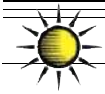


The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

SU V1 V2 V3 V4



Mostly sunny 81/62 • Tomorrow: T-storm 79/61 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023 • \$3

For Tesla's Autopilot, a surge of crashes

736 accidents, 17 deaths since 2019 as more adopt driver-assistance tech

BY FAIZ SIDDIQUI
AND JEREMY B. MERRILL

SAN FRANCISCO — The school bus was displaying its stop sign and flashing red warning lights, a police report said, when Tillman Mitchell, 17, stepped off one afternoon in March. Then a Tesla Model Y approached on North Carolina Highway 561.

The car — allegedly in Autopilot mode — never slowed down.

It struck Mitchell at 45 mph. The teenager was thrown into the windshield, flew into the air and landed facedown in the road, according to his great-aunt, Dorothy Lynch. Mitchell's father heard the crash and rushed from his porch to find his son lying in the middle of the road.

"If it had been a smaller child," Lynch said, "the child would be dead."

The crash in North Carolina's Halifax County, where a futuristic technology came barreling down a rural highway with devastating consequences, was one of 736 U.S. crashes since 2019 involving Teslas in Autopilot mode — far more than previously reported, according to a Washington Post analysis of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data. The number of such crashes has surged over the past four years, the data shows, reflecting the hazards associated with increasing use of Tesla's driver-assistance technology as well as the growing presence of the cars on the nation's roadways.

The number of deaths and serious crashes on A18



MARK MAKELA/GETTY IMAGES

Workers inspect debris from an Interstate 95 overpass that collapsed in Philadelphia after an oil tanker ignited. An American Trucking Associations spokesman said the closed stretch of I-95 had carried about 14,000 trucks a day.

I-95 drivers face months of delays

BY JUSTIN GEORGE,
IAN DUNCAN
AND MICHAEL LARIS

PHILADELPHIA — The warnings began flashing Monday about 120 miles south of where a collapsed bridge crippled a key East Coast artery, leaving thousands of trucks in the Philadelphia area facing 40-mile detours and commuters bracing for months of disruptions.

The bridge that carries Interstate 95 crumpled Sunday when a tanker truck carrying 8,500 gallons of gasoline was trying to round a curve on a ramp off the highway and flipped onto its side, authorities said. Once the gasoline ignited,

Closure will disrupt daily life in Philadelphia; body recovered in truck wreckage

experts say, the blaze could have reached temperatures high enough to compromise the strength of the steel and concrete holding up the bridge.

Rescue crews recovered a body from the truck's wreckage Monday and the medical examiner's office is working to identify the remains, said Pennsylvania State Police spokesman Myles Snyder. While authorities haven't made a final determination, Snyder said that "there's

no evidence to suggest it's not the driver." The driver was identified as Nathan Moody, 53, according to a cousin, Isaac Moody. He said the two were close and had seen each other Saturday.

The bridge carried about 160,000 vehicles a day. Signs of the widespread effects of the collapse were visible as far away as Columbia, Md., where northbound highway messages warned of the closure ahead. The National Transportation Safety Board sent investigators to the scene as the Biden administration pledged help, an acknowledgment of the road's economic importance to the nation's sixth-most-populous city and the

SEE BRIDGE ON A2

Trump case will test Miami

COURT APPEARANCE PUTS CITY ON ALERT

Security, potential unrest are principal concerns

BY DAVID OVALLE,
DANIELLE PAQUETTE
AND MARK BERMAN

MIAMI — Former president Donald Trump awaited his first scheduled court appearance to face federal criminal charges here Tuesday while authorities pledged to keep their city safe despite potentially large crowds surrounding the event.

The logistical and security planning ahead of the hearing underscored the unprecedented nature of Trump's court appearance — no ex-president has ever been a defendant in a federal criminal case — along with the uncertainty about what might unfold on Tuesday. Trump and his supporters have called for demonstrations opposing the case, with some of his acolytes sometimes using violent rhetoric in denouncing the charges.

SEE TRUMP ON A6

How to watch: Live coverage starts at 2 p.m. at washingtonpost.com.

Judge has a pivotal role in pace of Fla. trial

BY ANN E. MARIMOW

Aileen M. Cannon, the federal judge assigned to the Justice Department's criminal case against former president Donald Trump, will set the pace and rules for how the unprecedented proceedings unfold.

She will be under intense scrutiny, not least because of her past rulings in Trump's favor in a case related to the classified documents indictment.

When charges of obstruction of justice and willful mishandling against Trump were unsealed last week, special counsel Jack Smith said he would seek a "speedy trial." And the Southern District of Florida is known for its "rocket docket," quickly moving cases to trial.

But Trump, now seeking reelection in 2024, has a track record of dragging out court proceedings, often to his advantage, making Cannon's role in controlling the timeline even more pivotal.

"She is really in the driver's seat in terms of the pacing. The danger here is if it backs up into the 2024 campaign or if the case

SEE CANNON ON A6

SILVIO BERLUSCONI | 1936-2023

Divisive billionaire led Italy on his own terms for decades

BY JASON HOROWITZ

Former prime minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy, a media mogul who dominated and divided his country for decades through a combination of showman charm, scofflaw bombast, and ruthless application of financial and political power, died June 12 at a hospital in Milan. He was 86.

A spokeswoman for Mr. Berlusconi confirmed the death to The Washington Post but did not provide a cause, speaking on the condition of anonymity based on ground rules typical for Italian media. He had leukemia and a history of cardiac trouble.

Mr. Berlusconi, a center-right leader, had served as prime minister four times since 1994. He was also one of the world's richest men, having built a multibillion-dollar business empire.



Silvio Berlusconi

Through his holding company, Mr. Berlusconi controlled television channels and newspapers, life insurance and movie production companies, real estate, and the world-class soccer team A.C. Milan.

"The best in the world" is how the billionaire prime minister described himself in one typical flourish of bravado. "All the other world leaders wish they could be as good as I am." Everything was hyperbolic. When he was diagnosed with covid-19 in 2020, he called supporters from the hospital and claimed that doctors had told him his case was "in the top five in terms of the strength of the virus."

For more than three decades, the diminutive colossus bestrode the narrow Italian peninsula, monopolizing the media, manipulating the levers of power, and

SEE BERLUSCONI ON A10

After 9 years at Post, an exit for Ryan

Departing publisher will lead nonpartisan Center on Public Civility

BY ELAHE IZADI,
WILL SOMMER
AND SARAH ELLISON

Fred Ryan, the publisher and chief executive of The Washington Post for most of its decade of rapid growth under the ownership of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, will leave the company in August, he announced Monday.

Ryan, 68, will lead the newly formed nonpartisan Center on Public Civility at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation.

His departure comes at a time when economic headwinds have buffeted the entire media industry — including The Post, which slowed its recent expansion with a rare round of layoffs earlier this year — after tension among top executives and the exits of several top Post leaders and journalists for jobs with competitors. Ryan's



JONATHAN NEWTON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Fred Ryan introduces Patty Stonesifer, second from left, as interim CEO alongside Opinion Editor David Shipley and Executive Editor Sally Buzbee. Stonesifer will lead the search for a replacement.

relationship with newsroom staffers further soured following a town hall last year where he declined questions from guild members about the company's future.

Patty Stonesifer, the founding chief executive of the Gates Foundation and a former high-ranking

Microsoft executive, was named the interim CEO of The Post on Monday, starting immediately, and is leading the search for Ryan's replacement.

In an interview, Ryan said he had a long-standing passion for

SEE RYAN ON A16

IN THE NEWS



STAS KOZLIUK/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

Ukraine claims victories Troops recaptured seven villages in their counteroffensive against Russian forces, officials said. A8

THE NATION An American expatriate living in Russia was arrested there on drug charges, the State Department said. A2
Senate Health Committee Chairman Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) vowed to not move forward with President Biden's nominee to lead the National Institutes of Health until he receives the administration's "comprehensive" plan on lowering drug prices. A3
The Supreme Court

broke a long streak of weakening the Voting Rights Act by ruling that an Alabama congressional map was unconstitutional. A4
Georgia was seen as likely to be the next legal battleground for former president Donald Trump. A7

THE ECONOMY Taylor Swift fans' anger at Ticketmaster's bungling of the ticketing for her Eras Tour led to a wave of legislation. A14

JPMorgan agreed to settle a suit brought by victims of Jeffrey Epstein for \$290 million, after they claimed the bank ignored warnings about his behavior. A17
Target stores in at least five states received bomb threats over Pride merchandise over the weekend, but no explosives were discovered. A22

THE REGION The mother of a 6-year-old boy who shot a Virginia teacher in January pleaded guilty to two gun charges in federal court. B1

Two Marines pleaded guilty in the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol, joining a third who admitted his participation in May. B1
A Maryland lawyer whose joyful reaction to his bar exam results went viral hopes to use his success to support other Black students who are seeking to study law. B1

STYLE Warner Bros. Discovery will probably find that the list of candidates to lead CNN "is very, very small," media observers say. C1

INSIDE



HEALTH & SCIENCE Medical mystery A frightening doze behind the wheel led a lawyer on a year-long journey to fix her sleep troubles. E1

STYLE I paid for that Plastic surgery used to be hush-hush. For Gen Z, it's content. C1

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TO REACH THE OPINION PAGES
Letters to the editor: letters@washpost.com or call 202-334-6215
Opinion: oped@washpost.com
Published daily (ISSN 0190-8286).
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Washington Post, 1301 K St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071.
Periodicals postage paid in Washington, D.C., and additional mailing office.

CORRECTION

• A May 9 A-section article about Republicans who denied the results of the 2020 presidential election and then lost their own races in the 2022 midterm election inaccurately described the nature of a Washington state politician’s interactions with figures on the far right. Joe Kent, who unsuccessfully campaigned in Washington’s 3rd Congressional District, drew scrutiny for his associations with far-right extremists. A Kent campaign strategist told the Associated Press last summer that “Kent’s platform of inclusive populism rejects racism and bigotry.”

The Washington Post is committed to correcting errors that appear in the newspaper. Those interested in contacting the paper for that purpose can:
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Call: 202-334-6000, and ask to be connected to the desk involved — National, Foreign, Metro, Style, Sports, Business or any of the weekly sections. Comments can be directed to The Post’s reader advocate, who can be reached at 202-334-7582 or readers@washpost.com.

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Collapse disrupts daily commutes

BRIDGE FROM A1

congested Northeast Corridor.

The bridge was constructed in 2016 and rated in good condition, according to state data. It was built as part of a \$300 million project to replace bridges along a stretch of I-95 while making other updates to the highway, which runs along the spine of the East Coast from Maine to Florida. The closed segment is a portion of I-95 that splits off in Delaware and heads through Philadelphia while travelers bound for New York and points north typically transfer to the New Jersey Turnpike.

State police described a dangerous and dramatic scene, with the overturned truck sliding into a concrete support and bursting into flames. While troopers were helping a motorist escape, the northbound section of I-95 collapsed, authorities said.

Rep. Brendan Boyle (D-Pa.) said rebuilding quickly was a priority, with the effects felt from New York to well south of Philadelphia.

“This a critical roadway — not just for northeast Philadelphia, not just for Philadelphia or the Philadelphia region — for the entire Mid-Atlantic,” Boyle said.

North of Washington on Monday, an overhead sign read: “Crash in Philadelphia at Exit 26. All lanes closed.”

Demolition work began Monday, but officials said replacing the bridge — and an adjacent southbound span that has been deemed unsafe for traffic — could take months. Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro (D) issued an emergency declaration that makes \$7 million in state funding immediately available and allows the state to proceed without following normal bidding rules.

During the bridge’s closure, a detour includes sending traffic to U.S. 1, a far smaller road north and west of the bridge. Sean McNally, a spokesman for the American Trucking Associations, said that stretch of I-95 carried about 14,000 trucks each day. They now face lengthy detours while passing numerous traffic lights, he said.

“This will add significant cost in time, fuel and delays so we urge state and federal agencies to target appropriate resources to repairing and replacing this highway as quickly as possible,” McNally said.

Despite the closure, a steady stream of vehicles continued into the heart of the city Monday, past Lincoln Financial Field and an attorney’s billboard with a Philly-sounding message asking drivers, “Youse hurt?” Once downtown, road signs urged drivers to use Interstate 676 as an alternative, with traffic veering like a school of fish onto the detour.

A few cars remained until Exit 26, where the off-ramp led to side roads lined with rowhouses, car lots, tire stores and appliance dealers. Traffic inched forward, bumper-to-bumper, including a slow parade of cars, trucks carrying construction supplies, transit buses and a red Toyota Camry with black spray-painted rims driven by plumber Dave Marciano.

Marciano, 44, grew up nearby but now lives in New Jersey. Many of his clients are from Northeast Philadelphia and the neighborhoods near the collapse.

He stopped at a gas station on Cottman Avenue, where he filled up on gas after a long night in the nearby casino where he said he had lost “everything,” including his wallet. He was on the way to a job and said the traffic only compounded his bad day.

“It’s never like this,” he said over the buzz of news helicopters above. “Cops blocking everything.”

All around the Tacony neighborhood, police SUVs blocked off roads leading east toward the Delaware River and the collapsed interstate. Marciano said the shutdown will “inconvenience everything” since his job requires driving around North Philadelphia.

“It’s an inconvenience driving on 95 to begin with,” he said, echoing a common complaint of Philadelphians about road projects that never seem to finish.

Marciano said he’s not sure how he’ll navigate the next few months. “Leave earlier,” he said. “I’m pretty smart figuring things out.”

Officials urged commuters to use transit as an alternative to driving. Andrew Busch, spokesman for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, said demand was higher Monday and is expected to increase Tuesday, when more people tend to head into offices. He said the agency will continue to provide extra service.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said Monday that he has spoken to Shapiro and Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney (D). The head of the Federal Highway Administration was at the scene and federal agencies responsible for trucking and hazardous materials were involved in the response, officials said.

Buttigieg said the region “will have the full support of the United States Department of Transportation for as long as it takes to get that restored to normal.”

As state officials assess how to restore the highway, it will be up to the National Transportation Safety Board to investigate what happened. Sarah Sulick, a spokeswoman for the board, said the team assigned to the investigation includes experts in trucking and hazardous materials, highways and emergency response. Investigators had gathered information about the truck and the company that operated it while stitching together a timeline of the emergency response.

The board is likely to issue preliminary factual findings in the coming weeks, but a full report is expected to take at least a year. The final report could include recommendations about how to prevent similar incidents in the future.

Kim Roddis, a civil engineering professor at George Washington University, said that when steel reaches extremely high temperatures, its ability to carry a load is reduced.

“The bridge becomes much less strong and eventually what happens is it can’t carry its own



MATT ROURKE/AP

Traffic barely moves on Monday. Binoy Cherian, who as part of his job would drive that stretch of I-95 several times a day, said trips that would take 20 minutes took nearly an hour with detours.



Source: PennDOT

THE WASHINGTON POST

weight and it slumps down,” Roddis said.

A study funded by the Federal Highway Administration found that fires caused bridges to collapse 30 times across the United States from 1980 through 2012. The failed bridges were made of steel 45 percent of the time, concrete in 17 percent of cases and timber in 38 percent of cases — and fully collapsed half of the time, according to researchers from the University at Buffalo.

within 30 to 40 minutes.

Kodur, who was part of a Federal Emergency Management Agency team examining the collapse of the World Trade Center towers after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, said the Philadelphia collapse underscores the need for new bridge projects to include more fire protection measures.

“You design these bridges for earthquakes. You design them for wind. ... But we don’t design them today for fires,” he said. “Those

“You design these bridges for earthquakes. You design them for wind. ... But we don’t design them today for fires. Those standards have to change.”

Venkatesh Kodur, a Michigan State University professor who specializes in the effects of fire on bridges

“The crash of a tanker carrying a large amount of a highly flammable substances, wildfires, or arson can bring a modern bridge down,” the researchers wrote in 2013.

Venkatesh Kodur, a Michigan State University professor who specializes in the effects of fire on bridges, said the intense heat from thousands of gallons of burning gasoline would have dramatically weakened the span’s steel girders, dragging the bridge down under its own weight. His lab tests have shown such heat can cause a steel bridge to fail

standards have to change.”

He suggested fire prevention work could be directed toward the most critical bridges, adding that the amount would be less than 5 percent of a bridge’s cost. “All you need to do on these girders is to protect them with some insulation material, which is very cheap,” Kodur said.

In 2007, a gasoline tanker overturned and caught fire near the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, causing a section of highway to collapse. In 2017, an elevated section of Interstate 85 in Atlanta collapsed after a fire. The

American living in Russia is detained and facing drug charges

BY BRYAN PIETSCHE

An American expatriate living in Russia has been arrested there on drug charges, according to the State Department.

Michael Travis Leake is detained in Moscow, a State Department spokesperson said in an email, adding that embassy officials attended his arraignment Saturday. “When a U.S. citizen is detained overseas, the Department pursues consular access as soon as possible and works to provide all appropriate consular assistance,” the spokesperson

wrote. “We will continue to monitor the case closely.”

Leake is accused of selling drugs and is expected to remain in custody until Aug. 6, according to a Moscow court report on Telegram. The report identified him as a musician and a former paratrooper.

Leake is a member of the Russian rock band Lovi Noch, according to the band’s posts on social media. A request for comment sent to an email address for Leake, listed as the band’s contact on its YouTube page, did not immediately receive a response.

In an episode of the television show “Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown” that was filmed and aired in 2014, according to the band, Leake was identified as an American expatriate and manager of a band called Louna. In the clip with Bourdain, Leake spoke about the repression of free speech in Russia, alleging that an episode of a separate documentary television show featuring the band was cut because of interference by the Kremlin.

It was not immediately clear whether Leake had legal representation. His mother, Glenda

Garcia, told CNN she had not heard from the U.S. government regarding Leake’s detention and was unsure whether he had an attorney. “I know he was in a band, I know he taught English,” she said. REN TV, a Russian television network, reported that a suspicious substance was found at Leake’s apartment, according to Reuters.

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine has led to frostier relations between Moscow and Washington. It has also heightened concerns over the safety of U.S. citizens living in or visiting Russia.

The State Department has issued a “Level 4: Do Not Travel” notice for Russia, citing “the unpredictable consequences of the unprovoked full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russian military forces, the potential for harassment and the singling out of U.S. citizens for detention by Russian government security officials,” as well as “the arbitrary enforcement of local law,” among other factors.

Leake’s arrest follows that of Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich, a U.S. citizen who remains behind bars in a Moscow

pretrial detention center on espionage charges, which the Journal and the U.S. government strongly deny. The State Department has deemed Gershkovich “wrongfully detained.”

Brittney Griner, the American professional basketball player, was released from a Russian prison in December. She was detained for nearly 10 months and was sentenced to nearly a decade in prison on drug charges for carrying a small amount of cannabis oil in the country. The State Department said her detention was “wrongful,” and she was released after the Biden administration negotiated a prisoner swap, with the United States releasing Russian arms dealer Viktor Bout.

DIGEST

OHIO Court orders changes to ballot measure

The Ohio Supreme Court on Monday ordered state officials to rewrite some of the language for an August ballot measure that, if passed, would make it more difficult to amend the state constitution.

