

# Programs offer discounted rides to help keep drunk drivers off DC-area roads

Melissa Howell | [mhowell@wtop.com](mailto:mhowell@wtop.com)

From March Madness celebrations to St. Patrick's Day festivities, it'll be a wild weekend in the D.C. area, and there are a few programs offering discounted rides to help keep drunk drivers off the roads.

Kurt Erickson, president of the Washington Regional Alcohol Program, said that drivers should be just as cautious as they would be on New Year's Eve.

Nationwide, 45% of all traffic deaths this weekend will be a result of drunk driving; in the D.C. metro area, that number is 25%.

"Still far too many," stressed Erickson. "Still one out of four."

He said his organization is offering an alternative to anyone who shouldn't be behind the wheel through their Sober Rider Program. Lyft is offering a \$15.00 credit through the program. Almost 85,000 people have participated since it began 32 years ago.

It'll be in operation at 4 p.m. Friday and will run until 4 a.m. Saturday. "We always anticipate a higher level of ridership," added Erickson. "The program is only as good as the number of people that use it."

The Maryland Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Office is also offering \$15 credits today and tomorrow.

Anyone heading out this weekend that may not be drinking, taking steps to fight drunk driving could still help make a difference. If you see someone driving impaired, call 911 in the District or Maryland or call 77 in Virginia.

It's also important to wear your seatbelt, an effective measure that could reduce death. "Buckle up," added Erickson. "It could be a lifesaving move."

# The 25 best things to do in D.C. this weekend and next week

By Fritz Hahn, Sophia Solano, Adele Chapin, Peter Marks and Chris Kelly

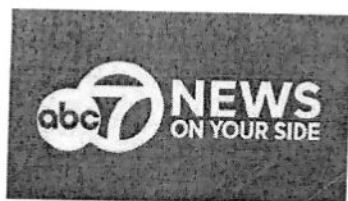


The annual Ireland at the Wharf brings Irish dancers, live music, games and a beer garden to the Southwest Waterfront. (Wharf)

Friday, March 17

## SoberRide discounted rides home

SoberRide, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program's long-running anti-drunken-driving program, offers free and discounted Lyft rides home between 4 p.m. Friday and 4 a.m. Saturday. Look for a code posted on [soberride.com](https://soberride.com) at 3 p.m. Friday, and enter it into the app for a \$15 ride credit. If the ride is cheaper than that, it's free; if it's more, the passenger pays the difference. A limited number of credits are available, so keep an eye on the website and grab the code ASAP.



# Need a ride? Here's how to get a free Lyft in the DMV this St. Patrick's Day

*by 7News Staff*

WASHINGTON (7News) — Friday is St. Patrick's Day and no matter how you're celebrating we want to make sure you get home safely.

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program is offering free Lyft rides up to \$15.

Officials say the St. Patrick's SoberRide program will begin at 4 p.m. Friday and run through 4 a.m. March 18.

During that time period, DMV area residents, ages 21 and older, can enter a SoberRide code on the Lyft app's promo section to get their free ride home.

A promo code will be posted Friday at 3 p.m. on their website.

**WJLA-TV (ABC)**  
March 16, 2023



# Nonprofit to offer free Lyft rides on St. Patrick's Day throughout the DC area

**Keep the luck of the Irish alive. Don't drink and drive!**

*Author: Samantha Gilstrap*

WASHINGTON — In an effort to prevent drunk driving this St. Patrick's Day, a local nonprofit is offering free Lyft rides, with a value of up to \$15, to help get those celebrating the holiday in the D.C. area get home safely.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly half of all U.S. traffic deaths on St. Patrick's Day involve drunk drivers.

To combat these statistics, the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) is offering free safe rides with Lyft.

The 2023 St. Patrick's SoberRide program will begin at 4 p.m. Friday, March 17 and run through 4 a.m. March 18.

During this 12-hour period, area residents, ages 21 and older, celebrating the holiday with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones, then enter the SoberRide code in the app's Promo section to get their free ride home.

WRAP's 2023 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide promo code will be posted at 3:00 p.m. on March 17 on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

"Lyft is dedicated to providing access to reliable and responsible rides, and we're proud to partner with programs like WRAP to offer Lyft as an alternative to impaired driving," said Kamillah Wood, Director of Public Policy for Community Safety at Lyft. "Through our Roadway Safety Program and our partnerships with the public, we hope to empower our community with the tools to protect themselves and those around them this holiday season."

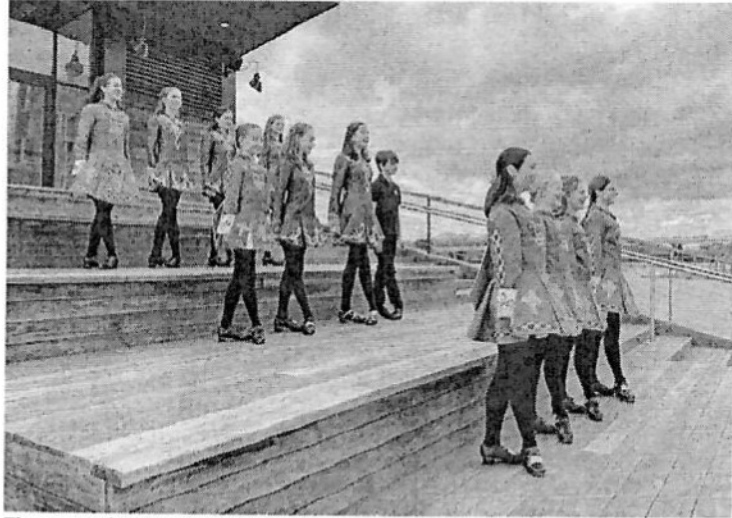
SoberRide is offered throughout Lyft's Washington D.C. coverage area which includes all or parts of: the District of Columbia; the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's and towns therein plus the cities of Bowie, College Park, District Heights, Gaithersburg, Glenarden, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Laurel, Mount Ranier, New Carrollton, Rockville, Seat Pleasant and Takoma Park; and the Northern Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William and towns therein plus the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park.

