

BUSINESS

Perspective: A 36-year police veteran writes that violent confrontations with uncooperative suspects are an unavoidable part of the police work and that some reformists don't seem to appreciate that reality. **B3**

Las Vegas casino executive: 'We're in a world of hurt' **Page B2**



Tuning out?

Dozens of staffers in NPR's Washington headquarters are being furloughed this summer as a cost-cutting measure to cope with the pandemic's economic toll.

FILE PHOTO BY ASTRID RIECKEN/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST; LOGO COURTESY NPR

NPR feels the economic pain of coronavirus — and more trouble lies ahead

Ratings have taken a hit, with stay-at home orders keeping many devoted listeners out of their cars, and thus away from their radios.

By **PAUL FARHI**
The Washington Post

Washington

NPR REPORTER KELSEY SNELL would normally have spent last week covering Nancy Pelosi and Mitch McConnell as the congressional correspondent for “Morning Edition” and “All Things Considered.” But it wasn’t a normal week for Snell or anyone else at NPR.
Instead, she was out of work — one of dozens in NPR’s 520-person Washington, D.C., newsroom who are going on unpaid weeklong furloughs at some point during this shutdown

summer, under a cost-saving agreement between NPR’s management and its newsroom.
“Please support your local public radio station!” she tweeted before ducking out for the week.
For decades, the P in NPR stood for “public,” as in publicly-supported, non-commercial radio and digital news. Yet with its growing reliance on corporate advertising, NPR has found itself on equally troubled footing as its for-profit competitors, all of them reliant on the same pool of ad dollars that have dried up during the coronavirus pandemic.
At the same time, ratings have

taken a hit, with stay-at home orders keeping many devoted listeners out of their cars, and thus away from their radios, raising concerns about the impact on public donations to hundreds of member stations.
A sharp downturn in “underwriting” — public broadcasting’s euphemism for its tasteful style of advertising — prompted NPR to adopt a package of pay cuts, furloughs and other concessions in April. Yet NPR will still show a deficit of about \$10 million when its fiscal year closes in September, its widest in years, chief executive John Lansing said in an interview.

The new year starting in October figures to be even tougher. Without another round of givebacks, Lansing is projecting a deficit between \$30 million and \$43 million — by far the largest in NPR’s 50-year history.
Advertisers began to grow wary in early March, as the full dimension of the pandemic became clear. Many “paused” or canceled spots on NPR’s signature news shows, Lansing said, tearing a hole in budget projections for the year.
“When the economy all but shut down, companies cut their marketing expenses. We felt it,” said Lansing,
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Poll: Pandemic hurting Americans’ finances in disparate ways

For some, the virus has meant lost income or struggles to pay bills on time — particularly among Hispanic, Black and younger Americans

By **TAMMY WEBBER**
Associated Press

Burton, Mich. — Crystal and Chris Martin put off some payments on their home in this blue-collar town near Flint and are pinching pennies to make ends meet until they return to work. In Windsor, Conn., Anne Druce’s family canceled home improvement projects out of an abundance of caution but remains financially secure.
As the coronavirus pandemic drags on, a new poll finds it is having different effects on Americans’ economic well-being. For some, the virus has meant lost income or struggles to pay bills on time — particularly

among Hispanic, Black and younger Americans. Others, most notably college-educated and older Americans, have transitioned to working from home or have experienced the nation’s economic decline through a dip in the value of their investments.
“It’s just all been kind of frustrating,” said Crystal Martin, who lost her job managing a roller skating rink in March and waited 10 weeks for her first unemployment check. Her husband, an X-ray technician at a Flint hospital, was laid off for about month, then took parental leave after Crystal had a baby in July, to reduce the chances of bringing home the virus.

“We had to go into our savings, and we were crunching numbers to see how long it would last,” said Martin, adding that the couple, who have six children in their blended family, still aren’t sure if their mortgage company will add the deferred house payments to the end of their loan or demand the money all at once later this year.
Overall, roughly a quarter of Americans say they have lost savings and about as many have lost income, according to the latest COVID Response Tracking Study, conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago. About 2 in 10 report losing a job and roughly
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TAMMY WEBBER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crystal and Chris Martin stand outside their home in Burton, Mich. The Martins are among millions of Americans who have struggled financially during the coronavirus pandemic.

NEW YORK TIMES NAMES KOPIT LEVIEN NEXT CEO

New York Times Co. named Meredith Kopit Levien as its next chief executive officer, trusting her to continue the digital success that the newspaper has enjoyed under Mark Thompson.
Kopit Levien, 49, takes over the top job Sept. 8. Thompson, who’s about to turn 63, said in a statement that he chose this moment to step down “because we have achieved everything I set out to do when I joined the Times Company eight years ago.”
Bloomberg News reported in February that Kopit Levien, now the chief operating officer, was the front-runner to succeed Thompson. Though President Donald Trump needles the paper as “the failing

New York Times,” Thompson and Kopit Levien have overseen a period of robust growth as the Times has emphasized digital products and subscription revenue, rather than relying on ad sales.
The paper added 587,000 online and mobile subscribers in the first quarter of this year alone. Times stock is up 42% this year, far outpacing the S&P 500 and such plummeting peers as Ganett Co. and Tribune Publishing Co.
— **Bloomberg**



Meredith Kopit Levien

Bezos adds record \$13 billion in single day to his fortune

Jeff Bezos added \$13 billion to his net worth last Monday, the largest single-day jump for an individual since the Bloomberg Billionaires Index was created in 2012. Amazon shares are up more than 70% this year on rising optimism about web shopping trends.
Bezos, Amazon’s 56-year-old founder and the world’s richest person, has seen his fortune swell to \$189.3 billion, despite the U.S. entering its worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. He’s now personally worth more than the market valuation of giants such as Exxon Mobil, Nike and McDonald’s.
Mackenzie Bezos, the ex-wife of the Washington Post owner, gained \$4.6 billion Monday and is now the 13th-richest person in the world.
Other tech titans are also enjoying a surge driven partly by people forced to stay home and helped by the boost given to markets by unprecedented stimulus efforts by governments and central bankers.
— **Bloomberg**
Facebook chief executive Mark Zuckerberg has



ANDREW HARRER/BLOOMBERG

Jeff Bezos