The debate over the measure has become a proxy battle in recent months between Ohio Republicans, who hold a supermajority in the state, and

Democrats, who have argued that it is an attempt to squash voter efforts to enshrine abortion rights into state law after the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

The measure, known as State Issue 1, seeks to raise the threshold required to amend the state’s constitution through a ballot initiative to 60 percent of the vote. Such measures now only need a simple majority.

In a 4-3 decision, the Republican-majority state Supreme Court ruled that the Ohio Ballot Board must rewrite

inaccurate and misleading language in the ballot measure, which is scheduled for a vote on Aug. 8. The nonpartisan coalition One Person One Vote had filed a lawsuit last month saying the ballot language was misleading.

—Amy B Wang and Rachel Roubein

NEW YORK NYC police chief quits after 18 months

New York City Police Commissioner Keechant Sewell,

the first woman to hold the position, is stepping down after 18 months on the job.

Sewell, who was appointed by Mayor Eric Adams (D) in January 2022, announced the resignation in an email to department staff Monday afternoon.

Adams, a former police captain, took an outside interest in the department’s operations and has faced questions about whether Sewell has been granted the autonomy of past commissioners.

Adams hired former NYPD chief Philip Banks as his deputy

mayor for public safety, somewhat diminishing Sewell’s authority. Banks has been holding weekly public briefings on crime, often without Sewell in attendance.

—Associated Press

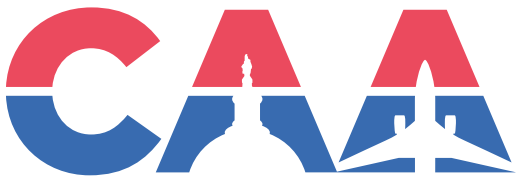
1 dead after tour boat capsizes in tunnel cave: One person was killed and multiple people were injured after a boat capsized Monday during a tour of an underground cavern system built to carry water from the Erie Canal beneath the western New York city of Lockport, officials

said. Police and fire crews were called to the Lockport Cave Tours, about 20 miles northeast of Niagara Falls, at about 11:30 a.m., Lockport Fire Chief Luca Quagliano said. All 29 people on board the flat-bottomed boat were thrown into water between five and six feet deep when the boat became unbalanced and capsized near the end of the 300-foot tunnel. Some passengers were able to get to safety on their own. Rescue crews rescued about 16 others, Quagliano said.

—Associated Press

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Our Coalition



TRUMP FROM A1

In Miami, local leaders have vowed to be ready for anything, saying they were prepared for crowds of anywhere from 5,000 to 50,000 people, though no official specifically predicted such a sizable group would actually appear. Miami Mayor Francis Suarez, a Republican, said Monday that law enforcement officials in the city were deeply experienced in dealing with large protests and called on people who gather to remain peaceful.

“We obviously believe in the Constitution, believe that people should have the right to express themselves,” Suarez said at a news briefing. “But we also believe in law and order.”

Trump was charged last week with more than three dozen counts related to his handling of classified documents since losing the presidency. In a blistering indictment filed in South Florida and unsealed Friday, he was accused of hoarding sensitive intelligence information after leaving office and then obstructing federal officials.

Trump has railed against the charges, denied any wrongdoing and repeatedly denigrated the law enforcement officials investigating him in this and other cases around the country.

One of his aides, Walt Nauta, was also charged in the case. Both Trump and Nauta were ordered to make their initial appearances in the gleaming Wilkie D. Ferguson Jr. Courthouse in downtown Miami at 3 p.m. on Tuesday.

The case has brought an unexpected burst of Trump-centric attention to Miami, a waterfront city hugging Biscayne Bay. While otherwise in the national news for positive developments — the Miami Heat recently reached the NBA Finals, hosting games just minutes from the federal courthouse — Trump’s hearing carries with it instead the potential for tumult spilling onto the city’s streets.

“We’re taking this very seriously,” Suarez said at the news briefing. “And we are prepared for what will happen.”

Suarez pointed to the city’s experience with the demonstrations that unfolded there and nationwide after a White police officer in Minneapolis killed George Floyd, a Black man, in 2020.

Suarez, who has hinted that he is weighing seeking the Republican nomination for president against Trump next year, said he had not spoken to the former president and declined to discuss the indictment during his briefing on Monday. Suarez instead referred to Trump’s court appearance and potential protests around it as an upcoming “event in downtown Miami.”

Miami braces for Trump’s court date



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Demonstrators in Florida square off after former president Donald Trump’s arrival at the Trump National Doral Miami resort on Monday.

Miami officials have suggested they want all hands available on Tuesday, according to internal emails viewed by The Washington Post, telling police officers they cannot take the day off and ordering plainclothes detectives to wear uniforms in case they need to be deployed onto the city’s streets.

Local police have also disseminated advisories noting that rallies were being planned for near the courthouse, including one ostensibly organized by the Miami chapter of the far-right Proud Boys group, according to a law enforcement bulletin.

Laura Loomer, a right-wing provocateur who once handcuffed herself to Twitter’s New York City headquarters, said she was planning a “peaceful rally” on Tuesday at noon outside the federal courthouse.

“Everyone attending understands this is a peaceful, nonviolent demonstration,” she said.

Trump has also called for protests, including during a radio interview on Sunday with Roger Stone, his longtime adviser, who encouraged demonstrators to remain peaceful as well.

But some rhetoric online and offline has alluded to violence.

Kari Lake, who lost her Trump-endorsed bid to become Arizona’s governor last year, said she plans to rally to support Trump in South Florida. While responding to the federal charges, she bluntly invoked how many of his supporters owned guns.

“If you want to get to President Trump, you’re going to have to go through me and you’re going to have to go through 75 million Americans just like me,” she told a GOP group Friday. Referencing the National Rifle Association, she added: “Most of us are card-carrying members of the NRA. That’s not a threat, that’s a public service announcement.”

Trump’s first court date as a federal defendant carries with it a host of questions, including how the case might play out and what if any impact it might have on his bid to reclaim the White House in 2024. But the first question that will be answered is what will happen if Trump actually appears in federal court, and whether large-scale demonstrations follow.

Since the indictment was revealed, law enforcement officials in Miami have been monitoring social media calls for protests and other events. Manuel Morales, the

Miami police chief, said that while there had been many posts online, he added that none of them appeared to be credible enough to cause concern. But he also acknowledged that things could always go awry.

“We know that there’s a potential of things taking a turn for the worse,” Morales said while appearing alongside Suarez on Monday. “But that’s not the Miami way.”

Morales has said local, state and federal officials would have a “comprehensive” response to allow people to demonstrate but maintain peace in Miami. He said authorities would make decisions regarding street closures depending on the size of crowds and mentioned the importance of keeping opposing sides apart.

The crowd size on Tuesday could also be affected by South Florida’s sometimes unforgiving elements, including stifling heat and regular afternoon downpours that are summer staples across the area.

On Monday, the security presence outside the courthouse became more noticeable. Federal officers roamed a surrounding plaza and monitored a line of journalists

that began forming late in the morning to claim spots in the hearing the following day. A growing number of television news crews set up tents along nearby North Miami Avenue, claiming territory in advance of Tuesday’s live broadcasts. Still, the area was not entirely taken over by the news media: At one point in the afternoon, a lone rooster wandered around a large open space in the court plaza.

Trump has appeared in a courtroom once this year as a criminal defendant, when he was charged in Manhattan in connection with a hush money payment made to an adult-film actress who had alleged having an affair with him years earlier. When he was arraigned on state charges in Manhattan in early April, Trump supporters and opponents alike gathered outside, along with casual observers and a large crowd of journalists. Trump pleaded not guilty in that case.

He is also facing ongoing investigations in connection with the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol riot, and a separate probe into efforts by Trump and his allies to overturn Joe Biden’s presidential win in Georgia in the 2020 vote. Trump has denied all wrongdoing and

said those investigating him are politically biased. In one social media posting, he called Jack Smith, the special counsel leading the classified documents case, “a deranged ‘psycho.’”

Trump had been in New Jersey at one of his golf resorts before heading to Doral, Fla., on Monday. The city is home to the Trump National Doral, another of his golf resort properties, which is about 12 miles west of the courthouse.

Before his arrival in Doral, a couple of dozen supporters gathered on the sidewalk across the street from his club, chanting: “Trump is innocent! Trump is innocent!”

About 50 supporters who had waited for hours caught a glimpse of Trump just before 3:20 p.m. Monday. As he passed by in a black Chevy Suburban, they saw him flashing a thumbs-up.

“We love Trump!” one woman chanted. “We love Trump!”

Trump was expected to stay in Doral overnight before going to court Tuesday, according to two people familiar with his plans who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not cleared to speak publicly.

He is expected to arrive downtown at about 2 p.m. Tuesday, according to an internal email sent by the chief judge of Miami-Dade’s state courts system. The email was sent to local judges in two nearby state courthouses, to help them prepare for potentially large crowds and any traffic headaches. Chief judges in Florida have administrative authority over state courts within their judicial circuits, which are separate from the federal court system in which Trump is being charged.

Judges and supervisors were being given discretion to allow employees to work remotely, Chief Judge Nushin Sayfie wrote in her email. Also, no jurors or potential jurors will be required to go to the civil or family courthouses Tuesday, and some ongoing trials might be delayed or moved.

Trump’s trip to Florida was expected to be brief, with aides saying he plans to make public remarks Tuesday night back at his New Jersey club.

The short trip to appear in court and a return to his home turf to deliver a speech followed a pattern set in Trump’s indictment this year in Manhattan. After he was arraigned there, Trump returned to his Mar-a-Lago estate in Palm Beach, which has been his primary residence since leaving office, to deliver a speech criticizing that prosecution.

Paquette reported from Doral, Fla., and Berman reported from Washington. Shayna Jacobs in Miami and Carol D. Leonnig and Isaac Arnsdorf in Washington contributed to this report.

Trump-appointed judge to set pace, rules in former president’s Florida trial

CANNON FROM A1

lingers until after Trump is reelected or another Republican elected, and they can direct the Justice Department to drop charges or pardon the president,” said retired federal judge Nancy Gertner, a Harvard Law School professor. “This is a situation where speed equals substance.”

Trump, who has denied wrongdoing, will make his first court appearance in connection with the indictment in Miami on Tuesday before a magistrate judge.

After that, Cannon, 42, who was nominated by Trump during his final year in office and has less than three years experience on the bench, will be in charge.

It is the second time she is overseeing a legal dispute involving the former president. Last fall, Cannon issued a controversial ruling in response to a lawsuit Trump filed that initially slowed the FBI review of classified documents seized at Mar-a-Lago. She was roundly reversed by a conservative panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit.

Her handling of the lawsuit has led to calls for Cannon to step aside as trial judge, a role that court officials say she was assigned randomly after Trump was indicted last week. But legal experts said Monday the Justice Department is unlikely to make a recusal request.

Trump is charged with illegally retaining highly classified documents after he left the White House and of thwarting government efforts to recover the records. The involvement of classified material, as well as the 2024 presidential contest, add significant complexities to the case that could prolong the timeline.

If Trump pleads not guilty and proceeds to trial, as expected, many decisions about whether to slow things down or speed them along will be made by Cannon herself.

“Judge Cannon could delay the case at the request of Trump, either to provide time to adequately prepare for trial or to avoid interfering with his presidential campaign,” said former federal prosecutor Barbara McQuade, a University of Michigan law professor. “She really has the ability to wreak havoc.”

Defendants are entitled by law to a speedy trial, which sets a 70-day time frame. Despite its reputation for efficiency, however, attorneys who practice in the Southern District predicted the case against Trump would proceed more slowly. Based on public statements from Trump and his lawyers, defense attorneys expect the former president’s legal team to file several motions to dismiss the case and limit the evidence that can be presented to a jury.

As the trial judge, Cannon has tremendous power and discretion to resolve pretrial disagreements over access to classified material; claims that Trump is being treated differently than Democrats investigated for possible mishandling of national security secrets; and whether to permit, for instance, the use of key testimony and evidence from Trump lawyer Evan Corcoran.

“The special counsel has thought about all of these things and how to streamline this, but it’s possible for it to get off track,” said Jeffrey Sloman, a former U.S. attorney for the Southern District who was a prosecutor for 20 years.

Cannon is a former federal prosecutor, one of more than 200 mostly young, conservative lawyers Trump nominated to the federal bench. She was born in Colombia, the daughter of a Cuban immigrant mother, and grew up in Miami. She is a graduate of Duke University and joined the conservative Federalist Society while a student at the University of Michigan Law School. She has spent much of her career as a litigator.



POOL/REUTERS

Judge Aileen M. Cannon, during her Senate nomination hearing in 2020, has faced calls to recuse from the classified documents case.

“She is really in the driver’s seat in terms of the pacing. The danger here is if it backs up into the 2024 campaign or if the case lingers until after Trump is reelected or another Republican elected, and they can direct the Justice Department to drop charges or pardon the president.”

Nancy Gertner,
a retired federal judge and Harvard Law School professor

Legal experts said Monday that Trump’s role in putting Cannon on the bench is not itself a basis for recusal. But a judge could be asked to step back because of prior rulings. Federal law says a judge “shall disqualify himself in any proceeding in which his impartiality might reasonably be questioned.”

Cannon gained notoriety last September when she intervened in the FBI investigation of Trump’s possession of classified documents after leaving the White House. She appointed an expert, known as a special master, to review the material agents seized last August from Trump’s home and private club, and barred FBI access to some of the materials until the review was complete.

In her order, Cannon suggested that Trump’s position as a former president required special protections, writing that the “stigma associated with the subject seizure is in a league of its own. A future indictment, based to any degree on property that ought to be returned, would result in reputational harm of a decidedly different order of magnitude.”

A unanimous 11th Circuit panel reversed Cannon’s decision, which it said would have resulted in a “radical reordering of our caselaw limiting the federal courts’ involvement in criminal investigations.” The appeals court — whose three judges included two Trump nominees — said it was unwilling to “carve out an unprecedented exception in our law for former presidents.”

Joseph DeMaria, a former federal prosecutor who has practiced in the Southern District for more than three decades, suggested the criminal trial should be reassigned to a judge with more experience, given the complexities of dealing with highly classified material as well as the first federal indictment of a former president.

“She is one of the youngest, least experienced on the federal bench who has never had a case like this,” DeMaria said. “If Judge Cannon was at DOJ, she would not be assigned to this case.”

DeMaria also said it would make sense to reassign the case because of Cannon’s decisions last fall, which he said showed her going out of her way to rule in Trump’s favor. Although Cannon has a reputation as a pro-government judge across a number of other criminal cases, DeMaria noted that she refused in Trump’s earlier case to put her ruling on hold at the government’s request while they appealed.

Gertner, the former judge, agreed that Cannon’s earlier ruling could suggest she is overly sympathetic to Trump and be the basis for recusal. “The appearance of partiality here is not because she ruled in his favor. The appearance issue is the way she ruled in his favor,” Gertner said.

But the decision of whether to step aside is up to Cannon herself. And whether she would do so is a different question. “It is not an easy thing for a judge to do — to admit she has done wrong before,” Gertner said.

Paul Cassell, a former federal judge from Utah, said he is skeptical of calls for recusal just because the appeals court said Cannon erred in her ruling.

“It’s a little unfair to Judge Cannon to say she was doing Trump a solid in some way,” said Cassell, who teaches at the University of Utah law school.

Kendall Coffey, a former South Florida U.S. attorney and Democrat who served on the advisory committee that vetted Cannon for her judgeship, also pushed back on criticism that she would be a “shill” for Trump. “I understand why people would be concerned. But I think she’ll show extreme caution before she does Donald Trump any favors,” Coffey said.

The Justice Department made a conscious choice to bring the case in South Florida, knowing there was the possibility it would be assigned to Cannon. The move — after many months of questioning witnesses before a federal grand jury in D.C. — was designed to prevent Trump’s lawyers from trying to derail the indictment by arguing it had been filed in the wrong place, given that most of the alleged misconduct took place in Florida.

Chief Clerk Angela E. Noble told the New York Times that “normal procedures were followed” in assigning the case to Cannon, one of five active judges who could have been chosen in the assignment system or wheel.

Mark Schnapp, a former federal prosecutor who was chief of the criminal division in the district, said it would be risky for the Justice Department to ask Cannon to recuse.

“You’re asking her to find that she’s partial and can’t conduct a fair trial,” he said. “That’s a lot for a judge to give up.”

Shayna Jacobs and David Ovalle in Miami and Spencer S. Hsu in Washington contributed to this report.

Ga. is likely next legal battleground for Trump team

BY AMY GARDNER

COLUMBUS, GA. — Former president Donald Trump may have been the star of the Georgia GOP convention here over the weekend, but the runner-up was almost certainly David Shafer, the outgoing state party chairman and a top target, like Trump, of an Atlanta-area investigation of efforts to overturn the state's 2020 election results.

Shafer's legal jeopardy stems from his leadership of a meeting of alternate electors who convened in December 2020 to cast their votes for Trump because of pending litigation contesting Joe Biden's victory in the state — an act that he and other convention speakers proudly referenced.

Shafer emceed portions of the program, basked repeatedly in the adulation of more than 2,000 delegates, and introduced Trump on Saturday and conservative firebrand Kari Lake of Arizona the evening before. As Shafer prepared to end his term and hand over the reins to a successor, party activists sent him off with a lengthy tribute and lifetime status as “emeritus” party chairman. They cheered his actions that are now under investigation and made clear that they are unfazed by concerns that the state GOP's continuing drumbeat that the 2020 election was stolen will scare off voters next year.

“David Shafer stood with the alternate electors in the election for President Trump in 2020,” Salleigh Grubbs, who chairs the Cobb County Republican Committee in suburban Atlanta, said in a speech that drew standing ovations, whistles and cheers.

Trump's choice of Georgia to deliver his first public speech after federal prosecutors announced charges on Thursday related to his alleged retention of classified documents after leaving the White House seemed fitting, because it is widely expected to be a deciding state in the presidential contest next year — and it is also likely to be the next setting for the ongoing battle between the former president and law enforcement. Fani Willis, the Fulton County district attorney, is expected to announce a charging decision in early August after more than two years of investigation into Trump's attempt to reverse his defeat in the Peach State.

The hundreds of Republicans

who gathered in this historic mill city, perched across the Chattahoochee River from Alabama, made clear they are standing firmly by the former president and Trump allies including Shafer. They eschewed concerns that Trump's legal troubles, and the continuing embrace of false fraud claims, will weaken him — and the party — if he is the GOP's nominee next year.

“There is a narrative out there that we are somehow weak, and that is a false narrative,” Shafer said before Lake took the stage Friday night. “This is the biggest convention in the history of the Republican Party. And the second-biggest convention was two years ago.”

Shafer declined to comment for this article.

While the die-hard Trump fans appeared to leave the convention jubilant and victorious about the state of their party, the few dissenting voices in the room said they were going home with a sense of dread that the party has not moved on from a narrative that may be pushing more and more voters away from the GOP.

“Donald Trump may be the only national Republican who could lose to Joe Biden and Kamala Harris,” said Ken Carroll, a longtime GOP activist who lost his bid to serve as the party's second vice chairman on Saturday. “I'm going to get barbecued for saying that, but it's true. And I know a lot of people inside the party who feel the same. ... I like Trump, but he's alienated so many people; I don't know if he can pull off another win.”

Perhaps a more telling sign of the peril were the absences at the state convention. Three top statewide officeholders who won their reelections last year handily — Gov. Brian Kemp, Attorney General Chris Carr and Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger — did not attend.