Since 1991, officials claim WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 84,676 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

**WUSA9 (CBS)**  
March 15, 2023

## 6 places to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in the D.C. area

By Fritz Hahn



The annual Ireland at the Wharf brings bagpipers, Irish dancers, games and a beer garden to the Southwest Waterfront. (Wharf)

From Ned Devine's in Herndon to the Old Brogue in Great Falls to Galway Bay in downtown Annapolis, the Irish pubs are going to be packed with revelers making the most of St. Patrick's Day, kicking off an unofficial three-day weekend. Friendly advice: No matter where you're going, try to arrive as early as possible. Lines usually start building in the afternoon, and no one wants to wait outside while friends are enjoying themselves indoors.

**A tip for getting home after the party: SoberRide, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program's long-running anti-drunken-driving program, offers free and discounted Lyft rides home between 4 p.m. Friday and 4 a.m. Saturday. Look for a code posted on soberride.com at 3 p.m. Friday, and enter it into the app for a \$15 ride credit. If the ride is cheaper than that, it's free; if it's more, the passenger pays the difference. A limited number of credits are available, so keep an eye on the website and grab the code ASAP.**

**The Dubliner** - No D.C. pub does it bigger than the Dubliner, where the drinks began flowing and the bands began playing at 9 a.m. Friday. Expect bands to rotate throughout the day, plus party music from DJ Harry Hotter. There's a \$10 cover. (4 F St. NW.)

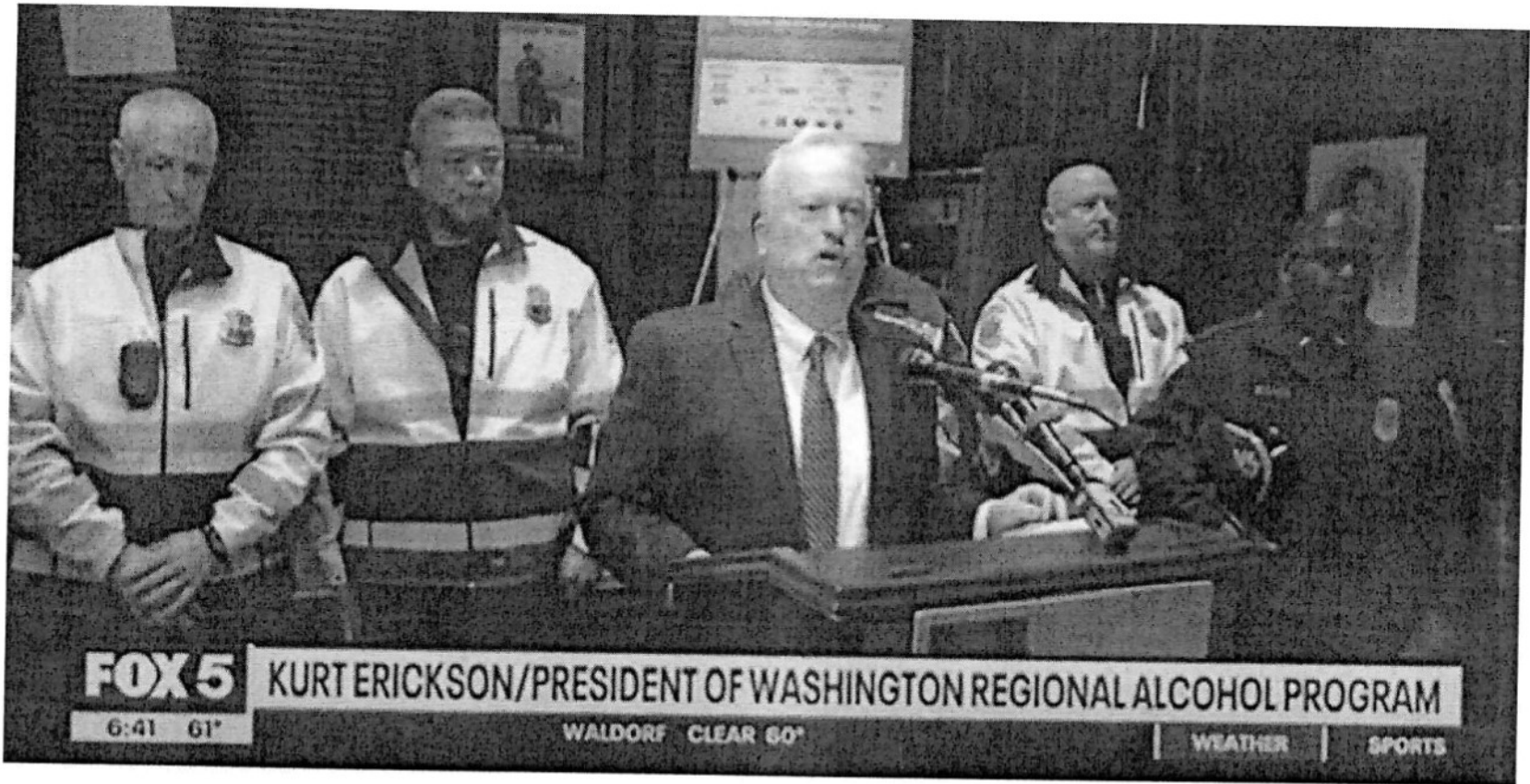
**Across the Pond** - Across the Pond got started bright and early Friday with Kegs & Eggs at 7 a.m. Expect pipers and Irish dancers throughout the day, and a live broadcast with DC101 from 7 p.m. to midnight. (1732 Connecticut Ave. NW.)

