you're gonna face."

Schiff later added: "I thought he would hold out for pardon....But also Paul Manafort had to conclude watching the whole Michael Cohen saga, that trust and loyalty with Trump run in one direction only. You're loyal to him, he's not loyal to you. And so I think that sealed the deal." [Watch the full interview.](#)

Harvard Law professor emeritus **Alan Dershowitz** also joined the broadcast and provided this assessment on Paul Manafort's recent plea agreement: "I think both Manafort and President Trump acted too late. Manafort, if he was gonna make a deal, should've made it before he was convicted....And President Trump, if he was gonna pardon, he should've pardoned before Manafort agreed to cooperate....So there's not going to be any pardon now."

Dershowitz also disagreed with President Trump's lawyer Rudy Giuliani that Manafort's plea deal isn't as bad for the president as some believe: "This was a very bad day for the Trump administration. It's bad because he doesn't know what Manafort is saying." [Watch the full interview.](#)

Todd also spoke with **New Bern, NC Mayor Dana Outlaw** this morning, who provided an update on Hurricane Florence relief efforts in his city: "We're very concerned right now about trees that are continuing to fall down because of the saturated ground conditions," adding, "at this time, we're urging residents to stay inside and to not travel." [Watch the full interview.](#)

This week, the ***Meet the Press Film Festival in Collaboration with the American Film Institute*** (AFI) announced its 2018 film slate highlighting pressing issues ahead of the midterm elections. [Read more.](#)

PBS' **Yamiche Alcindor**, National Review's **Rich Lowry**, The Wall Street Journal's **Peggy Noonan** and presidential historian and author of "Leadership: In Turbulent Times" **Doris Kearns Goodwin** [joined the broadcast's roundtable](#) for insight and analysis on the week in politics.

[Read the full transcript](#) of *Meet the Press* this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.

MTP EXCLUSIVE: ON JUDGE BRETT KAVANAUGH ACCUSATION, SEN. PATTY MURRAY SAYS 'HOW THE SENATE HANDLES ... WILL BE A TEST OF THIS TIME'

ALSO: Murray on the Need for an FBI Investigation: "Senate Republicans Have Predetermined the Outcome of That This Will be a He Says, She Says by Taking That Away"

EXCLUSIVE: Sen. David Perdue on Kavanaugh Confirmation: "There's No Rush Here"

PLUS: Secretary of State Mike Pompeo Says U.S. is Pushing Back on "Russia's Malign Activity Around the World"

NEW: NBC News / WSJ Poll Shows Democrats Hold the Advantage in November's Elections

SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 – In an exclusive interview this morning on *Meet the Press*, **Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.)** addressed the Senate's handling of Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's accusation against Judge Brett Kavanaugh, telling moderator Chuck Todd: "Congress failed the test in 1991 with Anita Hill ... how the Senate handles this and the Senate Republicans handle this will be a test of this time, of 2018, in the #MeToo movement."

Murray made the case for an FBI investigation into Dr. Ford's accusations, saying: "I have said many times, that the Anita Hill hearing was a disaster, but they did have an F.B.I. investigation ... There were other ways to judge this. The Senate Republicans have predetermined the outcome of that this will be a he says, she says by taking that away." [Watch the full interview.](#)

Also this morning in an exclusive interview, **Sen. David Perdue (R-Ga.)** commented on Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation vote stating, "there's no rush here," adding, "look if we don't get all the information this week I have total confidence that Senator Grassley will take his time and make sure we have all the information we need. There is absolutely no rush to judgment."

Asked if there is anything Dr. Ford could say that would change his mind about supporting Judge Kavanaugh, Perdue answered: "These are serious allegations. I hope Dr. Ford can be put in a comfortable situation, where she can provide the information. Look, this is a democracy. We have a judicial system. But we also have innocent until proven guilty. And so my view is that we need to hear from both parties and make sure that we do it in a timely manner." [Watch the full interview.](#)

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo joined the broadcast to discuss the United States' efforts to "push back against Russia's malign activity around the world," as the United Nations General Assembly gets underway this week. Pompeo stated that just last week the U.S. put sanctions on China for purchasing Russian weapons. Asked if it's fair to say that the Russians have not been helpful on foreign policy objectives, Pompeo noted, "it's a pretty fair assessment."

Pompeo also spoke to Todd about the conspiratorial nature of Congress, saying that certain members would be less conspiratorial if they could see what he saw from his positions of leadership both in the C.I.A and now the State Department. He added that while he tries to share as much information as he can with Congress that “sometimes being conspiratorial’s appropriate too. Sometimes asking hard questions -- it’s their job, their oversight role.” [Watch the full interview.](#)

New NBC News / Wall Street Journal poll numbers debuted on this morning’s broadcast showing that six weeks before the 2018 midterm elections, Democrats hold a 12-point lead in congressional preference among registered voters. [Read more.](#)

The New York Times’ **Helene Cooper**, National Review’s **Jonah Goldberg**, POLITICO’s **Eliana Johnson**, and MSNBC’s **Chris Matthews** [joined the broadcast’s roundtable](#) for insight and analysis on the week in politics. Additionally, **Marvin Kalb**, author of “Enemy of the People: Trump’s War on the Press, the New McCarthyism and the Threat to American Democracy,” [joined the broadcast.](#)

[Read the full transcript](#) of *Meet the Press* this morning, and follow the show [on Twitter](#) and [on Facebook](#) for the latest.