Kemp, while attending a GOP donor retreat in Nashville earlier this spring, told donors that “not a single swing voter in a single swing state will vote for our nominee if they choose to talk about the 2020 election being stolen,” according to attendees.

Raffensperger, who in a January 2021 phone call famously rejected Trump's entreaties to help him find enough votes to overturn his defeat, was not even invited to the convention, he said.



CHENEY ORR FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Attendees at the Ga. Republican Party's convention on Saturday. Fani Willis, the Fulton County district attorney, is expected to announce a charging decision in early August after more than two years of investigation into Donald Trump's attempt to reverse his defeat in the state.

When his name came up in various speeches and presentations, the crowd roundly booed him. The secretary of state instead made an appearance on “Cavuto Live” on Saturday morning on Fox News, ahead of the convention's official business, during which he tacitly rebuked the party's embrace of Trump.

“People need to have character,” Raffensperger said. “They have to have integrity. But I think they also need to have courage — the courage to stand up and make a stand, make a stand for the rule of law, make a stand for principled leadership.”

That rejection of Trump was certainly a minority view in the cavernous Columbus Convention and Trade Center, a former Civil War-era munitions factory where delegates milled about under rough-hewed beams in the usual fare of party activists — Uncle Sam costumes, glittering U.S. flag clutches and provocative T-shirts with slogans such as “Defund the FBI” and “These colors don't RUN. They RELOAD.” Some even questioned the voting technology used to determine party elections, booing when they didn't like the outcomes.

Janet Shepard, 68, a retired postal worker from Morgan County, Ga., who attended the convention, said she had been unsure whether she wanted to support Trump again next year

and was taking a close look at Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R). But after news of the federal charges broke last week, she became more resolved than ever to support the man she has already voted for twice, she said.

“It's just going to cause more people to think the system is unfair,” Shepard said. “It's like a vendetta. It hasn't been fair, and it's not the way we've been used to doing things in America.”

Lt. Gov. Burt Jones, a pro-Trump Republican who spoke at the convention, took advantage of his fellow statewide officeholders' absence to gin up applause lines for himself. Jones also served as an alternate elector in 2020.

“I've gotten calls from all our dear friends in the media, who I'm sure are here in full force today, calling me and asking me why I'm the only statewide official that was going to be at the convention today,” Jones said, prompting titters and outright laughs in the crowd. (In fact, several down-ballot statewide officials attended the convention.) “I told them, I said, 'I think they like me.'”

More than half of all delegates at the convention had never been active in the party before 2020, according to state party officials, and they rejected every candidate for party office who had been involved pre-2020, with the exception of incoming state chairman Josh McKoon, a former state

senator who won with Shafer's backing.

Two other party winners — David Cross for second vice chairman and Caroline Jeffords for secretary — are among the state's leading election deniers, affiliated with the organization Voter GA, which has led numerous legal battles to inspect tens of thousands of absentee ballots cast in the Atlanta area in 2020, challenge voter rolls and decommission machines made by Dominion Voting Systems. Garland Favorito, the founder and leader of Voter GA, gave a 45-minute presentation outlining his unsubstantiated claims of fraud in a breakout seminar Friday that attracted a standing-room-only crowd.

“If anybody says that they're going to secure the 2024 elections without understanding what went wrong in 2020 and 2022, then they're lying to you,” Favorito told the crowd.

While such presentations animated the audience, the question of whether Fulton investigators would seek charges against state GOP officials loomed. Willis, the Fulton County prosecutor, has said she is focused on the phone calls Trump made to multiple Georgia officials seeking to reverse his defeat; his campaign's efforts to persuade the Georgia legislature to declare Trump the winner; the gathering of Trump's

electors to cast electoral college votes for Trump after Biden had been declared the winner in the state; and the Trump campaign's potential involvement in an unauthorized breach of election equipment in rural Coffee County, Ga.

Carroll, one of those electors, said he has been interviewed by Fulton prosecutors — and defended his actions. “I still believe we did nothing wrong,” he said. “I would do it again because it was the right thing to do.”

Carroll said that he believes there was fraud in the election, but that he doesn't know whether the fraud was sufficient to make a difference in the outcome. Either way, he said, he is resolute that stewing over 2020 is not a winning path for Republicans in 2024 — especially in Georgia, an increasingly purple state where moderate voters have increased in numbers and have rejected Trump's claims.

“There are different mindsets to being a successful activist and a successful party official,” he said. “Being an activist is about being right. Being a party official is about winning elections. You can be right and win elections, but if you're right and you lose elections, then you are missing the point.”

Isaac Arnsdorf contributed to this report.

On eve of court date, former president races to find trial attorney

BY SPENCER S. HSU, DAVID OVALLE, JACQUELINE ALEMANY AND JOSH DAWSEY

Donald Trump spent the day before his historic appearance in federal court scrambling to find a qualified Florida lawyer willing to join his defense team as he faces the Justice Department's first prosecution of a former president.

After touching down in Miami on Monday, Trump spent the afternoon interviewing prospective lawyers and meeting with his legal team, along with other top advisers, to discuss the case, in which he is accused of mishandling classified documents and obstructing the government's efforts to retrieve them, according to people familiar with the sessions. Several prominent Florida attorneys declined to take Trump on as a client after two of the key lawyers handling the documents matter — Jim Trusty and John Rowley — resigned last week, according to people familiar with the matter.

Trusty and Rowley's departures were sudden and unexpected, leaving Trump jockeying to identify a lawyer ahead of his Tuesday appearance in federal court in Miami, where rules require practicing attorneys to be a member in good standing of the Florida bar or to be sponsored by one before appearing. Veteran Florida litigator Christopher Kise, who joined the team in the fall and has an extensive network in the Florida bar, has led the search for a lawyer and cast a seemingly wide net in the state. Kise declined to comment.

The 11th-hour flurry of action to hire a seasoned trial attorney was a familiar dance for Trump, who has had difficulty hiring and keeping lawyers over the course of numerous federal and state inves-

tigations since his 2016 election as president.

Disagreements over legal strategy have hindered the search for new defense attorneys, according to people familiar with the discussions, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly.

Some on Trump's team have pushed to pursue an aggressively partisan strategy in which they would accuse the Justice Department of prosecutorial misconduct and weaponizing the legal system against Trump. The other camp, a person briefed on the situation said, is urging the former president to put together a traditional defense team and believes that the case is winnable at trial through careful jury selection — one juror is all a defendant needs to convince to avoid conviction — and that a scorched-earth strategy could alienate a jury and the country.

Among those Trump's team has approached about representation is Benedict Kuehne, an attorney well known in Miami-Dade for handling corruption cases. Kuehne was charged in 2008 in an indictment involving alleged money laundering, obstruction of justice and forfeiture accusations; the government dropped charges against him a year later. Most recently, he lost a civil trial defending a Miami city commissioner who was sued over allegations he used his powers to seek retribution against business owners who supported a political rival.

Kuehne did not respond to requests for comment Monday.

David O. Markus, who most recently succeeded in defending former Florida Democratic gubernatorial candidate Andrew Gillum against allegations he lied to the FBI and funneled campaign money to personal accounts, last



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Donald Trump's motorcade arrives at his Doral golf club in Florida. After arriving in Miami, he reportedly spent the afternoon interviewing prospective lawyers and meeting with his legal team.

week declined the job, people familiar with the case said.

Jon Sale, a prominent Florida defense attorney who worked on the Watergate prosecution team and turned down the opportunity to join Trump's defense team last year, said that the pros and cons of representing Trump are obvious.

“Without engaging in hyperbole, it's arguably the biggest case in the world,” Sale said. “But the cons are illustrated by three of his four lawyers quitting in the last few weeks.”

The club of former Trump lawyers has a deep bench, highlighting the challenges his legal team is likely to face in the months ahead. Trump is known as a difficult client — he eschews legal advice, sometimes issues public threats to engage in illegal activity and frequently skips out on his legal bills.

One veteran South Florida defense attorney, Philip Reizenstein, said there's an “incalculable value” for Trump's team in having a well-respected local attorney who is familiar to the judge and who knows the judge's preferences and habits.

But Reizenstein said he's not surprised local defense attorneys are shying away from Trump, given the former president's history. “Many lawyers appear to be making a calculated decision that the prestige that goes with representing a former president is not worth the nearly inevitable attack on their reputation in the media,” Reizenstein said.

In the meantime, Todd Blanche has assumed an expanded role in representing Trump since joining his team earlier this year to defend him in a separate state criminal prosecution in Manhattan. Blanche is an experienced white-collar criminal defense lawyer who led the team at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft that represented Paul Manafort in a financial fraud case. On the Truth Social platform, Trump said last week that Blanche will lead his defense along with “a firm to be named later.”

A person familiar with the matter said Blanche may be joined in court on Tuesday by Kise, though Kise had previously reduced his role in the case over disagree-

ments with Trump's legal strategy and is unlikely to handle the matter going forward.

Lindsey Halligan has also remained on the Mar-a-Lago documents case, though the Florida-based attorney's practice was previously focused on insurance claims at residential and commercial properties, according to a professional biography.

Rowley and Trusty are the latest casualties of a legal team that has been plagued by infighting and subject to the whims of a notoriously capricious client who has taken a combative approach to special counsel Jack Smith's criminal investigation. Another Trump lawyer, Tim Parlatore, resigned in April after top adviser and in-house counsel Boris Epshteyn refused to recuse himself from the Mar-a-Lago documents case. Trusty, Rowley and Parlatore, along with other Trump lawyers, have long complained about Epshteyn's political approach to Trump's criminal exposure, and disagreements with his strategy also drove Trusty and Rowley's resignations, people familiar with

the matter said.

Another liability in representing Trump: his knack for putting his lawyers in a position to become witnesses against him. In spring 2022, Trump hired former federal prosecutor Evan Corcoran to help handle a subpoena issued by the Justice Department seeking the return of classified documents. But in March, a federal judge ordered Corcoran to turn over notes of his interactions with Trump, finding they could be evidence of a crime and thus were exempt from attorney-client privilege.

While Corcoran has recused himself from the Mar-a-Lago documents case, he remains part of Trump's legal team.

Trump's team will have to swiftly make a number of strategic decisions as it faces off against a special counsel who has said he plans to seek a “speedy trial” for the former president and his personal aide Walt Nauta, who was charged alongside Trump.

A key question on Tuesday is how soon each side wants to go to trial, and what schedule Judge Aileen M. Cannon, the federal judge in Florida who has been initially assigned to oversee the criminal case against Trump, sets both for a trial and pretrial matters.

White-collar defendants routinely seek to dismiss an indictment, specific charges or counts, claiming prosecutorial misconduct. The defense also can seek to knock out illegally seized evidence or improper testimony.

Another complex question could be the defense's demand to see classified evidence seized in the case, and the lengthy process for the government to clear versions of such evidence for public release or prepare nonclassified summaries.

Trump's defense has already signaled they will probably also challenge the decision by U.S. District Court Judge Beryl A. Howell to allow prosecutors access to Corcoran's notes, another step that could slow the case's progress.

Ovalle reported from Miami.

THE WORLD

Ukraine says counteroffensive has liberated 7 villages

Reported advances in occupied southeast are small but symbolic

BY DAVID L. STERN

MUKACHEVO, UKRAINE — Ukrainian troops pressing a difficult counteroffensive against occupying Russian forces have liberated a string of seven villages in the embattled Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia regions over the past week, officials in Kyiv said Monday.

If confirmed, the gains would represent modest but politically significant territorial advances as the counterattack, which began in earnest last week, intensifies across Ukraine's southeast.

Four of the villages — Neskuchne, Storozheve, Blahodatne and Makarivka — are south of Velyka Novosilka, one of the counteroffensive's key starting points, close to the border of the Zaporizhzhia region.

The villages are clustered on a roughly 5½-mile stretch of road leading south into occupied territory heavily fortified by Russia. They are about 80 miles north of the long-occupied city of Mariupol, which was nearly destroyed by heavy Russian bombing last year.

The other communities — Lobkove, Levadne and Novodarivka — are in Zaporizhzhia.

Deputy Defense Minister Hanna Maliar also claimed Monday that Ukraine had retaken more than six square miles near the destroyed eastern city of Bakhmut, which recently fell to Russia after more than eight months of fierce and bloody fighting.

“The battles are tough, but our movement is there, and that is very important,” Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said Monday in his evening address to the nation. “Although the weather these days is unfavorable — the rains make our task more difficult — but still the strength of our soldiers gives results.”

Ukrainian officials made no mention of the losses incurred as part of the advance, though they have warned recently that their forces are likely to suffer high casualties as they try to claw back land from Moscow. The focus on such a small stretch of territory underscored the difficult nature of the counteroffensive and the likelihood that gains, if any, would be measured in minute increments.

On Sunday, the Ukrainian Volunteer Army posted a video in which its members posed with their battalion colors in the village of Neskuchne. The Washington Post could not independently verify the video or others purporting to show the liberations.

A video from Ukraine's 35th Separate Marine Brigade on Monday reportedly showed its forces raising the Ukrainian flag and marching through the village of Storozheve, while the 68th Separate Jaeger Brigade showed footage said to be from Blahodatne.

“The operation began at about 5 a.m.,” a soldier, identified only by his call sign, “Doc,” said in the Storozheve video. “The enemy resisted with its artillery in the beginning. We managed to take the initiative into our own hands and retake the village house by house.”

Rob Lee, a senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute and a military expert, said that although “the villages by themselves are not significant,” the announcements indicated that Ukrainian forces were “making



OLEKSANDR RATUSHNIAK/REUTERS



68TH SEPARATE JAEGER BRIGADE/REUTERS

ABOVE: A Ukrainian serviceman in an armored military vehicle in the Donetsk region. President Volodymyr Zelensky told Ukrainians on Monday that “the battles are tough, but our movement is there, and that is very important. . . . The strength of our soldiers gives results.” LEFT: In an image from video, Soldiers place a Ukrainian flag at a building during what officials said was the recapture of Blahodatne. It was one of four villages in the Donetsk region that Ukrainian forces said they had liberated. Three others were in the Zaporizhzhia region.

progress.”

“I think it’s going about as it should have been expected,” Lee said. “But it’s going to be a tough fight given that they’re going into prepared defensive positions and Russia’s been preparing these lines for several months.”

The rate of attrition on both sides will be a key factor as the campaign unfolds, Lee said. “This is going to be a long offensive,” he predicted, pointing out that Ukrainian forces’ offensive to take back the southern city of Kherson started in August, but “they made their first substantive gains in October.”

Russia’s Defense Ministry

claimed in a statement to have repelled attacks in the Donetsk region, beginning in Vremivka, the first town along the road south from Velyka Novosilka.

“Decisive actions of defending units, artillery fire and heavy firing systems of the Vostok Group of Forces repelled three enemy attacks from the direction of [Velyka Novosilka],” the Russian Defense Ministry said.

Meanwhile, emergency operations continued Monday in Ukraine’s southern Kherson region, after the destruction of the Kakhovka dam last week. Russia and Ukraine have blamed each other for attacking the dam.

Oleksandr Prokudin, the head of the regional military administration, said that water continues to recede, though 32 towns remain inundated in Ukrainian-controlled territory on the western and northern banks of the Dnieper River and more than 2,700 people have been evacuated.

In Russian-occupied areas to the east and south, 14 towns were still affected, Prokudin added, saying the situation there “remains critical.”

Last week, video and photographic imagery indicated that Ukraine’s military suffered significant losses of equipment, includ-

ing some Leopard battle tanks recently acquired from its Western allies.

At a meeting in Paris on Monday, French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Polish President Andrzej Duda discussed the question of NATO membership for Ukraine.

Ukrainian officials and some European countries have pushed for a clearer path to membership ahead of an annual NATO summit in July, while other countries prefer to focus on short- and medium-term security support, leaving the membership debate for later.

In recent weeks, the Biden administration and NATO allies have been sketching out plans for military support beyond the current offensive, with talk of bilateral or multilateral security pacts.

U.S. National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said Monday that he would refrain from “providing an armchair assessment of this offensive.”

“We’re going to stay focused on making sure that Ukraine can succeed on the battlefield,” he added.

Natalia Abbakumova in Riga, Latvia, and Emily Rauhala and Beatriz Rios in Brussels contributed to this report.

DIGEST

NUCLEAR WEAPONS Slow arms race, watchdog warns

The nine nuclear-armed states continue to modernize their arsenals and several deployed new nuclear-armed or nuclear-capable weapon systems in 2022, a Swedish think tank said Monday.

“We are drifting into one of the most dangerous periods in human history,” Dan Smith, director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), said in a statement. “It is imperative that the world’s governments find ways to cooperate in order to calm geopolitical tensions, slow arms races and deal with the worsening consequences of environmental breakdown and rising world hunger.”

In its yearbook, the Swedish

watchdog wrote that the United States and Russia each hold more than 1,000 retired warheads, which they are gradually dismantling.

The size of China’s nuclear arsenal had increased from 350 warheads in January 2022 to 410 in January 2023, SIPRI said. “China could potentially have at least as many intercontinental ballistic missiles as either the USA or Russia by the turn of the decade,” SIPRI wrote.

— Associated Press

AUSTRALIA

At least 10 killed in wedding bus crash

At least 10 people died after a bus carrying guests from a wedding in Australia’s Hunter Valley wine region crashed Sunday evening in one of the country’s deadliest bus

accidents. Another 25 people were taken to hospitals, authorities said.

The 58-year-old driver of the bus was charged with 10 counts of dangerous driving occasioning death and negligent driving occasioning death, police said without disclosing the man’s name. He was taken to a hospital for testing and assessment before being transferred to a police station.

Tracy Chapman, a New South Wales police superintendent, said emergency officials responded to reports of a crash around 11.30 p.m. Sunday and arrived to find a “confronting and very traumatic scene.”

The bus overturned near a roundabout connecting the picturesque Hunter Valley wine region to an expressway. The circumstances of the crash are still under investigation.

— Rachel Pannett

14 forestry workers killed in Kazakhstan wildfire: Flags were lowered across Kazakhstan on Monday as the country mourned 14 forestry workers killed in a wildfire in the eastern Abai region. Firefighters were still struggling to contain the blaze raging across 106,000 acres of land in the Central Asian nation, the government said. President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev sacked Emergencies Minister Yuri Ilyin over the weekend, saying “criminal negligence” was behind the disaster.

Thousands flee as Philippines volcano spews lava: The most active volcano in the Philippines, Mount Mayon, is spewing lava and sulfuric gas, raising fears of an explosion and prompting thousands of residents to flee. Residents within a 4.3-mile radius of the volcano were placed under “preparedness status” and

should be ready to evacuate at any time, the Albay Provincial Information Office announced Monday. The volcano started exhibiting increased activity over the weekend, which continued into Monday evening.

More than 45 killed in militia attack in Congo: More than 45 civilians were killed and at least 10 wounded in a militia attack on a camp for displaced people in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo’s Ituri province early Monday, the United Nation’s peacekeeping mission said. Some victims were killed with guns and machetes, while others were burned alive in their shelters. The Cooperative for the Development of the Congo (CODECO) group, one of many militias operating in the conflict-ridden east, was responsible for the killings at the “LALA” camp, the U.N. mission said in a

statement. CODECO claims to defend the interests of Lendu farmers, who have long been in conflict with Hema herders.