**Mattie and Eddie's** - Mattie and Eddie's threw open the doors at 9 a.m. on Pentagon Row, and the music starts at noon Friday. Dancers from the Boyle and McGrath schools perform throughout the afternoon. (1301 S. Joyce St., Arlington.)

**Murphy's Grand Irish Pub** - Murphy's Grand Irish Pub in Alexandria has a full day of entertainment planned: Live music, which started at 10 a.m. Friday, brings Pat Carroll, Pat Garvey, Brandon Kennedy and Colby Sard to the stage. (713 King St., Alexandria.)

**The Irish Inn at Glen Echo** - The Irish Inn at Glen Echo is known for live music, and the Galway Ramblers take the stage soon after doors open at 11 a.m. Friday. They're followed by the Bog Band, which plays from 3 to 7 p.m., and the Irish Inn Mates, who perform from 7 until close. The Culkin School of Traditional Irish Dance will make an appearance, too. There's a \$5 cover. (6119 Tulane Ave., Glen Echo.)

**Ireland at the Wharf** - Those who don't overindulge on Friday night can head to the Wharf on Saturday for even more celebrations. The District Pier turns into a pop-up beer garden with pours of whiskey and Guinness, hosted by the nearby Kirwan's Irish Pub. Entertainment inspired by the Emerald Isle includes Irish dancers and bagpipers; live music from the 19th Street Band, Poehemia and Ben David Band; and a craft corner for kids, along with lawn games such as oversized Jenga. Rugby fans will want to stake out a space in front of the big screen at Kirwan's to watch the Ireland vs. England matchup in the Six Nations tournament. (Noon to 6 p.m. Free.)



**FOX 5** KURT ERICKSON/PRESIDENT OF WASHINGTON REGIONAL ALCOHOL PROGRAM  
6:41 61° WALDORF CLEAR 60° WEATHER SPORTS

**FOX 5 DC**  
March 16, 2023

# Nonprofit group offering free Lyft rides throughout the DMV on St. Patrick's Day

by: Paola Beloso

WASHINGTON (DC News Now) — Washington Regional Alcohol Program said it would offer free Lyft rides to people across the DMV on St. Patrick's Day. The SoberRide® program is intended to help combat potential drunk driving that celebrations could bring.

“Nearly half of U.S. traffic fatalities during St. Patrick's Day involve drunk drivers according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration,” said Kurt Erickson, WRAP's President.

To take advantage of the offer, people who are 21 and older enter the SoberRide® code in the Lyft app's “Promo” section to receive free (up to \$15) transportation home. The promo code will be posted at 3 p.m. on March 17. People can take advantage of the program from 4 p.m. that day until 4 a.m. on March 18.

During the 2022 St. Patrick's Day campaign, about 500 people in the DMV used WRAP's SoberRide®. The nonprofit group also offers the program on Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day, Halloween and winter holidays through New Year's Eve.

“Lyft is dedicated to providing access to reliable and responsible rides, and we're proud to partner with programs like WRAP to offer Lyft as an alternative to impaired driving. Through our Roadway Safety Program and our partnerships with the public, we hope to empower our community with the tools to protect themselves and those around them this holiday season,” said Kamillah Wood, Director of Public Policy for Community Safety at Lyft.

SoberRide® is offered throughout Lyft's DMV coverage area which includes:

- D.C.
- The Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's, towns within those counties, plus the cities of Bowie, College Park, District Heights, Gaithersburg, Glenarden, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Laurel, Mount Ranier, New Carrollton, Rockville, Seat Pleasant and Takoma Park
- The Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park

Since 1991, WRAP's SoberRide® program has provided 84,676 free rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.



# Community DC Interview WRAP.org | Guests Kurt Erickson & Officer Derbyshire

*By Dennis Glasgow*



Photo: Kurt Erickson

## About Us:

Founded in 1982, the nonprofit [501(c)(3)] Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) is an award-winning public-private partnership working to prevent drunk driving and underage drinking in the Washington-metropolitan area. Through public education, innovative health education programs and advocacy, WRAP is credited with keeping the metro-Washington area's alcohol-related traffic deaths historically lower than the national average. WRAP, however, may best be known to area residents via the organization's popular free safe ride service for would-be drunk drivers, SoberRide®.

Donate [HERE](#)

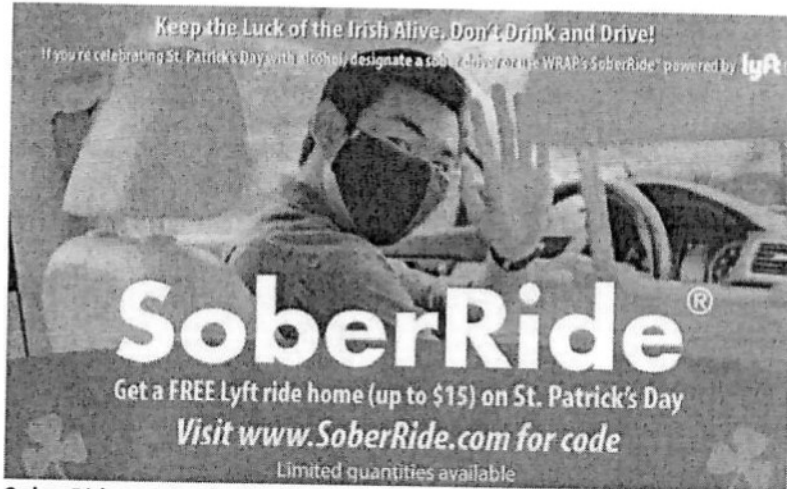
Contact: 703.893.0461 | [wrap@wrap.org](mailto:wrap@wrap.org)

***iHeartRadio***  
(WASH-FM, WMZQ, HOT 99.5, DC-101,  
BIG 100 & 1190 iHeart Sports DC)  
March 10, 2023



# SoberRide offering free rides home on St. Patrick's Day

Vernon Miles



SoberRide poster for St. Patrick's Day 2023 (image courtesy WRAP)

If you're hitting up one of Arlington's many St. Patrick's Day events, your ride home could come free courtesy of a local nonprofit combatting drunk driving.

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) is continuing its holiday SoberRide program this year for St. Patrick's Day 2023.

The SoberRide program will kick off at 4 p.m. on Friday, March 17, and will be active until 4 a.m. on Saturday, March 18.

According to a press release from WRAP:

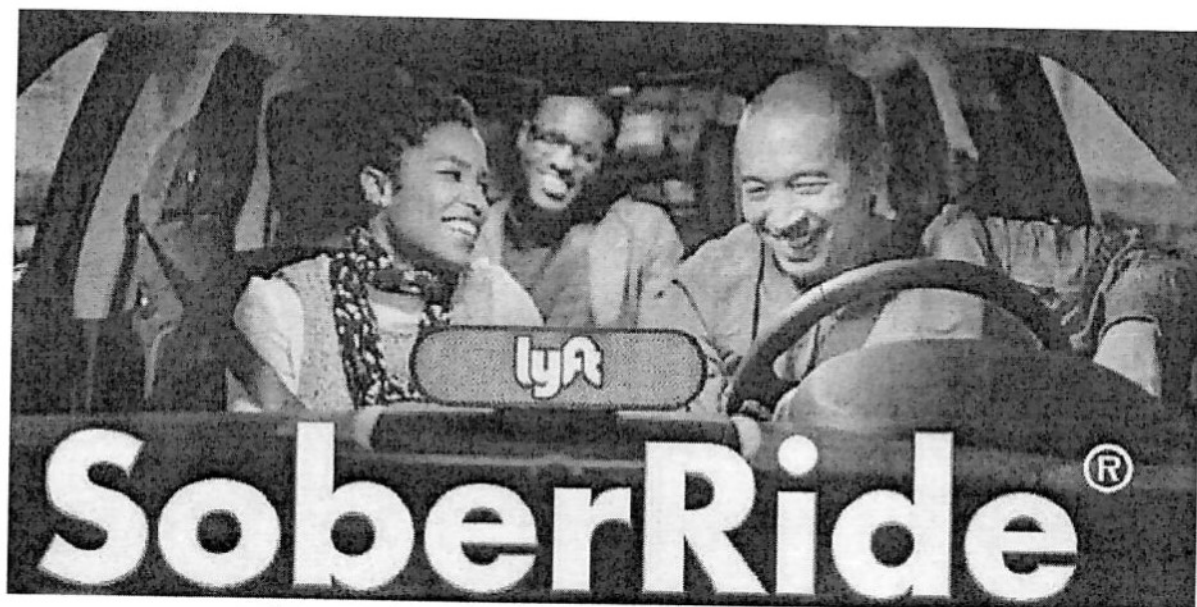
*During this twelve-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones, then enter the SoberRide code in the app's 'Promo' section to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP's 2023 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide promo code will be posted at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17th on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).*

The program is offered around the region, including in Arlington and surrounding localities.

The release noted that last year, 482 people in the region took advantage of the SoberRide program. WRAP also offers the SoberRide program on Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day, Halloween, and the winter holidays.

In addition to major sponsors like Amazon and the 395 Express Lanes, several Irish restaurants have helped to sponsor SoberRide this year, including Arlington's own O'Sullivan's Irish Pub (3207 Washington Blvd).

# SoberRide offering free 'Lyfts' for St. Patrick's Day



The Washington Regional Alcohol Program will host its SoberRide initiative for the St. Patrick's Day holiday, providing a free ride home for those (age 21 and older) who may have had too much to drink.

The service, operated in conjunction with Lyft, will run from 4 p.m. Friday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) until 4 a.m. on Saturday, March 18.

"Nearly two-thirds of nighttime U.S. traffic deaths following St. Patrick's Day involve drunk drivers," WRAP president Kurt Erickson said in a statement.

During the 2022 St. Patrick's Day campaign, 482 people in the Washington-metropolitan area used WRAP's SoberRide program rather than possibly driving home impaired.

SoberRide also is offered during Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day, Halloween and the winter holiday period. Since 1991, it has provided nearly 82,000 free safe rides home to local residents.

The program is offered throughout Lyft's Washington D.C. coverage area which includes D.C., the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's and the Northern Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William.