Canada Supreme Court judge resigns over alleged drunken fight: A Canadian Supreme Court judge being probed for alleged involvement in a drunken fight resigned Monday, marking the first time a member of the top court has resigned over alleged misconduct. Russell Brown, appointed in 2015, had stepped aside in February after reports of a confrontation with a U.S. Marine veteran in an Arizona resort in January. The veteran said Brown had been drunk and made women at the resort feel uncomfortable. Brown denied this, saying the veteran was intoxicated and had punched him several times.

— From staff reports and news services

In Italy, boys' club now supplanted by female leadership

Berlusconi's longtime testosterone politics are gone

BY STEFANO PITRELLI
AND ANTHONY FAIOLA

ROME — The death of Silvio Berlusconi, the billionaire playboy who for decades dominated the boys' club of Italian politics, comes at a moment that would have been difficult to envision during his testosterone-charged era: Italian women have inherited the country's political earth.

The 86-year-old media tycoon, who ruled Italy longer than any prime minister since Benito Mussolini, died Monday in Milan, leaving a legacy as a formidable politician, ruthless businessman and bulwark of old-school male chauvinism. On the campaign trail in 2008, he told women they should "cook" for his party's male representatives. He once said a female reporter's handshake was too firm for her to find a husband. He turned "bunga bunga" into a household term.

The Italian political landscape now, however, is very different from Berlusconi's era — with women in top leadership roles on the political right and left, as well as filling senior posts never before occupied by women. Observers say Berlusconi, perhaps more by default than design, played a role in advancing the political careers of women who would become some of the nation's most powerful figures.

Feminism remains a hot-button word in Italy. But in fits and starts, the post-Berlusconi years have seen progress toward gender equality. The proportion of women on corporate boards in Italy — 38.8 percent — is now the second highest in the 27-member European Union, behind only France. Between 2018 and 2022, female representation in parliament hit an all-time high of 35 percent, though it has since slipped slightly.

Italian women have also made political history — with the right-wing Giorgia Meloni last year



GREGORIO BORGIA/AF

Former Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi, center, and far-right politician Matteo Salvini campaign with Giorgia Meloni in September before she became Italy's first female prime minister.

becoming Italy's first female prime minister and Elly Schlein this year elected as the first woman to lead the center-left opposition. Mariangela Zappia is also serving as Italy's first female ambassador to the United States, meaning that three of the most senior posts in Italian politics and diplomacy are now occupied by women.

Italian women are also occupying other positions of power, including the current chief of the Italian security services. In March, Margherita Cassano was named the first female head of Italy's Supreme Court. Silvana Sciarra became the second female head of Italy's Constitutional Court.

"I think this is a historic moment in our country," said Elena Bonetti, a mathematician and national lawmaker. "The presence of women [as prime minister] and head of the main opposition party represents epochal change: female leadership. It has never risen with such power and visibility. It's a process of normalization of our democracy. It's the outcome of battles and steps taken over the years. It's a revolu-

tion.”

There are, however, caveats.

The governors of all but one of Italy's 20 regions are men, as are the presidents of the Senate and lower house of parliament, and Meloni's stunning rise came not by breaking with the old boys' club but by learning to thrive within it. She ascended the ranks of the right-wing Brothers of Italy party as a defender of traditional gender roles, and she won the premiership in a coalition with Berlusconi's fading party.

Meloni, herself an unmarried mother, has sought to encourage Italian women to reverse a population decline by having more babies, and she has staked out conservative Christian stances on abortion and LGBTQ rights. To the chagrin of some Italian women, she has refused to embrace a feminine version of her title in Italian, sticking with the masculine article “il” rather than using the feminine “la.”

"Meloni is sexist [too]," said Rosi Braidotti, an Italian feminist scholar. "Look at how few women she promotes. . . . Meloni doesn't care about merit and the status of women, because she's

convinced of her exceptionality, like women on the right tend to be. . . . Caring for mothers, and birthrate, sure. But for women, nothing."

Yet, through a masterful balance of style and substance, Meloni is also fast emerging as one of the most savvy and respected voices on the global political right — and a more palatable standard-bearer for many of the conservative policies Berlusconi once championed. She managed to bring the far right back to power in Italy in part by positioning herself as a more sensible choice than Matteo Salvini — her brusque deputy prime minister, who once took the stage at a political rally with a blowup sex doll he used as a stand-in for a female political rival.

On the other side of the political aisle, Schlein's election as head of Italy's Democratic Party amounts to a far more radical shift in the country's political scene. An LGBTQ-identifying, Italian-U.S.-Swiss citizen who twice campaigned in the United States for President Barack Obama, she is forcing the issue of LGBTQ equality and gender

rights in a country famously uncomfortable with both.

"I received a mandate to change people, methods and vision," she said following her surprise win for the party leadership in February. "We will put the battle against every type of inequality and precariousness center stage."

In a 2019 speech, Meloni famously introduced herself by saying: "I am Giorgia, I am a woman, I am a mother, I am Italian, I am a Christian." In a twist of those words, Schlein on her election night said: "I love another woman and I am not a mother, but I am no less a woman for this."

Both Berlusconi's backers and some of his detractors argue that he — however politically incorrect — was actually falsely categorized as someone who dismissed women in power.

Seen by many as a forebear of President Donald Trump, Berlusconi could be brash and demeaning toward women. Facing charges in 2011 of having sex with an underage prostitute — charges he later beat — he quipped in his defense that he'd already had sex with 70 percent of women and that the other 30 percent would have surely said "yes."

Even as his health declined more recently, he promised to send a bus full of prostitutes to his men's soccer team if they managed to beat a top rival — dismissing critics of his choice of words for making too much out of a “locker room joke.”

But he also promoted women. In 2018, Berlusconi's party backed two of its female stars Maria Elisabetta Alberti Casellati and Mara Carfagna — as head of the Senate and deputy president of the lower house, respectively. He remarked then that the choice of Alberti Casellati had “great meaning” and praised her “rigor” and “serious and profound” experience as a lawyer.

"Let me stress how [these choices] are based on individual merit, not an act of ideological feminism," Berlusconi had said. "It's a choice rewarding abilities, not gender."

"People have always been struck by Berlusconi's language

and humor about women, which is quite vulgar and dated, for sure," said Andrea Cingini, a former senator from Berlusconi's Forza Italia party. "This is his way of making himself likable," he said, adding that it also addressed his base "in a way that they would be receptive to."

“But,” Cangini added, “there’s a difference between theory and practice. Meloni was the youngest minister in the history of our republic. She was a female minister, and it was Berlusconi who put her there.”

In 2008, Berlusconi named Meloni as his youth minister, a role she held until 2011. In her biography, Meloni writes that “Berlusconi only passingly knew me” before her naming in his cabinet. She notes that when friction arose between the two over the years, “I was told that I was being ‘ungrateful.’”

"For Berlusconi, I was always anthropologically different in a way that was hard for him to fully accept, both as a person, and as a member of a political culture other than his," Meloni wrote.

Last year, she stared down the octogenarian — whose party remained influential but with a membership dwarfed by Meloni's Brothers of Italy.

A week before being sworn in last October, a handwritten note by Berlusconi was made public in which he described Meloni as “overbearing, arrogant.” Then leaks emerged showing Berlusconi crowing over a birthday gift from Russian President Vladimir Putin, and parsing the Russian invasion of Ukraine as an understandable attempt by his old friend in the Kremlin to install “more sensible leaders” in Kyiv.

Meloni responded by throwing down the gauntlet. Anybody unsupportive of Atlantic and European principles, she said, "will not be able to be part of the government, at the cost of not forming a government."

On Monday, Meloni issued a short video bidding goodbye to Berlusconi.

"With him, Italy learned that it should never have limits imposed on it; it learned that it should never give up," she said.

Faiola reported from Miami.

Parola reported from Miami.

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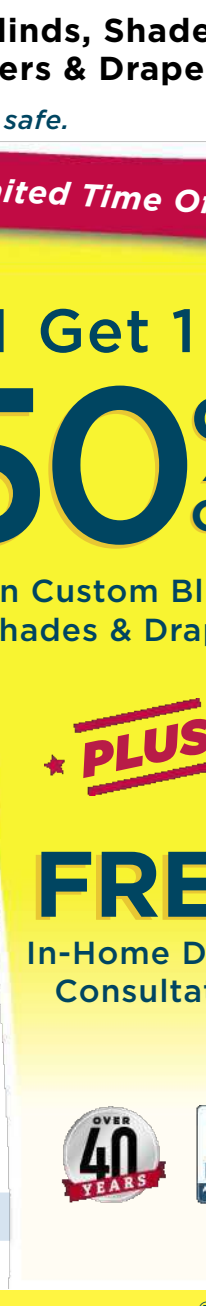
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Bombastic ruler captivated friends, foes

BERLUSCONI FROM AI

capturing the imagination of friends and foes alike.

Il Cavaliere, or the Knight, as he was called, did this almost entirely on his own terms. He rode his television airwaves into the center of the vituperative political arena and used all the weapons at his disposal to stun the opposition, lasso a coalition out of warring allies and, above all, fight for his own survival.

Mr. Berlusconi's preoccupation with self-preservation — against enemies real, imagined and manufactured — often took priority over the regular business of the state.

Under Mr. Berlusconi's distracted watch, Italy slipped into social malaise and economic disaster. Ultimately, the free markets that the Milan businessman championed so zealously showed no confidence in his ability to guide the country out of a 2011 debt crisis, leading to his ouster.

The defeat, and a subsequent conviction for tax fraud, reduced the man who had promised to rescue Rome to a perma-tanned caricature known internationally for pursuing his own interests, friendships with foreign dictators, and relationships with much younger women, some of them allegedly for hire.

But within Italy, Mr. Berlusconi remained key, reinventing himself as a soothing grandfather figure, kingmaker and voice of reason as the country lurched even further right under populist leaders.

"To the mass of the people, Berlusconi appeared capable of delivering change. He appeared new," said Roberto D'Alimonte, a political scientist at the Rome-based university Luiss. "Some will remember him as a man who could have done more to modernize the country. For others, he will be the great corruptor of Italian society, and it will take a generation to recover from the malaise that he has instilled."

For his entire time in the public eye, Mr. Berlusconi — 5-foot-5, pudgy in build, creative in hairline and tangerine in complexion — towered over all other debate topics. Even after he left office, he had a hard time staying

away.

Mr. Berlusconi won election three times as prime minister, including a five-year stretch in a nation accustomed to instability.

His boosters credit him with overhauling a politically ossified system and inspiring an entire class of entrepreneurs. For them, he injected life into the dreary state-run television organization, modernized markets, won soccer trophies with A.C. Milan and built a powerhouse center-right party from scratch.

Mr. Berlusconi revolutionized campaigning in Italy by updating cult-of-personality propaganda to the mass media age. He advertised himself as an irrepressible individualist and earthy everyman unfairly victimized by communist judges, ivory tower academics and bureaucratic killjoys. He talked about cutting taxes and slashing spending, the sorts of things the government-addicted gerontocracy rarely broached. His airbrushed visage watched over Italy from the television channels, magazine covers, newspaper pages and highway billboards he owned.

That bright version of Mr. Berlusconi eclipsed the darker side proffered by his perennially frustrated critics at home and abroad. It also obscured a life remarkable without Photoshop — rife with political intrigue, cutthroat business deals, courtroom drama, crass jokes and sex scandals. Mr. Berlusconi was Europe's most colorful leader at the turn of the 21st century.

Building a path to power

Silvio Berlusconi was born Sept. 29, 1936, in Milan to a banker and a housewife. He earned extra cash in school writing papers for other students. He helped pay for his law degree at the University of Milan in 1961 by selling vacuum cleaners and singing in a band that played cruise ships and resorts.

By 27, he had formed a real estate company that ultimately earned him the nickname "King of Bricks," and then built Milano 2, a sprawling suburb that provided the financial base for his ambitions.

Mr. Berlusconi gobbled up local TV channels. To circumvent an Italian law at the time that

allowed only state-owned channels to broadcast live nationwide, he dispatched couriers on motorcycles to deliver prerecorded videocassettes to local stations. The same program then played on all his channels at slightly different times, creating a de facto network.

Mr. Berlusconi had help in high places. Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, a moderate leader of the Socialist Party, rose to the top of Italian government in 1983 just as Mr. Berlusconi reached the pinnacle of Italian media. The two men quickly realized they could help each other consolidate power.

With Craxi in power, Mr. Berlusconi added two more national channels in 1983 and 1984. He spent billions of dollars to acquire the right to air U.S. sitcoms and movies. Millions of viewers tuned in to watch reruns of American soaps such as "Dallas" or to see "Colpo Grosso," an Italian striptease program masquerading as a game show.

Mr. Berlusconi — who embraced marketing mottos such as "Always carry the sun in your pocket!" — diversified. Under the umbrella company Fininvest, he added an advertising wing, a chain of department stores, a film-production company, radio, newspapers and magazines, and, in 1986, A.C. Milan. The team became a powerhouse and useful political metaphor.

And in exchange for Craxi's political protection, Mr. Berlusconi's critics charged, he furnished his patron with positive coverage and lots of money. Italian prosecutors alleged that Craxi, who resigned in 1987, received millions of mysterious dollars from Mr. Berlusconi's Fininvest that went into private Swiss bank accounts.

The two men were close. Craxi served as best man at Mr. Berlusconi's 1990 marriage to his second wife, Veronica Lario, whom he had met a decade earlier when she performed topless in a play at a Milan theater he owned. (He had met her while married to his first wife, Carla Dall'Oglio, with whom he had two children.) Mr. Berlusconi had three more children. The couple divorced in 2014.

Survivors include his children;



GREGORIO BORGIA/AP

Silvio Berlusconi, seen in 2011, served as Italy's premier four times since 1994. Free markets showed no confidence in his ability to guide the country out of a 2011 debt crisis, leading to his ouster.

a brother; 15 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

His attempt in 1990 to take over a publishing conglomerate hit a legal bump that would result in decades of investigations of bribery against Mr. Berlusconi.

The political order within which Mr. Berlusconi prospered collapsed in 1992 when prosecutors launched the "Clean Hands" investigation that revealed a culture of widespread corruption known as "Bribesville." The scandal laid waste to the ethically flexible Christian Democrat political establishment, but also destroyed Mr. Berlusconi's political patron, Craxi, who fled to Tunisia in 1994 to avoid prison on corruption charges.

That same year, with his friends out of power and his left-leaning enemies eager to break up his debt-addled business empire, Mr. Berlusconi took action.

On Jan. 26, 1994, his television news programs broadcast Mr. Berlusconi's dramatic announcement that he would, in soccer parlance, "take the field" to protect the country from anti-free-market leftists who "do not believe in the individual."

He formed the political party

Forza Italia, named after the national soccer chant ("Go Italy"), and populated it with his own advertising executives. He promised tax cuts and greater privatization of the public sector to promote efficiency.

Three months after taking the field, Mr. Berlusconi was elected prime minister.

Throughout much of Mr. Berlusconi's initial stint in office, opposition leaders demanded in vain for him to sell off his businesses to avoid a conflict of interest. They criticized his decree prohibiting the arrest of people for political corruption and fraud, which freed thousands of defendants in the Bribesville scandals — including, potentially, his brother.

After seven months, Mr. Berlusconi's governing coalition came crashing down. Mr. Berlusconi's detractors breathed a sigh of relief, dismissing him as a fleeting footnote in Italian politics. But in political exile, he cemented his identity as the leader of a new center-right space. The left-leaning government failed to pass meaningful conflict-of-interest laws and fell victim to infighting. In 2001, Mr. Berlusconi had another shot at power, and he took it.

Accusations and scandals

That June, Mr. Berlusconi swept back into office with a stronger coalition and widespread popularity. And he was no longer a novice. He expertly navigated internecine squabbles between his allies and ruled for five uninterrupted years.

During that time, he declared himself his own foreign minister with allegiance to the United States, but also befriended strongmen such as Vladimir Putin of Russia, with whom he wore furry hats at a Black Sea dacha. In part to prevent migrant waves from northern Africa, he built a relationship with Libyan leader Moammar Gaddafi, whom he gleefully let play ringmaster in a Rome ceremony complete with Bedouins on thoroughbreds.

It was also a period in which Mr. Berlusconi's temper, bawdy sense of humor and loose tongue conspired to appoint him king of the gaffe. He compared a German lawmaker to a Nazi concentration-camp guard; said Italian fascist leader Benito Mussolini never "killed anyone"; and announced to the New York Stock Exchange that "another reason to invest in Italy is that we have beautiful secretaries."

More substantively, Mr. Ber-

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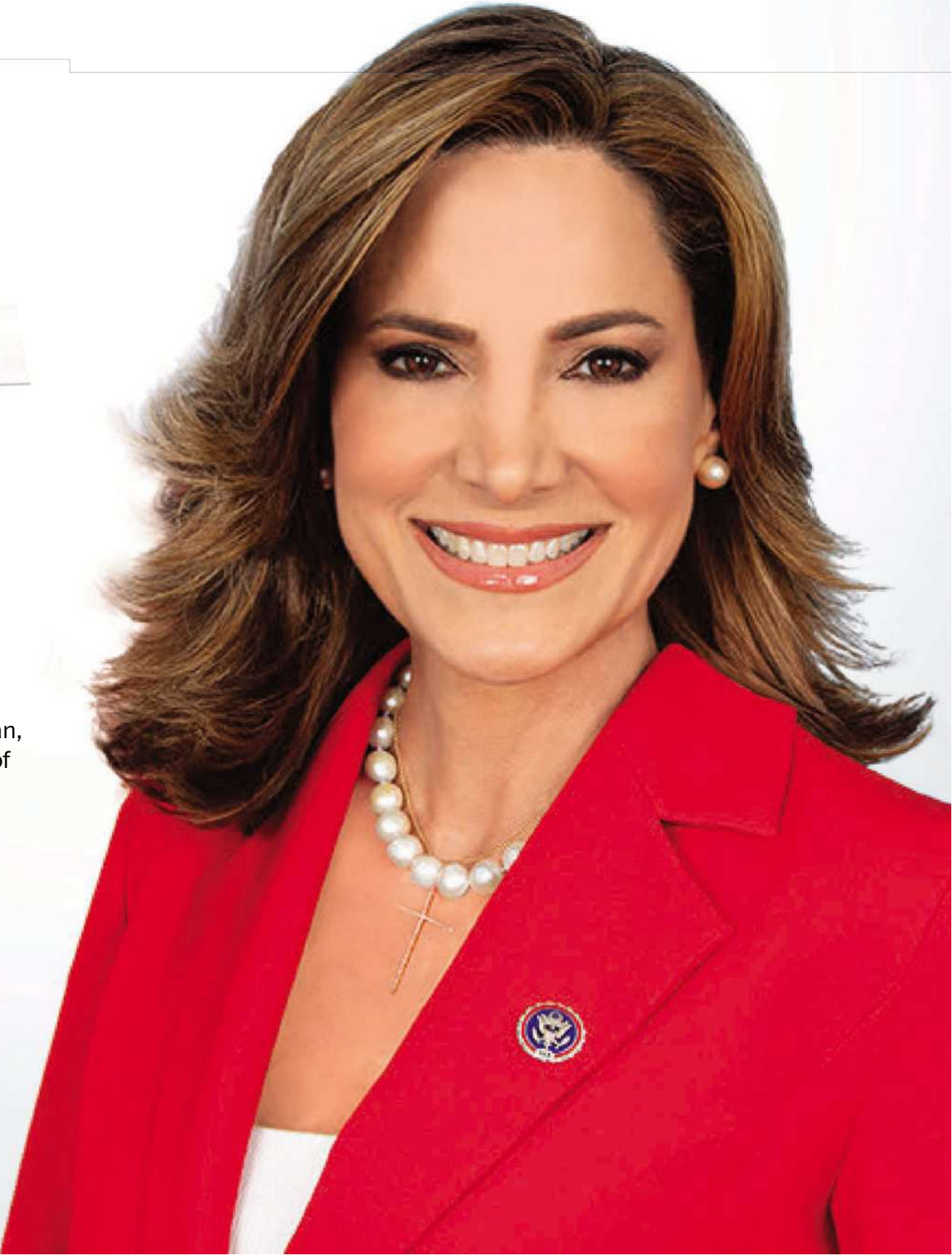
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lusconi’s growing legion of critics charged that the prime minister was misusing his official power for legal protection, spending time and energy pushing tailor-made laws through Parliament to shield himself from prosecution and protect his business empire.