Since 1991, SoberRide has provided 84,676 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the greater Washington area.

More information about WRAP's initiative can be found at [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

## Free Rides Available to Keep Roads Safe for St. Patrick's Day



The Washington Regional Alcohol Program's (WRAP) St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® program offers free Lyft rides to keep drivers from drinking and getting behind the wheel. The service is available from 4 p.m. Friday, March 17 until 4 a.m. Saturday, March 18. Nearly half of the U.S. Highway deaths on St. Patrick's Day involve drunk drivers.

Use the Lyft app on a smartphone to receive a free ride home, then enter a code in the app's "Promo" section. The promo code will be posted on the [SoberRide website](#) at 3 p.m. on Friday. Participants must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service.

Last year, 482 persons in the Washington metropolitan area used WRAP's St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® program rather than possibly driving home impaired.

WRAP's SoberRide, founded in 1982, has helped to ensure greater Washington, DC residents have a safe way home on high-risk holidays, according to a news release. Since 1991, WRAP has provided over 84,676 safe rides home. Currently, SoberRide operates on Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day, Halloween, and the winter holidays including New Year's Eve.

# InFive: Peak bloom prediction, data center hearing and rain early

**Top news and notes from around Northern Virginia and beyond.**

## 5. Data centers rule change?

Residents sounded off at a public hearing this week regarding a proposed variance that would suspend air emissions rules to allow between 100-150 data centers in Prince William, Loudoun and Fairfax Counties to run approximately 4,000 diesel generators to power its facilities in the event of a power grid failure.

## 4. Peak bloom

The National Park Service has predicted peak bloom for Washington's iconic cherry blossoms between March 22 and March 25 -- right on time as the annual National Cherry Blossom Festival begins March 20.

## 3. Showers this morning

Showers are likely this morning followed by a cloudy day with highs near 70 degrees. [Click here for your forecast by ZIP code.](#)

## 2. Celebrate responsibly

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program will host its SoberRide initiative for the St. Patrick's Day holiday, providing a free ride home for those (age 21 and older) who may have had too much to drink.

## 1. Death investigation

Fairfax County police detectives say an 86-year-old man and 73-year-old woman died in a murder-suicide at their home Tuesday night.



**Public Safety - Week of March 17, 2023**

## **Free St. Patrick's Day Lyft rides offered**

Preparing to combat that time of year when according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly half (45%) of U.S. traffic deaths involve drunk drivers.

Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the 2023 St. Patrick's SoberRide program will be in operation beginning at 4 p.m. March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) and operate until 4 a.m. on March 18th as a way to keep local roads safe.

During this twelve-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones, then enter the SoberRide code in the app's 'Promo' section to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP's 2023 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide promo code will be posted at 3 p.m. on March 17 on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

# InFive: UMW receives largest-ever gift, local teen on 'The Voice' and another windy day

**Top news and notes from around Northern Virginia and beyond.**

## 5. Local teen competes

A Loudoun County teenager appeared Tuesday night on NBC's "The Voice," wowing judges in her blind audition with the song "Stars" by Grace Potter and the Nocturnals.

## 4. Big donation

The University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg has received its largest monetary gift in the school's history – \$30 million from the estate of alumna Irene Piscopo Rodgers.

## 3. Another blustery day

Today will be sunny with gusty winds and highs near 51 degrees. The forecast calls for sustained winds of 20 to 30 mph with higher gusts. [Click here for your forecast by ZIP code.](#)

## 2. Clothing drive success

The recent Winter Clothing Drive led by 66 Express Outside the Beltway collected nearly 150 articles of warm clothes for Manassas-based nonprofit Boxes of Basics.

## 1. Unemployment rate

Virginia has one of the lowest state unemployment rates in the nation, but it rose last month and is now higher than it was a year ago.

## InsideOut

**The Washington Regional Alcohol Program will host its SoberRide initiative for the St. Patrick's Day holiday, providing a free ride home for those (age 21 and older) who may have had too much to drink.**

# 5 Things to Know Today, March 17, In Montgomery County

Happy St. Patrick's Day. Today is Friday, March 17. Here are 5 things to know and the 10 day weather forecast as we head into the weekend.

- 1. St. Patrick's Day:** There are numerous events to celebrate the holiday in this list. Remember to make a plan for a sober ride home if you are celebrating with alcohol, one option is the free Lyft rides offered through the Washington Regional Alcohol Program's SoberRide.
- 2. Shout Out Contest:** The county transportation department is holding a contest this month where residents are encouraged to show appreciation for their Ride On bus driver on social media. The first drawing is today.
- 3. Westfield Montgomery BlossomFest:** Celebrating the iconic cherry blossom symbol, the mall in Bethesda will feature a blossom and lantern installation in the Nordstrom corridor in addition to a mural from local artist Nicole Bourgea. Shoppers can relax in the Blossom Lunge where live jazz will be played every Friday from 5 to 7:30 p.m.
- 4. Saturday at Brookside Gardens:** There are two events Saturday, March 18 at Wheaton's Brookside Gardens. The first is an indoor Yoga class at 9:30 a.m. No walk-ins will be accepted; register here. Also at 3 p.m., learn about the Eastern box turtles. All attendees must register here. Please note, rain cancels this event.
- 5. Deadline for Nominations:** Sunday, March 19 is the last day to nominate a women in the Hello Betty's Total Betty contest.

# InFive: Casino robbery conviction, history standards and free rides for St. Patrick's revelers

**Top news and notes from around Northern Virginia and beyond.**

## 5. Casino winner robbery

A Prince William County jury on Wednesday convicted a D.C. man in the robbery and shooting of a casino winner who was followed from MGM National Harbor to his Dale City home in December 2019.

## 4. Data center tax revenue

Data centers are projected to pump over \$100 million into Prince William County coffers during the 2023 fiscal year, up 18% over last year, with more than \$40 million projected to come directly from the county's computer equipment and peripherals tax.

## 3. Warmer but rainy

Warmer temperatures are on tap for today with highs in the mid-60s, but so is rain. [Click here](#) for your forecast by ZIP code.

## 2. Peak bloom

The National Park Service has predicted next week for peak bloom of Washington's iconic cherry blossoms -- right on time as the annual National Cherry Blossom Festival begins March 20.

## 1. History standards

The Virginia Department of Education's newest draft of the state's history and social science standards aims to address objections raised this fall over content and omissions, but critics say problems remain.

## InsideOut

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program will host its SoberRide initiative for the St. Patrick's Day holiday, providing a free ride home for those (age 21 and older) who may have had too much to drink tonight through Saturday.



## Ashburn Patch

# Free Sober Rides Offered For St. Patrick's Day 2023 In DC Region

The SoberRide program will return to offer free Lyft rides during St. Patrick's Day to keep impaired drivers off DC area roads.

*Emily Leayman, Patch Staff*



The St. Patrick's Day SoberRide program will provide free Lyft rides up to \$15 to keep impaired drivers off the roads in the DC region. (Shutterstock)

WASHINGTON, DC — St. Patrick's Day celebrations can end with a free ride home as part of a DC area program to keep impaired drivers off the roads.

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program's 2023 St. Patrick's SoberRide program is planned between 4 p.m. Friday, March 17 and 4 a.m. on Saturday, March 18. Because the holiday is considered a high-risk time for

intoxicated driving, the program will offer a Lyft ride up to \$15.

"Nearly half of U.S. traffic fatalities during St. Patrick's Day involve drunk drivers according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration," said Kurt Erickson, WRAP's president, in a statement.

During the holiday, residents 21 and older can enter the SoberRide code in the Lyft app's promo section to receive the \$15 credit. The promo code will be posted at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 17 at [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

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The nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program, which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2022, is credited with helping keeping the DC region's alcohol-related traffic deaths lower than the national average. During the 2022, St. Patrick's Day holiday, 482 people used the SoberRide program. The program is offered on other high-risk holidays for intoxicated driving: Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day, Halloween and the winter holidays through New Year's Eve.

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Among the sponsors of the SoberRide program are some of the DC region's Irish restaurants, including Arlington's O'Sullivan's Irish Pub, Leesburg's Spanky's Shenanigans and DC's The Dubliner Restaurant & Pub, Kelly's Irish Times and Martin's Tavern.

Other sponsors include the 395 Express Lanes, Amazon, Anheuser-Busch, Beer Institute, Brown-Forman, Constellation Brands, District of Columbia Association of Beverage Alcohol Wholesalers, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility, Giant Food, Glory Days Grill, Lyft, Molson Coors Beverage Company, New Belgium Brewing, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington, and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association. SoberRide public partners are the District of Columbia Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Office, Maryland Highway Safety Office/Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration and Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

**Ashburn Patch**  
March 13, 2023

## Gaithersburg Patch

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**Gaithersburg Patch**  
March 13, 2023

## Silver Spring Patch

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*Emily Leayman, Patch Staff*



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**Silver Spring Patch**  
March 13, 2023

## Rockville Patch

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*Emily Leayman, Patch Staff*



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**Rockville Patch**  
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**Herndon Patch**  
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## Reston Patch

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**Reston Patch**  
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**Leesburg Patch**  
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**Woodbridge Patch**  
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**Alexandria Patch**  
March 13, 2023

## Kingstowne Patch

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**Kingstowne Patch**  
March 13, 2023

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**Falls Church Patch**  
March 13, 2023

## Bowie Patch

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**Bowie Patch**  
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*Emily Leayman, Patch Staff*



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WASHINGTON, DC — St. Patrick's Day celebrations can end with a free ride home as part of a DC area program to keep impaired drivers off the roads.

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program's 2023 St. Patrick's SoberRide program is planned between 4 p.m. Friday, March 17 and 4 a.m. on Saturday, March 18. Because the holiday is considered a high-risk time for

intoxicated driving, the program will offer a Lyft ride up to \$15.

"Nearly half of U.S. traffic fatalities during St. Patrick's Day involve drunk drivers according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration," said Kurt Erickson, WRAP's president, in a statement.

During the holiday, residents 21 and older can enter the SoberRide code in the Lyft app's promo section to receive the \$15 credit. The promo code will be posted at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 17 at [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

The SoberRide program is good in Lyft's Washington D.C. coverage area, which includes the District of Columbia, Arlington County, Fairfax County, cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park, parts of Prince William and Loudoun counties, Prince George's County, Charles County, St. Mary's County, and parts of Montgomery County.

The nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program, which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2022, is credited with helping keeping the DC region's alcohol-related traffic deaths lower than the national average. During the 2022, St. Patrick's Day holiday, 482 people used the SoberRide program. The program is offered on other high-risk holidays for intoxicated driving: Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day, Halloween and the winter holidays through New Year's Eve.