“If I, taking care of everyone’s interests, also take care of my own, you can’t talk about a conflict of interest,” he said in a 2001 speech to industrialists in Rome.

Italian magistrates accused Mr. Berlusconi of everything from tax evasion to bribery to consorting with the Mafia. Throughout his years in and out of power, dozens of trials against Mr. Berlusconi ended either in acquittals or expired under statutes of limitations.

Mr. Berlusconi’s greatest impact on his country’s criminal justice system may have been his unrelenting characterization of its magistrates as a politically motivated cabal of communists — “red robes,” as he called them. That demonizing, from the mouth of the nation’s leader, and amplified by all his media outlets, eroded faith in a key, if malfunctioning, democratic institution.

In 2006, Mr. Berlusconi lost reelection. His popularity was damaged by his unwavering support for the United States and its war in Iraq, to which he contributed Italian troops. Left-leaning opposition members thought they had rid themselves of their scourge once and for all. And when he collapsed onstage during a 2006 political rally and underwent heart surgery, they started talking about him in the past tense. Again, prematurely.

The leftist opposition to Mr. Berlusconi, vehement as it was, failed to renew itself, offer a real political alternative or attract voters in the more autonomous northern regions.

In April 2008, Mr. Berlusconi returned and consolidated power. Again he passed laws to protect himself from prosecution, but with such a solid majority in both houses of Parliament that outrage seemed futile.

It was then, when Mr. Berlusconi seemed most untouchable, that his own appetites aided



FERDINANDO MEAZZA/AP

Silvio Berlusconi is carried by A.C. Milan players after the soccer team won the 1988 Italian championship at the San Siro stadium. Mr. Berlusconi, who owned the world-class club, built a multibillion-dollar business empire and was one of the world’s richest men.

For more than three decades, the diminutive colossus bestrode the narrow Italian peninsula, monopolizing the media, manipulating the levers of power, and capturing the imagination of friends and foes alike.

his self-destruction.

In April 2009, Veronica Berlusconi called “shameless trash” her husband’s plan to give seats in Parliament to aspirant showgirls. Five days later, she announced she was leaving the man

who “consorts with minors,” in apparent reference to Mr. Berlusconi’s attendance a month earlier at the 18th birthday of an underwear model in Naples who called him “Papi.”

The summer ended with an

unstable man hitting Mr. Berlusconi in the face with a statuette of the Milan Cathedral, breaking his teeth and nose. The attack put Mr. Berlusconi back in his preferred political posture of victim. His poll numbers climbed, and Mr. Berlusconi returned to appointing long-legged, full-lipped former nude models to city councils, Parliament and his cabinet.

And then in 2010, at 74, Mr. Berlusconi was accused of paying for sex with an underage Moroccan woman, Karima El Mahroug, known as Ruby the Heart Stealer. More women came forward, revealing details of bacchanalian “bunga bunga” parties, a phrase that captured the world’s imagi-

nation.

The investigations turned up hours of embarrassing phone transcripts. They depicted Mr. Berlusconi as an unhinged leader describing his sexual prowess, and cautioning against too much nocturnal activity because of a morning meeting with the pope. (Mr. Berlusconi was found not guilty in the “bunga bunga” trials, including a February 2023 acquittal on allegations of witness tampering.)

Even in the face of renewed public outrage and mutinies within his coalition, Mr. Berlusconi held on, surviving 53 confidence votes in his last term alone. But in the end, the weakened businessman who came to

power claiming economic expertise was undone by his country’s economy.

Economic crisis and downfall

A debt crisis caused the downfall that his opponents could not. International financial markets with low confidence in Italy’s capacity for growth sent borrowing rates on the country’s expansive debt soaring.

To appease investors dubious of his leadership, Mr. Berlusconi stepped down. As he tendered his official resignation, a choir spontaneously gathered outside the presidential palace and sang the “Hallelujah Chorus.”

More indignities followed. A conviction for tax fraud in 2012 led to the stripping of his Senate seat and loss of parliamentary immunity. He received a prison sentence that was reduced to months of community service in a nursing home.

Mr. Berlusconi was down but not out. He waited out a ban on holding office until 2018 and ran again, at age 81. By then, he had lost his edge and become eclipsed by the populist leaders his style of politics had helped create. But his refusal to join populist governments, or to prop them up as they fell, helped cement his legacy as a centrist and usher in the administration of Mario Draghi, a pro-European technocrat.

The 2022 election of Draghi’s successor, Giorgia Meloni, kept Mr. Berlusconi in the political mix with his party joining Meloni’s right-leaning coalition. The alliance got off to a rocky start when a note, apparently written by Mr. Berlusconi, described Meloni as “bossy” and “arrogant.” Meloni then rebuked Mr. Berlusconi after his comments about having friendly ties with Putin.

Weeks later, they made a public show of unity. Mr. Berlusconi treated the moment as if he were bestowing his blessing on her leadership. “Today with full merit,” he said, “it’s up to Giorgia to lead the coalition, and she is doing so with authority and credibility.”

Stefano Pitrelli contributed to this report.

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ECONOMY & BUSINESS

Swifties’ bad blood against Ticketmaster inspires legislation

Angry fans of the singer spark wave of ticketing reform proposals

BY ANDREA SALCEDO
AND JULIAN MARK

Texas state Rep. Krona Thi-mesch repeatedly heard her daughter cry as the college stu-dent tried to buy tickets last fall to see one of her favorite artists, Taylor Swift. Every time she made it to the final checkout phase on Ticketmaster’s website, the tick-ets just disappeared.

Many of Thimesch’s constitu-ents were similarly disappointed, flooding her inbox and social media channels after the website buckled under what Ticketmas-ter called “unprecedented” de-mand to see the megastar’s Eras Tour.

“My daughter told me, ‘There’s nothing we can do about it. This is wrong;’” the Republican legis-lator told The Washington Post. “I said, ‘Actually, we can.’”

Across the country, lawmakers are introducing bills aimed at avoiding a repeat of the Novem-ber Ticketmaster meltdown, in which many of Swift’s fans tried and failed to buy tickets. The incident sparked waves of ire among Swift fans and policymak-ers alike, reigniting a debate over whether the company’s outsize market dominance is failing con-sumers.

In May, Gov. Greg Abbott (R) signed into law the “Save Our Swifties” Act, introduced by Thi-mesch, imposing fines on scalp-ers who use bots to hoard tickets. Last year, New York state enacted a measure to crack down on scalping and control the ticket-resale market. In Minnesota, House File “1989” — a reference to Swift’s fifth studio album — would require Ticketmaster and other companies to include their fees in prices upfront. And in Washington state, lawmakers are considering a bill aimed at regu-lating the secondary ticket mar-ket and stabilizing ticket prices.

And that’s only at the state level. Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Richard Blumen-thal (D-Conn.) have introduced a bill that would put federal regula-tory scrutiny on the long-term contracts that Ticketmaster holds with concert venues — an issue raised during a January Senate hearing in which lawmak-ers on both sides grilled a top company official.

Meanwhile, Sens. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) and Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.) introduced a price transparency bill in April, and Sen. John Cornyn (R-Tex.) has proposed transparency and scalping reforms.

In the House, New Jersey Democratic Reps. Bill Pascrell Jr. and Frank Pallone Jr. have intro-duced the “Boss and Swift” Act (a nod to Bruce Springsteen), which seeks to enhance ticket-pricing transparency by updating legisla-tion first introduced in 2009. A separate House bill, which Presi-dent Biden hyped in his State of the Union address, takes aim at fees tacked on to ticket sales.

Star power

In the past, lawmakers and musicians have attempted to challenge Ticketmaster’s domi-nance, without much success. Pearl Jam boycotted the company in the 1990s and, despite some political momentum, largely failed to force big changes. Last August, Bruce Springsteen fans were shocked when ticket prices



PHOTOS BY RACHEL WISNIEWSKI FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

surged in some cases to \$5,000. But the Swift Ticketmaster de-bacle, amplified by a mass of con-certgoers who flocked to social media to vent, has given the issue new life, industry experts said.

Another major factor in the recent momentum: Swift’s star power.

Swift’s most recent album, “Midnights” broke industry re-cords with its release in October, dominating the top of the Bill-board Hot 100 chart and becom-ing the most-streamed album in the first 24 hours of release on Spotify. More than 2 million tick-ets for the tour were sold the day of the Eras Tour rollout, the most ever in a single day, according to Ticketmaster.

“It’s a lot of things that have to do with Taylor Swift,” said Carolyn Sloane, an assistant professor of economics of the University of California at River-side, on why this particular event spurred mass action.

“She scaled her talent through demographic technology,” Sloane continued. “She got to her fans when they were very young, and she stuck with them. And then they went out into the world and made a case for how great she was — to their parents and friends and everybody.”

That group includes officials at the highest levels of the federal government, such as a bipartisan group of U.S. senators who re-peatedly invoked Swift lyrics at a January hearing in which they questioned a panel about Ticket-master’s dominance in the live events industry, as well as state lawmakers who responded to the ticketing crash with legislation named after the superstar.

In the case of the “Save our Swifties” law, for example, a pen-alty of up to \$10,000 per violation would be imposed on scalpers who use bots to snap up tickets en masse. The measure, which will take effect in September, was supported by Ticketmaster and other ticketing agencies, Thime-sch, the Texas Republican, said.

In Washington state, Rep. Kristine Reeves (D) introduced in January the “TSWIFT Consumer Protection Act,” which proposes



limits on ticket resellers and ex-pands the prohibition on using bots or software to buy tickets. The bill also proposed restric-tions on dynamic pricing, which refers to price fluctuations based on demand.

Notably, that proposal didn’t receive the same support from Ticketmaster and other com-pa-nies, Reeves said.

“Ticketmaster was being help-ful in Texas because Texas was doing something in favor of Tick-etmaster,” Reeves said. “Where Ticketmaster and I couldn’t see eye-to-eye was the fact that we were trying to regulate them more broadly and with more standards.”

After months of talks with Ticketmaster and industry lobby-ists, Reeves paused her effort out of frustration. She hopes to re-draft the measure in the next legislative session, months after Swift’s Seattle tour date.

“It became clear very quickly that [Ticketmaster was] hiring major lobbyists essentially to kill my bill,” she said.

In a statement to The Post, Ticketmaster did not specifically address those negotiations, but noted that it has had to “ramp up our engagement with policymak-ers because they are being inun-dated with misinformation ped-dled by scalpers.”

Some of the recently intro-duced legislation includes lan-

guage pushed by pro-scalping groups, such as measures that would explicitly preserve the right of consumers to resell tick-ets, Ticketmaster added. But it said it does support some of the new measures, including fines against scalpers who use bots, as well as “all-in” pricing.

“We’re very hopeful the added attention on ticketing will help pass common sense reforms, and we want to be part of the solu-tion,” Ticketmaster added.

A core issue, according to Eric Budish, an economics and entre-preneurship professor at the Uni-versity of Chicago Booth School of Business, is whether popular artists such as Swift can restrict ticket resales as a way to deter scalpers and bots.

“It will be hard to fix the problems with the event ticket market” if artists like Swift can’t do that, explained Budish.

Market failure

An even more fundamental question is whether Ticketmaster has become a monopoly — a charge it has long denied.

The company has steadily grown to dominate the industry since establishing its website in the 1990s, and it gained even greater power in 2010 when it merged with Live Nation Entertain-ment, a top show promoter. Regulators waded through the deal under a set of terms that,

ABOVE: Fans wait outside of the closed box office at the Taylor Swift Eras Tour concert at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia. **LEFT:** Anna Mason, Emily Lind, and Kristen Robinson show their spot in the Ticketmaster queue, behind more than 2,000 other fans, on their cellphones while they wait in line for Swift’s Philadelphia show.

among other things, prohibited the company from retaliating against concert venues for using a ticketing company other than Ticketmaster.

Still, the merger allowed the company to control two major parts of the live events industry — show promotion and ticket sales — which critics have zeroed in on.

Artists and other promoters allege the company has used these dual roles to force venues and artists to use only its services, which the company has denied.

The Justice Department took action in 2019, alleging that Live Nation had violated the terms of its merger, including threatening concert venues. The company agreed to clarify those terms in a settlement.

But Live Nation and Ticket-master have been unable to shake the monopoly charge.

“The U.S. ticketing industry has never been more competitive than it is today, both within primary ticketing and the enor-mous secondary market,” Ticket-master told The Post.

“There is intense bidding com-petition for every ticketing con-tract, and this has resulted in venues and teams receiving more of the economic value in a ticket-ing contract while ticketing com-pa-nies such as Ticketmaster re-ceive less.”

Live Nation told The Post that “since the merger, Ticketmaster’s market share has gone down, not up.”

What is clear is that Ticketmas-ter is far larger than its competi-tors. In 2022, it sold more than 550 million tickets and reported more than \$16 billion in annual revenue. By contrast, Eventbrite,

another publicly traded ticket seller, sold just over 87 million tickets and reported nearly \$261 million in annual revenue.

The debate erupted again last November, when the turbulent rollout of Swift’s Eras Tour tickets enraged fans. Would-be concert-goers reported waiting in frozen queues and broken checkouts on Ticketmaster’s website, and many said they emerged empty-handed.

Ticketmaster blamed over-whelming demand and a “stag-gering number of bot attacks” for its website’s meltdown. But crit-ics said the company should have been prepared, with some point-ing to the failure as evidence that Ticketmaster had grown too large and should be broken up. A group of fans sued the company under California’s unfair competition laws, saying it “messed with the wrong fan base.” Swift voiced her own frustrations and likened her fans’ experiences to “going through several bear attacks.”

Now, policymakers are propos-ing fixes, and industry experts — and even Ticketmaster — say some might actually make a dif-ference.

Sloane, the assistant professor at UC Riverside, says the New York bill might be “the most honest attempt at trying to get at some of these issues.” It imposes penalties on scalpers who use bots and places limits on reselling “holdback” tickets, which are dis-tributed to artists, promoters and venues — and are not offered on the primary market. Both mea-sures, Sloane notes, could boost supply.

The measure also requires companies to include the extra fees in prices before tickets are selected so customers are not surprised. Those surcharges can total an estimated 27 percent of the ticket price, according to a 2018 report by the Government Accountability Office.

While Gov. Kathy Hochul (D) signed the bill in June of 2022, months before the Swift ticketing meltdown, it was never put to the test because Swift’s tour did not pass through New York, Sloane noted. “All-in” pricing has made its way into some of the state bills, however.

Sloane also points to the Sen-ate bill introduced by Klobuchar and Blumenthal, which takes an-other tack by trying to increase competition. If enacted, it would effectively limit the long-term, exclusive contracts that Ticket-master holds with large venues to four years, opening up opportu-nities for competitors. That could lead to lower prices for consum-ers.

Florian Ederer, an associate professor of economics at the Yale School of Management, calls the proposals for all-in pricing the “most reasonable” with a high chance of success.

“There is ... good empirical evidence that this type of drip pricing harms consumers,” Ederer said, adding that any all-in pricing measures could change that.

For her part, Klobuchar said she was less concerned about the most recent Swift conflagration and more focused on the long-running issue of alleged monopoly and the costs it forces on consumers.

“Do I mind that her fans were up in arms? No,” Klobuchar told The Post. But she wants to use the spotlight cast by her fans to seize the moment.

With that kind of attention, she said, Ticketmaster “can’t live in the shadows.”

DIGEST

FINANCE

UBS completes its Credit Suisse takeover

UBS on Monday said it had completed its emergency takeover of embattled local rival Credit Suisse, creating a giant Swiss bank with a balance sheet of \$1.6 trillion and greater muscle in wealth management.

Announcing the biggest banking deal since the 2008 global financial crisis, UBS chief executive Sergio Ermotti and Chairman Colm Kelleher said it would create challenges but also “many opportunities” for clients, employees, shareholders and Switzerland.

The group will oversee \$5 trillion in assets, giving UBS a leading position in key markets it would otherwise have needed years to grow in size and reach. The merger also brings to an end

Credit Suisse’s 167-year history, marred in recent years by scandals and losses.

The two banks jointly employ 120,000 worldwide, although UBS has already said it will be cutting jobs to reduce costs and take advantage of synergies.

UBS announced a string of management changes, including at Credit Suisse, which is now a subsidiary that will be run separately.

Of the more than 160 leaders who were being confirmed or appointed at UBS, over a fifth were joining from Credit Suisse, a spokesperson for UBS said.

André Helfenstein, head of Credit Suisse’s domestic business, will remain in his role. UBS has said it is considering all strategic options for the unit.

UBS agreed on March 19 to buy the lender for a knockdown price of 3 billion Swiss francs (\$3.32 billion) and up to 5 billion

francs in assumed losses in a rescue Swiss authorities orchestrated to prevent a collapse in customer confidence from pushing Switzerland’s No. 2 bank over the edge.

— Reuters

UTILITIES

PacifiCorp found liable for 2020 Oregon fires

A jury in Oregon has found electric utility PacifiCorp responsible for causing devastating fires during Labor Day 2020 in a lawsuit.

The jury returned its decision Monday, saying the utility should be held financially liable for homes destroyed in the blaze. The jury awarded millions of dollars each to 17 homeowners who sued PacifiCorp a month after the fires, with most receiving \$4.5 million and some \$3 million for

emotional distress.

The jury also applied its liability finding to a larger class including the owners of nearly 2,500 properties damaged in the fires, which could push the price tag for damages to more than \$1 billion. Those damages will be determined later.

There has been no official cause determined for the 2020 Labor Day fires that killed nine people, burned more than 1,875 square miles in Oregon, and destroyed upward of 5,000 homes and structures. The blazes were one of the worst natural disasters in Oregon history.

The Portland utility, one of several owned by billionaire Warren Buffett’s Omaha-based investment conglomerate Berkshire Hathaway, didn’t shut off power to its 600,000 customers during the windstorm over Labor Day weekend in 2020 despite warnings from then-Gov.

Kate Brown’s chief of staff and top fire officials, plaintiffs alleged.

— Associated Press

ALSO IN BUSINESS

General Motors says it will spend \$632 million to update its Fort Wayne, Ind., assembly plant so it can make the next generation of full-size pickup trucks with internal combustion engines. The investment in new conveyors and equipment in the body shop and assembly areas won’t create any new jobs. But GM said Monday it will keep jobs for about 4,000 people. Construction will start in 2024 at the plant, which now builds the Chevrolet Silverado 1500 and GMC Sierra 1500 light-duty pickup trucks.