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**Vienna Patch**  
March 13, 2023

## Arlington Patch

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**Arlington Patch**  
March 13, 2023

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**Burke Patch**  
March 13, 2023

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**Germantown Patch**  
March 13, 2023



## Old Town Alexandria **Patch**

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**Old Town Alexandria Patch**  
March 13, 2023



# Speaking of Beer “Free St. Patrick’s Day Lyft Rides Offered Throughout Greater Washington to Prevent Drunk Driving”

*Prince Of Petworth*

A black and white advertisement for SoberRide. It features a person wearing a face mask and holding up a hand with fingers spread, as if making a 'stop' gesture. The text on the graphic reads: "Keep the Luck of the Irish Alive. Don't Drink and Drive! If you're celebrating St. Patrick's Day with alcohol, designate a sober driver or use WRAP's SoberRide® powered by Lyft!" Below this is the "SoberRide" logo with a registered trademark symbol. Further down, it says "Get a FREE Lyft ride home (up to \$15) on St. Patrick's Day" and "Visit www.SoberRide.com for code". At the bottom, it notes "Limited quantities available" and provides fine print: "Enter the code in the app's 'Payment' tab under the 'Add Lyft Pass' option. Valid for up to \$15 off one ride taken home in the Washington D.C. coverage area from 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 17, 2023 until 4:00 a.m. Saturday, March 18, 2023. You must be 21 or older to use this service. Subject to Lyft's Terms of Service. Valid for new and existing Lyft users while supplies last. The SoberRide® code will be released to the public at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17, 2023 and can be used only during the aforementioned period."

## **From WRAP:**

“Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the 2023 St. Patrick’s SoberRide program will be in operation beginning at 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 17th (St. Patrick’s Day) and operate until 4:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 18th as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk period.

During this twelve-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones, then enter the SoberRide code in the app’s ‘Promo’ section to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP’s 2023 St. Patrick’s Day SoberRide promo code will be posted at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17th on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).”

**PoPville.com**  
March 17, 2023



THE MOCO SHOW

# Free Lyft Rides Offered on St. Patrick's Day to Prevent Drunk Driving

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) is offering free Lyft rides from 4pm on Friday, March 17 to 4am on Saturday, March 18. Residents 21 and older can redeem the offer by downloading the Lyft app and entering the SoberRide code in the app's 'Promo' section to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP's 2023 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® promo code will be posted at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17th on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com). Full details below courtesy of WRAP:

"Preparing to combat that time of year when according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly half (45%) of U.S. traffic deaths involve drunk drivers, \* a local nonprofit organization announced today that free safe rides will be offered to would-be drunk drivers throughout the Washington-metropolitan area during this month's St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the 2023 St. Patrick's SoberRide® program will be in operation beginning at 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 17th (St. Patrick's Day) and operate until 4:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 18th as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk period.

During this twelve-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones, then enter the SoberRide® code in the app's 'Promo' section to receive their no-cost (up to

\$15) safe transportation home. WRAP's 2023 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® promo code will be posted at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17th on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

"Nearly half of U.S. traffic fatalities during St. Patrick's Day involve drunk drivers according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration," said Kurt Erickson, WRAP's President. "

During the 2022 St. Patrick's Day campaign, nearly 500 (482) persons in the Washington-metropolitan area used WRAP's SoberRide® program rather than possibly driving home impaired. The charity also offers its SoberRide® program on Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day, Halloween and the winter holidays through and including New Year's Eve.

"Lyft is dedicated to providing access to reliable and responsible rides, and we're proud to partner with programs like WRAP to offer Lyft as an alternative to impaired driving," said Kamillah Wood, Director of Public Policy for Community Safety at Lyft. "Through our Roadway Safety Program and our partnerships with the public, we hope to empower our community with the tools to protect themselves and those around them this holiday season."

SoberRide® is offered throughout Lyft's Washington D.C. coverage area which includes all or parts of: the District of Columbia; the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's and towns therein plus the cities of Bowie, College Park, District Heights, Gaithersburg, Glenarden, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Laurel, Mount Ranier, New Carrollton, Rockville, Seat Pleasant and Takoma Park; and the Northern Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William and towns therein plus the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park.

Sponsors of WRAP's 2023 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® campaign include the 395 Express Lanes, Amazon, Anheuser-Busch, Beer Institute, Brown-Forman, Constellation Brands, District of Columbia Association of

Beverage Alcohol Wholesalers, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility, Giant Food, Glory Days Grill, Lyft, Molson Coors Beverage Company, New Belgium Brewing, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association. WRAP's 2023 Public Partner SoberRide® Sponsors include the District of Columbia Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Office, Maryland Highway Safety Office/Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration and Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

In addition, nearly a half-dozen of the Washington-metropolitan area's better-known Irish restaurants have also united to ensure a safe St. Patrick's Day celebration this year by sponsoring SoberRide®. These dining establishments include: The Dubliner Restaurant & Pub (DC); Kelly's Irish Times (DC); Martin's Tavern Est. 1933 (DC); O'Sullivan's Irish Pub (VA); and Spanky's Shenanigans (VA). Since 1991, WRAP's SoberRide® program has provided 84,676 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

Having commemorated its 40th year in 2022 after being founded in 1982, the nonprofit [501©(3)] Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) is a coalition of diverse interests using effective education, innovative programs and targeted advocacy to end alcohol-impaired driving and underage drinking in the Washington, DC metro area. Through public education, innovative health education programs and advocacy, WRAP is credited with keeping the metro-Washington area's alcohol-related traffic deaths historically lower than the national average. More information about WRAP's SoberRide® initiative can be found at [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com)."