Cava Group, which operates a chain of Mediterranean fast-casual restaurants in the United States, said Monday that it is now

aiming for a valuation of up to \$2.23 billion in its U.S. initial public offering. The company had earlier hoped to be valued at \$2.12 billion, pricing its common stock between \$17 and \$19 per share in the offering at the top of the proposed range. The listing comes amid strong sales for quick-service chains.

Tesla’s charging technology won more backers as a handful of players in the electric-vehicle power industry said they would offer compatible equipment, further solidifying the automaker’s system as the U.S. standard. ChargePoint Holdings, Blink Charging and Wallbox each said Monday they will have chargers capable of working with Tesla’s North American Charging Standard, which is quickly winning in competition with the Combined Charging System.

— From news services

American firms revise strategies as U.S.-China rift grows

Top companies seek to stay overseas but also avoid political risks

BY DAVID J. LYNCH

Top American companies are struggling to devise new strategies for the Chinese market, as government policies in both Washington and Beijing push the two nations apart and economic growth in China slows from its customary torrid pace.

The latest boardroom action came last week when Sequoia Capital, a Silicon Valley firm that was among the early investors in TikTok parent ByteDance, said it would split its China and U.S. operations into separate companies.

The move, which analysts said was partly a response to transpacific tensions, came as investment giants BlackRock and Goldman Sachs said U.S. investors were wary of political risks surrounding business in China — and as two-way trade flows continue to shrink.

While President Biden last month predicted a “thaw” in relations with Beijing, U.S. companies that sell to Chinese customers, use China as a manufacturing base or invest there see both the capitals as threats to their profits.

In China, the government in recent months launched investigations of two American consulting firms and banned Chinese companies from buying computer chips made by another U.S. company, Micron, saying they threaten national security.

The Chinese action followed the Biden administration’s decision last fall to prohibit the sale of the most advanced U.S. semiconductors to China, also on national security grounds. The administration is expected to issue new restrictions within weeks on U.S. investments in Chinese technology ventures.

Some on Capitol Hill want to accelerate the commercial divorce.

“American businesses need to



Elon Musk, in Beijing last month, told Foreign Minister Qin Gang the United States and China are like inseparable “conjoined twins.”

take off the golden blindfolds and open their eyes to the strategic risk inherent when it comes to operating in China,” Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-Wis.), chairman of the House Select Committee on China, said in an interview. “Business leaders, if they think they can continue business as usual, are ignoring political reality on the Hill, but also they’re ignoring the geopolitical reality that their business will stop when [Chinese President] Xi Jinping decides it’s going to stop. ... I just don’t know how anyone thinks that business as usual is sustainable.”

Sorting out which deals might run afoul of government officials in one or both countries is growing more difficult, especially for companies involved in sensitive technologies such as semiconductors or those that conduct corporate research in China. The political landscape is growing more complex just as China’s economy — after decades of rapid growth — is set to slow, from an annual pace of 5.2 percent this year to little more than 3 percent five years from now, according to International Monetary Fund forecasts.

“If the risk is higher and growth is lower, that changes your competitive strategy,” said Myron Brilliant, senior counsel-

or with Dentons Global Advisors-ASG. “That’s why companies are insulating themselves a little bit more.”

Companies are adopting different strategies depending on their industry and specific tax and regulatory considerations, analysts said.

Some who rely on Chinese factories, such as Apple, are adding backup suppliers in countries such as Vietnam and India to guard against unexpected headaches. Others, like Sequoia, are localizing their corporate structure to limit the financial damage of shifting geopolitical winds. The prominent Silicon Valley firm plans to split into three separate companies, covering the United States and Europe; China; and India and Southeast Asia.

The Chinese branches of the consulting and due-diligence firms that Beijing’s security officials raided starting in late March — the Mintz Group and Bain & Co. — are frozen while the investigations proceed, leaving other executives to wonder if they might be next.

“There’s not a company in China that hasn’t had to do a top-to-bottom assessment of everything,” said Scott Kennedy, a senior adviser at the Center on Strategic and International Studies. “The majority of com-

panies are in some type of de-risking strategy, trying to remain in China and do business globally.”

To be sure, dozens of U.S.-based companies — including household names like Procter & Gamble and General Motors — remain committed to China’s 1.4 billion-person market. Tesla CEO Elon Musk visited China last month, telling Foreign Minister Qin Gang that the two countries are like “conjoined twins” that cannot be separated.

JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon also ruled out a full “decoupling” of the United States and China on a recent visit to Shanghai.

“Over time, there’ll be less trade,” Dimon told Bloomberg Television. “It’ll take years for this thing to take place, but it won’t be a decoupling and the world will go on.”

Five years ago, President Donald Trump’s tariffs on Chinese imports began to remake the U.S.-China trade relationship. U.S. anger over China’s lack of transparency about the origins of the coronavirus, and the supply chain disruptions during the pandemic, further thinned those links.

Through the first four months of this year, the inflation-adjusted value of U.S.-China trade was down 21 percent from the same period last year, according to Alfredo Carrillo Obregon, a Cato Institute research associate. If cargo continues moving at the current pace for the rest of the year, the annual figure would be roughly 26 percent below its 2018 peak.

The decline illustrates moves by manufacturers to shift production from China to countries such as Vietnam or Malaysia, as well as a post-pandemic shift in U.S. consumers’ spending from goods to in-person services such as restaurant meals, movies and sporting events.

Biden has retained most of the Trump tariffs, disappointing those in the business community who had expected him to reverse his predecessor.

In recent weeks, the president has tried to re-engage with the Chinese government. National

security adviser Jake Sullivan met in Vienna with Wang Yi, a member of the Chinese Politburo, in a two-day session that revived flagging White House hopes for progress with Beijing. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo and Katherine Tai, the chief U.S. trade negotiator, later held separate meetings on economic issues with Commerce Minister Wang Wentao.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken is expected to visit Beijing soon, followed by Treasury Secretary Janet L. Yellen.

U.S. officials have spoken of erecting “guardrails” through dialogue to prevent the relationship from veering into open conflict. But the results of any short-term warming are likely to be modest.

Xi is pursuing his own effort to limit China’s dependence on foreign markets while increasing other countries’ reliance on China under what he calls a “dual circulation” policy.

In Washington, there is bipartisan skepticism about China’s intentions, amid complaints about Beijing’s mercantilist trade practices and stance toward Taiwan, the self-governing island that China claims as its territory. Gallagher derides Biden’s diplomatic efforts as “zombie engagement.”

U.S. business executives are in denial about Xi’s aims, including his desire to decouple China from the United States and gain control of Taiwan, Gallagher said. The former Marine officer is pushing American companies to rethink their ties with China.

“We need to stop fueling our own destruction,” Gallagher said. “We are, to paraphrase Lenin, vying for the rope they will ultimately hang us with.”

Last month, Gallagher and 10 members of the House China committee traveled to California for meetings with Silicon Valley investors and Hollywood executives about their business with China. The talks were cordial, but Gallagher’s actions have stirred unease in the business community.

Established by the House Republican majority this year, the committee already has opened

investigations into what it called allegations of forced labor use in the Xinjiang region by four companies: Nike, Adidas, Shein and Temu, a shopping app.

In a statement, Shein said it had “zero tolerance” for forced labor and no suppliers in Xinjiang. The company said it is cooperating with the committee. In response to emailed requests, Nike, Adidas and Temu offered no comment.

The political clouds over U.S.-China commercial links have discouraged many institutional investors from expanding their Chinese activities. Canada’s Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, one of the country’s largest pension funds, stopped making private investments in China and closed its Shanghai office. Public employee retirement plans in Florida and Texas last year reduced or eliminated their Chinese holdings.

“Most of the large Western funds believe China is now ‘uninvestable’ due both to geopolitical risks and economic growth,” said Andrew Collier, an economist with GlobalSource Partners in Hong Kong.

Over the last three months, investors have pulled more than \$25 billion from the Chinese bond market while adding less than \$1 billion to their holdings of Chinese stocks, according to the Institute of International Finance.

Stephanie Hui, head of Goldman Sachs’s private equity business in Asia, told a Hong Kong investor conference last month that she was no longer raising money from American investors for new Chinese deals. Amid the cool relations between the United States and China — and the prospect of new Biden administration restrictions on outbound investments — institutions are reluctant to gamble on stakes in Chinese companies.

“We are seeing an increase in investor preference to focus closer to home. This is certainly the case with China, which is drawing more interest on a relative basis from pools of capital within Asia,” a Goldman Sachs spokesperson said.

WELL+BEING

FROM The Washington Post

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AUTHOR, “BETTER LIVING
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Ryan to step down after nearly a decade as Post publisher

RYAN FROM A1

the issues that inspired the center's mission. "The decline in civility is threatening the foundation of our democracy," he added. A former Reagan administration official, Ryan called it "a bookend for something I did early on in my career."

He also said he has Bezos's full support in this move and that their relationship "could not be closer." Bezos shares his enthusiasm in promoting civility in all aspects of public life, Ryan said, adding that Bezos provided the initial funding for planning and design of the center. (Ryan would not disclose the amount but called it "a very meaningful gift.")

In a memo to Post staff, Bezos said he was "deeply grateful" to Ryan for leading The Post and praised him for focusing on "the intersection of journalism and technology."

In his own note to staff, Ryan wrote that "together, we have accomplished one of the most extraordinary transformations in modern media history," as The Post "evolved from a primarily local print newspaper to become a global digital publication."

Ryan presided over The Post during an unprecedented period of change. The newsroom swelled from just under 600 people to about double that figure today, as it set its sights on expanding its digital audience around the world.

He is departing at a tumultuous time for the media industry, when declining advertising revenue and audience numbers have prompted waves of layoffs and closures at other news organizations. Some competitors, however, have continued to grow digital subscribers — the New York Times announced in May that it had added 190,000 new subscribers in the previous quarter. During the same period, the Wall Street Journal added 132,000.

Ryan said his departure is unrelated to the swirl in the industry. "I firmly believe there is a sound model for successful journalism, and The Washington Post is well positioned to do that," he said. "I have no doubt that the high-quality journalism of the standard of The Washington Post will always be successful."



Interim CEO Patty Stonesifer introduces herself on Monday. Fred Ryan is leaving as publisher of The Washington Post to lead the Center on Public Civility at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation.

Bezos's 2013 purchase of The Post was a watershed event for the media company, ending 80 years of stewardship by the Graham family as he took the company private. In September 2014, he hired Ryan, the founding CEO of Politico, whom he charged with expanding the national and global reach of The Post.

At the time, the majority of The Post's revenue came from its print business, and it had about 35,000 digital subscribers. Now, Ryan said, the majority of The Post's revenue comes from its digital business, and it has about 2.5 million digital subscribers.

One of his biggest responsibilities was to hire a new executive editor to replace Martin Baron, who retired in 2021. Ryan selected Sally Buzbee, the former top executive for the Associated Press, who became the first woman to serve as The Post's executive editor.

His tenure also coincided with the chaotic years of the Trump presidency, when The Post and other media companies saw record levels of digital traffic and a boom in subscriptions. In January 2021, The Post counted 3 million digital subscribers.

But those figures leveled off after Donald Trump left office and

the coronavirus pandemic ebbed. The Post ended the past year in the red after what Ryan called six years of "significant growth and profit." (As a private company, The Post does not disclose its financials.)

In March 2020, The Post had more than 138 million digital visitors, according to ComScore. In December 2022, by comparison, the paper's website received 58 million visitors.

Ryan oversaw several cutbacks in his final months as publisher, including the elimination of the Sunday magazine, the KidsPost page and a team devoted to video game coverage. At a December town hall, Ryan angered some Post employees after he announced there would be layoffs in January and then refused to take questions about the anticipated job losses, which ultimately affected 20 staffers.

In addition to the layoffs, The Post saw a string of high-profile reporters leave for competitors last year. In January, Bezos visited the publication's offices in Washington, during which he held lengthy meetings with staffers to learn more about what he said were "significant issues" at the publication, according to people

briefed on his meetings who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive internal discussions.

Bezos asked pointed questions during that visit about the management styles of both Ryan and Buzbee, whose working relationship had become strained over newsroom budgeting and strategic direction, these people said.

During his visit, Bezos heard repeatedly that there were significant difficulties on the business side and a general lack of strategic business direction; the New York Times, citing an internal financial document, reported that digital ad revenue at The Post declined by about 15 percent to roughly \$70 million during the first half of 2022, compared with the first half of 2021.

Following those meetings, Bezos told people he was dedicated to the publication and willing to spend more time and money to get

The Post on good footing. His visit was the beginning of a period of renewed engagement at the publication. Since then he has joined regular calls with top leaders at The Post, including Ryan, Buzbee and those in charge of its product division.

Across the country, newspaper companies have been grappling with how to adapt since print advertising began its decline in 2005. One major competitor, the New York Times, has responded by acquiring new media properties, such as the Athletic and Wordle, and investing heavily in lifestyle content such as cooking and games. The Post, meanwhile, invested in its core areas of politics and investigative reporting while expanding its coverage of technology, and passed on opportunities to acquire other media properties.

Ryan said the philosophy behind The Post's approach is "to create a single, all-inclusive bundle and always try to make it better" rather than "create multiple products and sell multiple subscriptions." More recently, The Post created a department dedicated to wellness coverage, expanded its climate coverage and started an initiative to reach younger audiences.

Ryan made press freedom a centerpiece of his tenure. Shortly before Ryan came to the company, Post reporter Jason Rezaian was arrested in Iran on false charges of espionage. To build a campaign for his release, Ryan met with White House officials and asked foreign leaders visiting The Post to press Iran to free the reporter. After 545 days in prison, Rezaian was released in January 2016 in a prisoner swap.

"We had to keep Jason's plight in the forefront," Ryan said in a 2019 Post documentary about Rezaian's arrest.

Another Post journalist, freelance contributor Austin Tice, was abducted in Syria in 2012, and Ryan has spent years working closely with his family to try to

secure his release. It remains a tragic piece of unfinished business for Ryan, but "I will continue, in this other role, to do everything I can," he said.

In his Monday memo about Ryan's exit, Bezos called Ryan a "relentless force" for the release of wrongfully arrested reporters.

Stonesifer — a director on Amazon's board and a friend of Bezos for 27 years — said that The Post owner asked her to ensure a smooth transition for the company. Neither Ryan nor Stonesifer would comment on when they began discussing a transition plan.

Stonesifer, 67, will also be charged with helping fill vacancies among other executive roles. The Post's top executives ranks have seen several departures in recent months, including the chief technology officer.

Stonesifer, who said she is not a candidate to succeed Ryan permanently, began her meetings with staff on Monday. Her tenure "could be as short as six months, or it could be longer," she said in an interview, adding that her goal is to ensure "the team and the culture are in place for the decade ahead."

The search for Ryan's replacement "will be broad," she said. "There are no limits here. I don't see why it wouldn't be global."

Stonesifer lives in D.C., and is married to journalist Michael Kinsley, the founding editor of Slate. She also spent six years as CEO of local nonprofit Martha's Table. An avid Post reader, she said she is undaunted by the flux in which the media industry finds itself.

"It strikes me, having been in many other businesses, that the position that The Post is in — with the quality we have, the trust our readers have in our work — puts us in a good position not to just weather changes but to lead through these changes," she said. "I wouldn't join if this wasn't an exciting time. It's a challenging time, but it's an exciting time, and I'm thrilled to be a part of it."

Former Microsoft executive lays out vision for role as Post's interim CEO

BY HERB SCRIBNER
AND ELAHE IZADI

The Washington Post's new interim CEO is a former Microsoft executive who helped Bill and Melinda Gates start their global nonprofit foundation. She has served on the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents, headed a local Washington charity organization and has been on Amazon's board of directors for nearly three decades. But what Patty Stonesifer emphasized most Monday while meeting The Post's staff was that her job with the news organization is temporary.

"We have a couple really important jobs to fill [at The Post], starting with the publisher and CEO, and a couple of other big roles," Stonesifer said in an interview Monday afternoon, noting that she will help Post owner Jeff Bezos, a longtime friend, pick his next publisher and CEO. "There are changes across the organization the last couple of years, and just ensuring the team and the culture are in place for the decade ahead is really the number one goal."

Stonesifer's appointment Monday came with the news that Post publisher Fred Ryan will step down after nine years at the helm. Ryan will depart in August, but Stonesifer will begin work immediately.

Addressing The Post's newsroom staff with Ryan soon after the announcements, Stonesifer said Bezos asked her to oversee a smooth transition for the company. (Neither Ryan nor Stonesifer would comment on when those conversations began.)

"I had no reason to say yes," she told the newsroom, noting her age, 67. "But this place makes me say yes."

In an interview earlier in the day, noting that she had been on the job for "4½ minutes," Stonesifer spoke of Bezos's commitment and interest in The Post. "For the past 10 years, he has talked about it all the time," she said. "He is very dedicated to the mission and the quality."

Stonesifer, who lives in Washington's Cleveland Park neighborhood with her husband, the journalist Michael Kinsley, told the staff that she is an avid, longtime reader of The Post on all its platforms, digital and print. She praised its journalism, including recent coverage of the Supreme Court, the indictment of former president Donald Trump and restaurants.

"I am one of those people who devours the Metro section every



Patty Stonesifer worked closely with Bill and Melinda Gates and later led their nonprofit.

morning," she said in the interview — and talked up the breadth of the newsroom, including its politics coverage, its health and wellness reporting and the Style section.

Stonesifer insisted she will only be at The Post on an interim basis, which "could be as short as six months, or it could be longer," as her goal is to make sure "the team and the culture are in place for the decade ahead."

Her mission is to "build the team and build the morale," she said.

Stonesifer's life has intersected with journalism in different ways. In 1974, after she graduated

"I had no reason to say yes. But this place makes me say yes."

Patty Stonesifer,
on accepting the role of The Post's interim CEO

ed high school, she attended Butler University as a journalism major, but then dropped out three years later to marry her first husband.

She returned to college at Indiana University, which didn't have a journalism major at the time, and said she turned to the tech industry "fairly quickly because it was a new and growing space," she said. "I always rode the line between the people using and consuming the technology and the people building it."

While at Microsoft, where she held a number of executive roles, she worked in interactive media and through that, met Kinsley, who approached Microsoft about building out Slate. (The two married in 2002. "There are a lot of

journalists at my kitchen table regularly," she said.)

She retired from Microsoft at 40, after working closely with Melinda and Bill Gates, and was asked to be the founding CEO of their nonprofit. "We shared a passion for a lot of the same issues around social change and social justice," she said. Although the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation wasn't focused on journalism, Stonesifer said, she saw the importance of journalism in spreading awareness about pressing humanitarian concerns.

After she left the Gates Foundation in 2009, she became heavily involved in local affairs and community life in the District, serving as CEO of the nonprofit Martha's Table from 2013 to 2019. She served as regent and chair on the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents from 2000 to 2012, and chaired the White House's Council for Community Solutions from 2010 to 2013.

Stonesifer said she was beginning a "listening tour" right away to learn the ins and outs of the company, the challenges facing the industry, and ideas for the future. She's looking to hear both from people currently at The Post as well as "those who have done it before," such as former publisher Don Graham, whose family had stewardship of The Post for 80 years until Bezos bought it in 2013 and installed Ryan as publisher in 2014.