**The MoCo Show**  
March 17, 2023

# LCSO to Conduct DUI Saturation Patrols Tomorrow Evening

Loudoun County, VA (March 16, 2023) – The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) urges motorists to plan a designated driver or other safe way home if they choose to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with alcohol.

As part of our efforts to crackdown on impaired driving, the LCSO will have additional deputies conducting saturation patrols on the evening of Friday, March 17, St. Patrick's Day.

"We are committed to ensuring that the public is safe while traveling on our roads and want to remind residents to make smart choices -- don't drink and drive," said Loudoun County Sheriff Mike Chapman. **Sheriff Chapman also reminds residents that the Washington Regional Alcohol Program will offer free Lyft rides (up to \$15) from 4 p.m. Friday, March 17 to 4 a.m. Saturday, March 18, as part of the D.C. area Sober Ride program. For more information on the program, please visit [www.wrap.org/soberride](http://www.wrap.org/soberride).**

LCSO also urges residents to take the following steps to have a safe and happy St. Patrick's Day:

- Plan a designated driver or other safe way home ahead of time.
- Call a taxi, a ride-share service, a sober friend, or family member to get you home safely if you have been drinking.
- Immediately report any impaired or reckless driver you see on our roads to the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office.
- Wear your seatbelt.

LCSO deputies will be on patrol and alert for impaired motorists, and you will be arrested if caught drinking and driving.



## St. Patrick's Day Shenanigans 2023

*TYSONSTODAY STAFF*

Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day! Green beer, Irish folk music, and parades are the hallmarks of this popular cultural celebration. Here is a collection of some of the best ways to celebrate in our area.

### SoberRide

TysonToday would like to remind you to celebrate responsibly. Washington Regional Alcohol Program is bringing back their a free (up to \$15 Lyft ride) sober ride program for St. Patrick's Day.

For more information and the promo code visit [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com)



## **CANCELED: Police Host Don't Press Your Luck Anti-Drunk Driving Event**

CANCELED (March 17, 2023) Due to the inclement weather, the Don't Press Your Luck anti-drunk driving event has been canceled. No matter the weather, ACPD reminds you to arrive home safely after drinking--whether it's by using a ridesharing service, taxi, public transportation, or designated sober driver. The Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) will continue to offer free Lyft rides from 4:00 p.m. today through 4:00 a.m. tomorrow morning. For more details visit WRAP's webpage.

ARLINGTON, Va. – Although Irish in its roots, St. Patrick's Day is known to be widely celebrated in the United States. This year, St. Patrick's Day falls on a Friday which means more people will be out celebrating, and, unfortunately, some will make the dangerous choice to get behind the wheel after drinking – a choice with potentially deadly consequences for you, your passengers and every other traveler sharing the road with you. If your celebration includes alcohol, it's essential you plan ahead with a sober ride home. This St. Patrick's Day, help us spread the message that Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving.

According to data from the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 11,654 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes nationwide in 2020. On average, more than 10,000 people were killed each year from 2016 to 2020 — one person was killed in a drunk-driving crash every 45 minutes in 2020. This is why the Arlington County Police Department is working with NHTSA to remind drivers that drunk driving is not only illegal, it is a matter of life and death.

### **Don't Press Your Luck Event Information**

As part of the Department's anti-drunk driving educational efforts, the Arlington County Police Department is hosting an interactive event highlighting the impacts alcohol has on motor skills -- because even one drink is one too many to get behind the wheel. This event is free and open to the public.

DATE: Friday, March 17

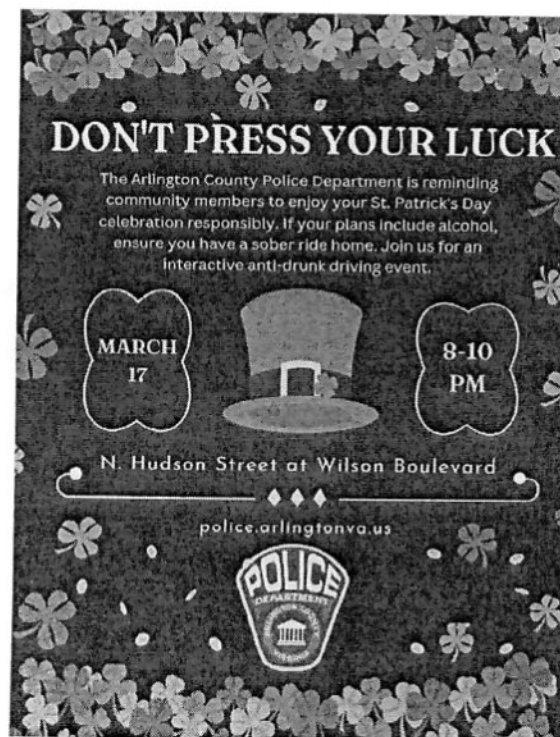
TIME: 8-10 p.m.

LOCATION: N. Hudson Street at Wilson Boulevard in Clarendon

Motorists should be on the lookout for temporary "No Parking" signs in the event area. Illegally parked vehicles may be ticketed or towed. If your vehicle is towed from a public street, call the Emergency Communications Center at 703-558-2222.

### **SoberRide® Program**

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program's (WRAP) 2023 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® program, in partnership with Lyft, will be offered from 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 17 until 4:00 a.m. Saturday, March 18, 2023. For additional information on WRAP's program to ensure area residents have a safe way home on high-risk holidays, visit their website.



**Arlington County (Police)**  
March 17, 2023