Stonesifer will search for a replacement amid a stormy media landscape. She has never led a news company, but in her capacity as a tech executive, she has seen how industries weather upheaval before. She recalled when the focus at Microsoft was on desktop applications, "and then along came a thing called the internet," she said in Monday's interview. At Amazon, the focus was on the core website, "and then the cloud comes along."

"We're having those same things happening now, with people talking about and understanding the opportunities and risks of generative AI and different business models, and each of these are challenges," she said. "This is part of being an important institution that leads the way, which is to take advantage of and understand these changes, and find ways to use our best assets to lead again in the near future. I think The Post is well positioned to do that."

Will Sommer contributed to this report.



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JPMorgan settles for \$290 million with Epstein’s victims

BY AARON GREGG
AND JULIAN MARK

JPMorgan Chase has agreed to pay \$290 million to resolve a federal lawsuit with Jeffrey Epstein’s victims, who’d accused the nation’s biggest bank of enabling the disgraced financier’s sex crimes for years.

The tentative settlement announced Monday comes after several top executives, including chief executive Jamie Dimon, sat for hours of depositions. *Jane Doe 1 v. JPMorgan Chase Bank*, filed last year in federal court in Manhattan, alleged the bank facilitated Epstein’s sex trafficking operation by allowing him to make massive cash withdrawals over a 15-year period, including after the financier’s criminal and civil legal troubles were widely known. A separate case, brought by the U.S. Virgin Islands, is still pending.

The deal comes a month after Deutsche Bank, which handled Epstein’s accounts after he was dropped by JPMorgan, agreed to pay \$75 million to end a similar lawsuit.

Central to the lawsuits is the extent to which those who knew or worked with Epstein were aware of his crimes, enabled them or looked the other way. Victims’ attorneys contend the bank repeatedly ignored warnings about Epstein while profiting from business he brought to the bank.

“Taken together or individually, the historic recoveries from the banks who provided financial services to Jeffrey Epstein, speak for themselves,” David Boies, an attorney for the plaintiffs, said in an email. “It has taken a long time, too long, but today is a great day for Jeffrey Epstein survivors, and a great day for justice.”

A JPMorgan spokeswoman said the settlement was “in the best interests of all parties, especially the survivors” of Epstein’s abuse.

“We would never have continued to do business with him if we believed he was using our bank in any way to help commit heinous crimes,” Patricia Wexler said in an emailed statement.



JEENAH MOON/BLOOMBERG NEWS

Jes Staley, a former JPMorgan executive, is being sued by JPMorgan after it accused him of acting on his own to advance Jeffrey Epstein’s interests and advocating for the financier internally.

The New York lawsuit was granted class-action status on Sunday, and a person close to the case said more than 100 people may seek compensation.

Mary Graw Leary, senior associate dean for academic affairs at the Catholic University of America’s Columbus School of Law, said the agreement is among the highest publicly known settlements in a civil sex trafficking case. She said it represents “a significant victory for survivors of sex trafficking and warning for those mainstream companies who create a public image of ignorance, but continue to profit from sex trafficking of the most vulnerable by looking the other way.”

In 2008, Epstein pleaded guilty to state charges of soliciting a minor prostitution, but it wasn’t until 2019 that he was arrested on charges that he trafficked dozens of girls, some as young as 14. He was found dead in a jail cell in August of that year, leaving a

litany of open questions about who else may have aided his crimes and how his operation went on for so long. The New York medical examiner ruled his death a suicide. He was 66.

Epstein held accounts at JPMorgan for 15 years, starting in 1998. The settlement comes after several of the bank’s highest-ranking bankers were deposed, including Dimon and wealth management chief executive Mary Erdoes. Jes Staley, a former JPMorgan executive who the bank said had advocated internally on Epstein’s behalf, also faced questioning.

The litigation also crossed paths with an array of high-profile names outside JPMorgan; Tesla founder Elon Musk received a subpoena, as did Google co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin. They faced extensive questioning about Epstein’s efforts to recruit Microsoft founder Bill Gates for a charitable fund, an

effort which never came to fruition.

The bank has denied wrongdoing and said any association with Epstein was a mistake. It has also sued Staley, accusing him of acting on his own to advance Epstein’s interests.

Though court documents show Epstein was once one of the largest revenue-producers for JPMorgan’s private wealth division, the bank has grown significantly since it cut ties with him in 2013. The \$290 million payout is a fraction of what the bank takes in; JPMorgan reported \$38 billion in revenue in the first quarter of 2023 alone.

But there could still be fallout from its association with the notorious sex offender, one possible reason the bank decided to settle, experts say.

“In relative financial terms, the settlement is minuscule,” said Bill Wilhelm, an investment banking specialist at the McIntire School

of Commerce at the University of Virginia, adding that the bank is probably more concerned about reputational harm.

“It’s obviously not a good look for a firm that, I think rightly more often than not, is considered, and considers itself, a leader in the industry,” Wilhelm said.

The tentative agreement in New York does not include an admission of liability, according to a person familiar with the matter who was not authorized to discuss settlement terms.

Depositions showed that top JPMorgan executives were informed as early as 2006 that the bank had flagged suspicious activity on his accounts. But it wasn’t until 2013 years after Epstein’s status as a sex offender was widely publicized and discussed internally at the bank that Erdoes fired him as a client.

In a March 15 deposition, Erdoes said her 2013 decision to fire Epstein was precipitated by two events: her learning that Epstein’s massive withdrawals had been made in cash, and Staley’s departure from the bank. “There was no one there to vouch for Mr. Epstein,” she said.

But a March 2012 email exchange made public on Monday shows her responding to another executive’s email about a particular withdrawal of \$30,000.

“Cash?” Erdoes asked.

The other executive, John Duffy, responded “yes as in the past.”

Several of the bank’s top executives blamed one another for allowing Epstein to remain a client. Dimon, in a deposition last month, said the decision to fire Epstein fell to the bank’s general counsel. But the general counsel said in his own deposition that Erdoes and Staley were responsible for that decision. Erdoes said Staley had advocated on Epstein’s behalf, and Staley accused his former colleagues of trying to shift blame onto him.

The settlement still must be approved by Judge Jed Rakoff in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Rakoff is also presiding over the case

brought by the U.S. Virgin Islands.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Virgin Islands attorney general said that office will proceed with its case “to ensure full accountability for JPMorgan’s violations of the law and prevent the bank from assisting and profiting from human trafficking in the future.”

It’s likely that JPMorgan will want to settle the Virgin Islands lawsuit because it does not want to be dragged down by continued negative publicity, said Eric Chaffee, a professor at the University of Toledo College of Law. Still, he said, while JPMorgan has an incentive to put the case to rest, “They’re not going to want to overpay to simply to settle the matter.”

Several Wall Street analysts suggested JPMorgan would emerge from the litigation without issue. Eric Compton, an analyst at Morningstar, called the settlement “immaterial in the grand scheme of things for JPMorgan when it comes to thinking about how to value the bank,” in an email to The Post.

Dick Bove, a financial strategist at Odeon Capital Group, said that while the settlement amount was on the high side, it’s essentially a “business cost.”

“I don’t think it’s going to have any impact on JPMorgan,” he said.

But Chaffee said consumers are “a lot more savvy than they used to be — and they’re a lot more concerned about the social implications of their behavior.”

He noted that while the bank did not admit guilt in the case, it “has to be conscious” of the possible implications of its association with Epstein.

Chaffee added that the financial industry should see the settlement as a sign that it needs to be more careful about whom it does business with, and evolve accordingly. But banks would still have to balance any new monitoring with a need to attract big investors and “high-profile clients who have high-profile friends.”

“You’re going to see a balancing between both profit seeking and avoiding future situations like this on an ongoing basis,” he said.

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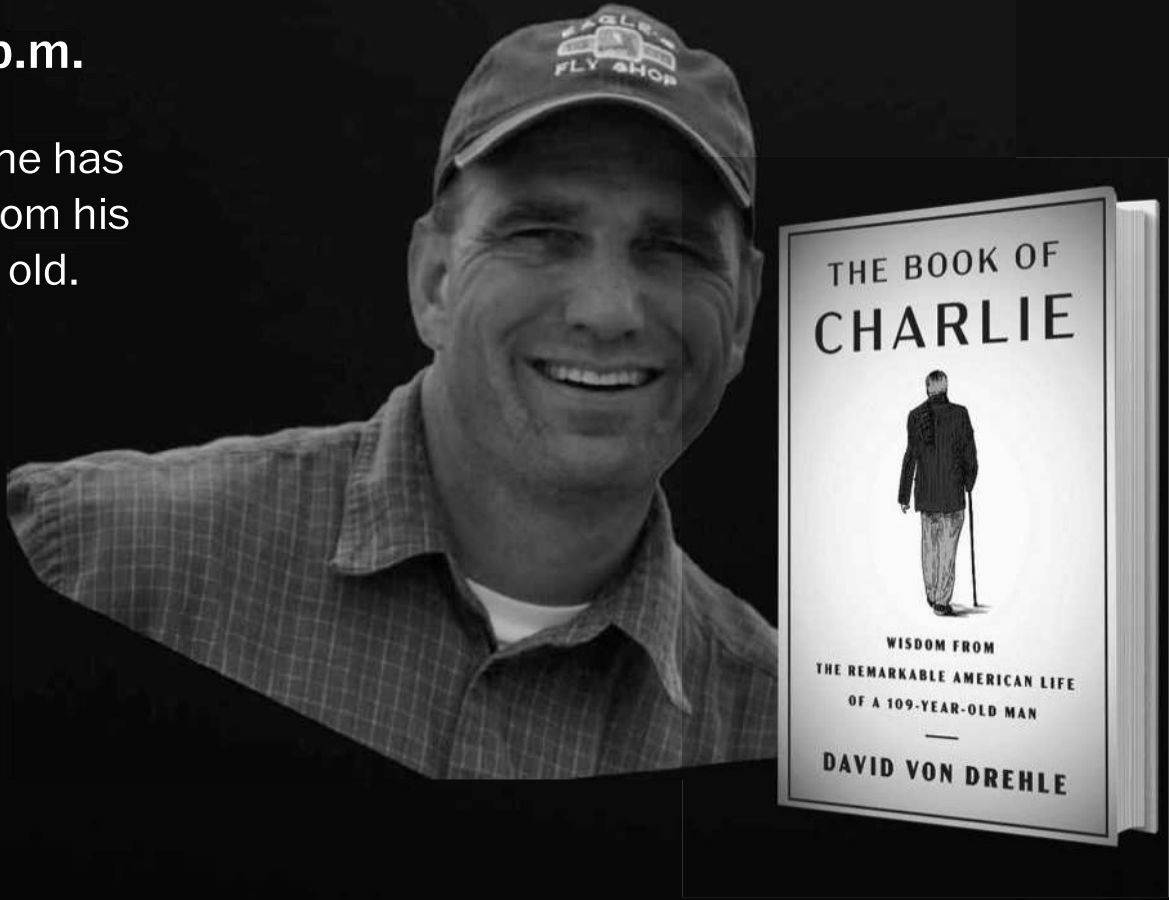
David Von Drehle

Author, “The Book of Charlie”
& Deputy Opinion Editor, The Washington Post

Wednesday, June 14 at 3:00 p.m.

Von Drehle reflects on the lessons he has learned about life and happiness from his neighbor who lived to be 109 years old.

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TUESDAY OPINION

JASON WILLOCK

This blue-state election compact could create a constitutional crisis

Imagine a Jan. 6-style crisis, only this time with serious (as opposed to politically manufactured) disagreements over whether the presidential candidate who won a key state is entitled to its electoral votes.

That disturbing scenario just became a little bit more likely — not for the next presidential election but subsequent ones. Without fanfare, Minnesota's governor signed legislation last month that would award the state's 10 presidential electors to the national popular-vote winner even if he or she lost Minnesota. The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact purports to take effect once states carrying 270 electoral votes (the minimum needed to win the presidency) have agreed to its terms.

The aim is to replace the electoral college with an improvised popular-vote system for electing presidents without amending the Constitution. Minnesota's move means that 16 states and D.C., controlling 205 electoral votes, are now parties to the compact. Michigan's Democratic-controlled legislature is also set to vote on the compact. If the Great Lakes State becomes the 17th to approve it, compact member states will control 220 electoral votes, bringing them more than 80 percent of the way to 270.

Problems with the plan have been well-documented since Maryland became the first state to sign on in 2007. As a constitutional matter, the compact probably requires the assent of Congress. But let's say the United States started an election season on the expectation that it would be in effect.

The winner-take-all electoral college has limited the number of viable candidates to two in most elections; a popular-vote free-for-all could invite five or six or more. If politicians would just need a national vote plurality to automatically be awarded the compact's 270 votes — and wouldn't need to win across a range of states — more candidates would think they have a chance. Larger candidate fields would lower presidential vote shares and weaken presidential mandates.

This concern might seem abstract. But Donald Trump's effort to overturn the 2020 election ought to bring home the risks of monkeying around with states' time-honored systems for assigning electors. Trump wanted to prevent states such as Arizona and Georgia from delivering their electors to Joe Biden, even though Biden narrowly won those states. The compact has a nobler purpose, but it asks states to do the same thing: award their votes to a candidate other than the state's winner.

That extraordinary demand would raise incentives for subversion. Would swing-state Democratic governors certify a Republican presidential candidate as the winner of their state's electoral votes if most voters in their states voted for the Democratic candidate? The governors could claim a prerogative to ignore the compact under federal or state constitutional provisions.

There's also the problem of the country's patchwork of election laws. Under the compact, the national popular vote would be calculated as the sum of the popular vote in each state, even though states run elections under different rules. Officials in red states could complain that blue states were juicing Democrats' national popular-vote numbers with extended voting windows; officials in blue states might complain that voter identification rules in red states distort the national popular vote.

The Supreme Court declined to consider Texas's last-ditch lawsuit against Pennsylvania to overturn Joe Biden's 2020 election because Texas wasn't harmed by Pennsylvania's election practices — the two states chose their electors separately. But as University of Iowa law professor Derek Muller told me, that logic might not apply if, under the compact, Texans' and Pennsylvanians' presidential votes were mixed together for the purpose of calculating the national popular-vote total. States would be at one another's throats over their internal election policies.

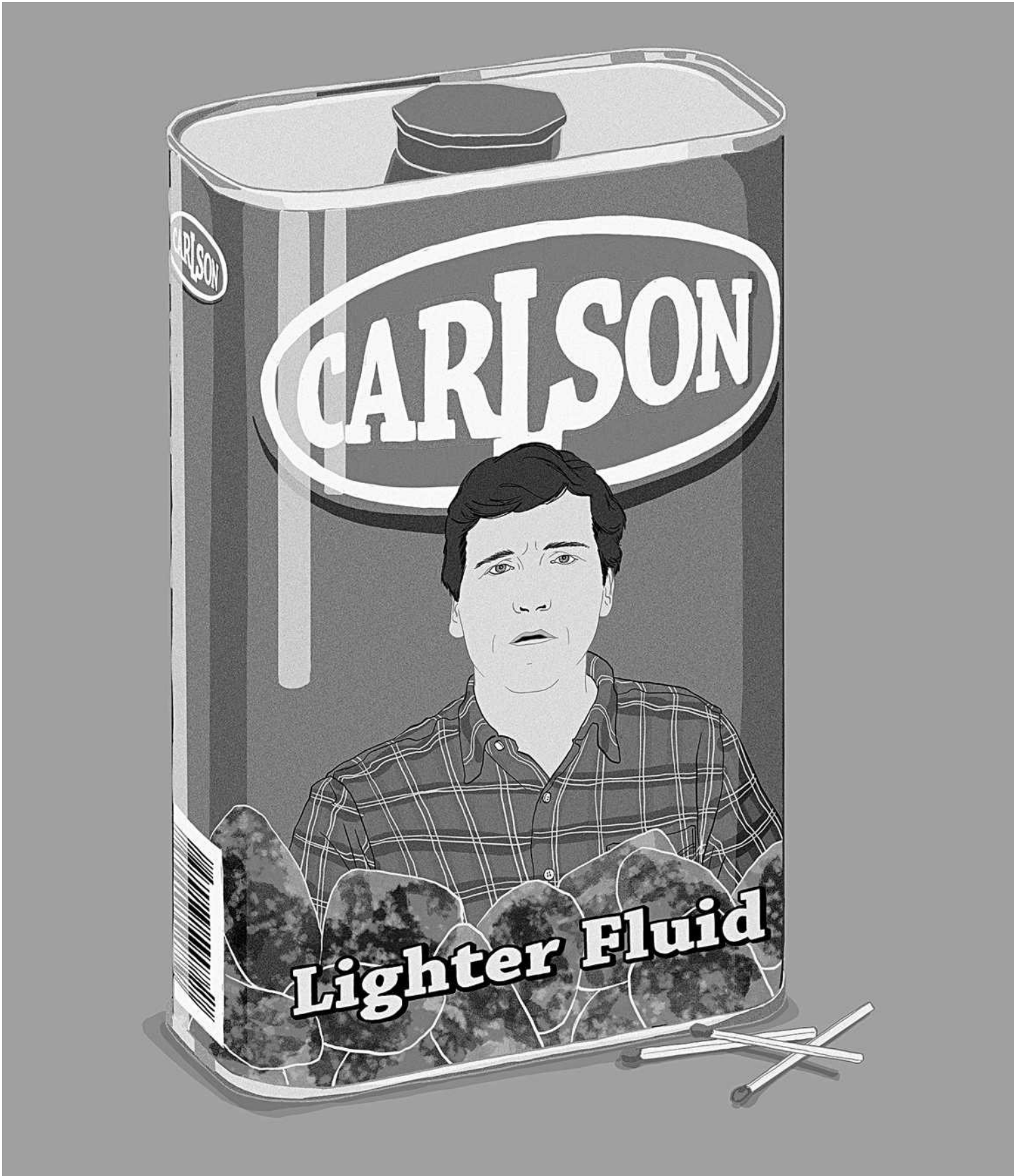
Even if courts found a consistent way to interpret the compact, members of Congress could balk at accepting slates of electors that don't reflect state-level results. Under the Electoral Count Act, a majority in both houses of Congress can reject a state's electors. Unlike on Jan. 6, 2021, lawmakers could have a plausible constitutional argument for doing so.

It once seemed unthinkable that a sufficient number of states would agree to surrender control over their own electoral votes in an agreement with other states. But political polarization is thrusting the compact forward: Opposition to the electoral college has become almost universal in the Democratic Party after its candidates won pluralities of the popular vote but lost the presidency in 2000 and 2016. As soon as Democrats control a state's legislature and governorship, the state becomes a candidate for joining the compact. The progressive website Daily Kos speculates that the compact could be in place in 2028 if Democrats romp in intervening election years.

No states that have joined the compact to date have exited it. But as the compact presses into more competitive states like Michigan, it could face defections if there is partisan turnover in the state legislature. That means the U.S. system for choosing presidents could swing back and forth based on elections in one or two states.

It's not impossible to imagine the compact going into effect successfully — especially if it were tested and institutionalized in a handful of elections in which the popular vote and electoral college vote aligned. But the rickety contraption could also fall apart under the pressure of the next split between electoral and popular votes — either in Republicans' or Democrats' favor. Such splits are more likely in eras of close elections, as in the late 19th century and (so far) the early 21st century, and they can favor either party.

The transfer of power depends on a sense of legitimacy and the losers' voluntary acquiescence. Trump showed how a determined presidential loser can create a crisis in the post-election period; the popular-vote compact creates more paths to crisis by adding uncertainty and instability in the mix. Perhaps some progressives hope a more just society could emerge on the other end of such a crisis. More likely: chaos, if not worse.



MICHELLE KONDRICH/THE WASHINGTON POST

AMANDA RIPLEY

Help Tucker Carlson help himself

American politics now operate a lot like gang warfare, trapped in recurring cycles of blame, humiliation and revenge, punctuated by acts of violence. Which means it's predictable. These kinds of feuds, sometimes known as high conflicts, function like perpetual-motion machines. "They tend to enrage us, trap us, frustrate us, drain us of energy and other critical resources . . . and seem to never go away no matter what we do," conflict expert Peter T. Coleman wrote in his book "The Five Percent: Finding Solutions to Seemingly Impossible Conflicts."

But every so often, there's a shock to that conflict system. Something that causes the machine to tilt. And in that moment, Coleman explains, there is a huge opportunity.

Tucker Carlson's firing by Fox News was just such a shock — to him personally and to his colleagues. People he thought he could depend on have turned their backs on him. Last month, Fox News sent people to Carlson's house to dismantle his home TV studio. They left behind an empty space, the kind of space that invites reflection.

So far, based on the videos he has posted on Twitter, it looks as though Carlson will return to combat mode. And so will Fox News. The high-conflict machine will, with 99 percent certainty, crank back to full power by midsummer.

But what about that 1 percent scenario? What if someone Carlson trusts and respects were to invite him to question the costs of this conflict — and do something altogether different? Can we imagine a world in which Carlson used his extraordinary influence to help de-escalate America's current political schism, for the sake of his family and his country?

It almost certainly wouldn't work, for all the reasons you already know. But based on the history of high conflict worldwide, from ugly divorces to civil wars, it's still worth trying. Because it's just about the only thing that ever *does* work. "In my view, 1 percent chances are worth taking," says William Ury, who has spent 45 years helping to negotiate peace in Colombia, Afghanistan, Venezuela, South Africa and other conflict zones. "You add up enough random chances, and you get probabilities."

In Northern Ireland, the bigoted preacher Ian Paisley incited riots, condoned violence and helped radicalize a generation of loyalists. He once shouted at Pope John Paul II, "I denounce you as the Antichrist!" Then, after decades of spewing contempt and stoking fear, he experienced his own kind of shock — a serious heart condition that almost killed him. A few years later, the 1 percent scenario actually happened: Paisley announced he would work alongside his sworn enemies in Sinn Fein, the same people he had once called "liars," "cowards" and "murderers." On the eve of being sworn in as first minister of the power-sharing government, he proclaimed a new dawn: "People have come out of a dark tunnel," he said, "and they can see there is a path out there for us."

For now, Carlson retains the trust of many millions of Americans. It's hard to think of many other

individuals with as much power to influence this conflict for good — or for ill. Should he choose to do so, Carlson could significantly reduce the odds of further political violence by changing how he talks about other Americans.

Every high conflict is fueled by conflict entrepreneurs — people who exploit and inflame conflict for their own ends. They are always victims, aggrieved and righteous — and someone else is always at fault. They cherry-pick facts and shade stories to ensure their followers feel threatened and disgusted by their neighbors and their government, which is when violence tends to happen. A small number of people, marinating in this fear, do things they wouldn't ordinarily do, as we've seen again and again from Rwanda to the former Yugoslavia.

Most of us have a conflict entrepreneur in our families or our social media feeds. Some of us *are* conflict entrepreneurs. Every day, I wake up and try to not be one. It is very hard to resist in a time such as this. A lot of conflict entrepreneurs have unresolved pain of their own. They get relief from that pain only when they are spreading it around. So, it's important to keep them at a distance when you can. But it's also vital not to give up on them altogether. Because they are powerful — and one day they might find another place to put their pain.

That's why, in gang warfare, people known as violence interrupters spring into action whenever any kind of shock occurs. If a gang member gets shot, they visit him in the hospital and issue the invitation — maybe for the 10th time. "The sales pitch is really asking the question: 'Do you want to continue this cycle?'" as Curtis Toler from the violence-prevention outfit Chicago CRED has explained.

Often, people say yes — they *do* want to continue the conflict, thank you very much. So, what then? Toler is undeterred. "The next question is, 'Do you want your family members to have to go through what you're going through?'"

Family might be the most common reason for people to exit high conflict. During Colombia's civil war, whenever the national soccer team had a game (which typically attracted the attention of every Colombian), the government would run public-service ads inviting its own guerrilla enemies to disarm and return home to watch the next match with their families. The day after hearing such an ad, 10 times as many guerrilla members chose to disarm as compared with a normal day, according to research by Juan P. Aparicio and colleagues.

We're not in a civil war yet, but we are "closer to civil war than any of us would like to believe," Barbara F. Walter, an expert on violent extremism, wrote in her 2022 book "How Civil Wars Start: And How to Stop Them." If we want a better future for our children, we need to invite just about everyone, including conflict entrepreneurs, to do things differently: to remedy grievances instead of amplifying them; to strengthen our institutions rather than denigrating them. And we can't expect anyone to do this alone. That's not something humans can do.

Glenn Beck spent years as a conflict entrepreneur

on CNN, Fox News and his own subscription TV network. He knew how to stoke the fear of his mostly White audience, telling them that President Barack Obama had a "deep-seated hatred for White people." He invoked dark, vague and existential threats to keep his audience vigilant and engaged. In his first 14 months on Fox News, Beck and his guests alluded to Hitler 115 times, Nazis 134 times, fascism 172 times, the Holocaust 58 times and Joseph Goebbels eight times, according to Post columnist Dana Milbank's book "Tears of a Clown: Glenn Beck and the Tea Bagging of America."

Then Beck did something unexpected. He started expressing regret. "I wish I could go back and be more uniting in my language," he told Megyn Kelly on Fox News in 2014. "I think I played a role, unfortunately, in helping tear the country apart, and it's not who we are." Soon afterward, he handed out \$2 million in toys and food at the U.S.-Mexico border.

For a while, he even tried to persuade other media personalities to leave high conflict with him. "As a guy who has done damage, I don't want to do any more damage," he said in a remarkable appearance on Samantha Bee's show. "I know what I did. I helped divide. I'm willing to take that. My message to you is: Please don't make the mistakes that I made. I think all of us are doing it. We're doing it on Facebook, we're doing it on Twitter."

But Beck had nowhere to go. He was distrusted and demonized by the left for his old ways — and by the right for his new ones. How does a recovering conflict entrepreneur make a living (or a friend) in a hyper-polarized country? "I have 300 employees that count on me getting up every single day," he said on the On Being podcast. "Now, how do I change? How do I make this work, so I don't flush the jobs of 300 people?"

Three months later, Beck had to lay off about 20 percent of his employees. Soon, he was wearing a Make America Great Again hat on TV to announce he'd changed his mind and would vote for Trump in 2020.

I wonder what would have happened if Beck had been welcomed out of the conflict — not by the Democrats or the Republicans but by a third group of Americans who refuse to be captured by the conflict? What if he could have helped us figure out a less lethal way to fight, without surrendering to contempt and fearmongering?

The day after the insurrection on Jan. 6, 2021, Carlson tapped out a text message to his producer in which he said some deeply alarming things, referring to "how white men fight." But, in the same message, he revealed a flicker of doubt. As he watched a video of an antifa activist getting beaten, he wrote, "I really wanted them to hurt the kid. I could taste it. Then somewhere deep in my brain, an alarm went off: this isn't good for me. I'm becoming something I don't want to be."

High conflict poisons the soul. It turns us into people we don't want to be. Sooner or later, most of us want to get out — if only we could find an exit. It is vital for the rest of us to be able to point to one.

The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

EDITORIAL



WASHINGTON POST ILLUSTRATION; PHOTOS BY THE WASHINGTON POST, AP AND GETTY IMAGES

Abortion questions all presidential candidates should answer

Reproductive rights will be on the ballot next year.

REPUBLICANS BLUNDERED in last year's midterms by trying to skirt the issue of abortion. Democrats outperformed expectations and bucked historical trends by spending hundreds of millions of dollars on advertisements attacking the GOP for revoking reproductive rights. Republicans mostly tried to change the subject, pivoting to inflation and crime while spending almost nothing on abortion-focused commercials.

Letting an effective line of attack go unanswered constitutes political malpractice. Post-election polling conducted for Heritage Action showed independents trusted Democrats more than Republicans on abortion by a 25-point margin. A Republican National Committee autopsy of what went wrong in 2022 concluded that the party "underestimated the impact" of the Supreme Court overturning *Roe v. Wade* and recommended that candidates talk more about abortion in future elections so they don't get defined by the opposition. But RNC leaders decided in April to keep the draft report secret.

Ignoring these lessons, many of the leading Republican candidates for president in 2024 are choosing to be vague about whether and when they think abortion should be illegal under federal law. They're strategically ambiguous on how they interpret laws on the books and to what extent they would try to exert influence over the Food and Drug Administration. They are also aiming to appeal to social conservatives — by winking publicly and promising privately — without alienating major donors and independents.

All voters, in the primaries and in the general election, deserve clarity on an issue so consistently contentious yet suddenly unsettled. Here are seven questions anyone who wants to be president should be able to answer:

Do you support federal restrictions on abortion?

Donald Trump, who nominated three of the justices who struck down *Roe*, has suggested that this is now a "states' rights" issue, but as president he supported federal legislation to ban abortions after 20 weeks, and he hasn't ruled out signing something that goes further if he regains power. Meanwhile, former New Jersey governor Chris Christie says: "The states, not the federal government, should be making these decisions." Businessman Vivek Ramaswamy calls abortion murder and supports six-week bans at the state level but says "the federal government should be out of this." Others, such as former vice president Mike Pence, are outspoken about the need for a federal role. And the Republican Party platform still calls for a personhood amendment to the Constitution that could ban abortion from the moment of conception.

After how many weeks of gestation would you ban abortion?

Facing head winds, Republicans in North Carolina and Nebraska trimmed their sails. Legislatures in both states voted this month to bar abortions, with exceptions, at 12 weeks (the end of the first trimester) after struggling to secure sufficient votes to ban them earlier. The GOP supermajority overrode a veto from North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper (D). The Nebraska legislature paired the abortion provision with restrictions on medical care for transgender youths.

Other states continue to plow ahead with bans after six weeks, when many women don't yet realize they're pregnant. South Carolina was the latest to do so, though the law is on hold pending judicial review. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who announced his candidacy on May 24, signed such a law in April. So did North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum, who has been laying the groundwork to launch a long-shot bid. Mr. DeSantis has attacked Mr. Trump for not saying whether he would have signed the six-week bill, but the governor hasn't said whether he would sign a national version. During his CNN town hall event last month, Mr. Trump pointedly declined to say at what point in a pregnancy abortion should be outlawed.

Sen. Lindsey O. Graham (R-S.C.) has proposed a 15-week national ban, and Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America said it will oppose any presidential contender who doesn't back Mr. Graham's proposal "at a minimum." Sen. Tim Scott (R-S.C.), who also announced his candidacy last month, says he would happily sign that: "If I were president of the United States, I would literally sign the most conservative pro-life legislation that they can get through Congress."

President Biden, too, should be clear about how late in a pregnancy he thinks women should have access to the procedure. He has signaled personal discomfort with abortion as a Catholic, hesitating at times to even say the word, but he withdrew his past support for the Hyde Amendment in 2019. Democrats must counter GOP claims that they would allow abortions until the moment of birth.

Would you support abolishing the filibuster over abortion?

Nikki Haley, who as governor of South Carolina signed a bill banning most abortions after 20 weeks without exceptions for rape or incest, said last month that she would sign a federal ban as president but emphasized that it's a moot

point because there wouldn't be enough votes to get it to her desk. "We haven't had 60 Republican senators in 100 years," she said.

It might not actually take 60 Republican senators to ban abortion. Republicans could control the White House, Senate and House in 2025. They would face enormous pressure from pro-life activists to roll back the filibuster to advance a national ban. GOP Sens. Lisa Murkowski (Alaska) and Susan Collins (Maine) might not be able to stop them. Many Democrats, including Mr. Biden, pledged to protect the filibuster before caving to pressure from the far left (including from shortsighted pro-choice groups) and endorsing its demise. The effort failed — and created a permission structure for Republicans to try the same.

Which exceptions would you insist on before signing any ban?

Mr. Trump blamed the party's underwhelming midterm performance on the poor handling of abortion. "Especially those that firmly insisted on No Exceptions, even in the case of Rape, Incest, or Life of the Mother," the former president wrote on social media in January. If elected president, Asa Hutchinson says he'd back a 15-week ban that *includes* exceptions for rape, incest and life of the mother. But as governor of Arkansas, he signed a bill that included no exceptions for rape or incest. This illustrates why it's important for candidates to not just say what they would prefer but what they would require. A related question: Should religious hospitals be allowed to deny women abortions even when the mother's life is at risk?

Should mifepristone remain on the market?

A Post-ABC News poll in May found that 66 percent of U.S. adults say the drug, used in more than half of abortions, should remain on the market. Mr. Trump nominated U.S. District Judge Matthew J. Kacsmaryk, who ruled in April that the FDA erred in making the drug more broadly available. The Supreme Court put this on hold pending appeals, though the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit sounded ready during oral arguments to uphold the district court's finding. Mr. Pence praised Judge Kacsmaryk's ruling and said he would like to see the medication "off the market." Others have punted. We disagree with Mr. Pence but applaud his forthrightness. The next president will appoint a new FDA commissioner who could target the drug even if its legality is upheld.

Should the Comstock Act be used to prosecute abortion pill providers?

Some conservative lawyers are eager to dust off an 1873 law that made it illegal to mail abortion drugs across state lines. Twenty Republican state attorneys general warned pharmacies in recent months that they could face liability under the Comstock Act for shipping abortion drugs — either from a future Republican administration or from the attorneys general themselves under racketeering laws. The Biden Justice Department says the act doesn't prohibit the shipping of abortion medicine if the sender doesn't intend for them to be used illegally, but a GOP attorney general might feel differently.

Do you support making it harder to pass ballot referendums?

Abortion rights advocates prevailed in all six states where the issue was on the ballot in 2022, from Kansas and Kentucky to Montana and Michigan, to California and Vermont. The success has emboldened them to pursue more initiatives in states such as Florida. But antiabortion activists are responding by pushing to raise the threshold for passing amendments to state constitutions from a simple majority to a supermajority.

In Ohio, for example, pro-choice groups are collecting signatures to put a proposed amendment to the state constitution on the November ballot that would recognize a right to abortion and contraception. GOP lawmakers responded by putting a measure on the ballot for an election in August to raise the bar for passing proposed amendments to 60 percent. This feels rigged and undemocratic.

Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. argued in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* that the time has come to "return the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives." He cited since-deceased Justice Antonin Scalia's dissent in *Casey v. Planned Parenthood*: "The permissibility of abortion, and the limitations upon it, are to be resolved like most important questions in our democracy: by citizens trying to persuade one another and then voting."

Last month's Post-ABC poll showed 78 percent of Americans believe the decision on whether to have an abortion should be left to a woman and her doctor, including 58 percent of Republicans and 74 percent of White Catholics. Two-thirds of Americans say they oppose the high court's decision to rescind a constitutional right to abortion, with 54 percent saying they feel this way "strongly." If presidential aspirants aren't willing to clearly articulate what they believe during the campaign, they'll have no mandate to govern.

MICHAEL RAMIREZ



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@washpost.com

The disappointing reactions to the Trump indictment

Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) has shown us again that an expensive private school education and a vast fortune do not mean you've got good sense ["Youngkin blasts Trump indictment as political," Metro, June 10]. He joined others on whom such advantages have been squandered: Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-N.Y.), Sen. Josh Hawley (R-Mo.), Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.), Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) and Sen. John Neely Kennedy (R-La.) among them — all graduates of the most elite universities in the world and yet complete kiss-ups to a shallow, egomaniacal and ignorant former president.

Without bothering with the facts of the Mar-a-Lago documents case, Mr. Youngkin leaped to former president Donald Trump's defense, suggesting that the indictment proved a rich White man can't get a fair shake in this country. He did not concede the election was fair and that President Biden was legitimately elected until after he secured the gubernatorial nomination, harping endlessly on "election integrity" and claiming that Mr. Trump is a victim of political prosecution.

These are obvious and stupid lies, and I'm pretty sure that not even Mr. Youngkin believes them. He's a knave, not a fool. It sure would be nice if our governor would tell the truth at least once in a while, though.

Bruce Carnes, Fairfax

If Ronald Reagan were alive, he would tell Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin, who is trying to compare himself to Reagan, "There you go again" — making rookie mistake after rookie mistake. Reagan would never claim our nation has a "two-tiered justice system."

Mr. Youngkin is trying to remain relevant with the MAGA crowd. If he had read the 49-page indictment of former president Donald Trump, he would have learned the severity of what Mr. Trump is accused of doing. The crimes Mr. Trump is accused of endanger the very national security of the United States. It is not political. It is endangering every one of us. There are laws that protect national security. Those laws have allegedly been violated and must be enforced.

Special counsel Jack Smith, the former war-crimes prosecutor who investigated Mr. Trump, put it plainly and succinctly, that we have "one set of laws in this country and they apply to everyone." What part of that does Mr. Youngkin not understand?

Fariborz S. Fatemi, McLean

At first, the June 10 Metro headline that began "Youngkin blasts Trump" gave me hope. But then I saw Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) was blasting the Trump indictment as political.

According to Mr. Youngkin, "this [indictment] undermines faith in our judicial system." It actually restores faith in our judicial system, demonstrating that no one is above the law.

Ellen Strauss, Burke

It is sad that the governor of Virginia is so totally ignorant of justice in our great country that he would parrot the erroneous line that former president Donald Trump's indictment is "sad" proof of the nation's "two-tiered justice system."

If Mr. Trump had not been indicted, then that would have been clear evidence of a two-tiered justice system where the rich and well-placed people get away with crimes that the rest of us would spend time in jail and pay a hefty fine. I have held top secret and secret clearances. It was always very clear that mishandling could be punishable by up to 10 years in prison and/or a \$10,000 fine. This was not just a threat; it was the law, and it would be prosecuted. It is a privilege and a responsibility to handle the secrets of our nation and its allies.

Mr. Trump should have been fully aware of the consequences of mishandling classified material, especially given that this material was sensitive to our national security.

Contrary to Mr. Youngkin's statement and the concurrence of many in the Republican Party, Mr. Trump's indictment was proof that there is no two-tiered justice system (though there truly might be a two-tiered justice system regarding minorities and those who cannot afford high-priced lawyers).

Allen Benson, Milton, Del.

After news of Donald Trump's indictment broke, it was disheartening to hear some Republicans immediately rush to support the former president.

Though special counsel Jack Smith has to prove his case "beyond a reasonable doubt," the known facts, thus far, clearly support the indictment.

Republican statements of support for the former president that I have seen, from House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (Calif.), Sen. Marco Rubio (Fla.) and Rep. Jim Jordan (Ohio), were partisan pledges of allegiance to Mr. Trump. Mr. Smith has truth, the law and reason on his side. These Republicans responded from self-interest and base political concerns, rather than allegiance to the rule of law and ensuring our national security. At the very least, they could have withheld comment until the evidence is known.

Charles James Nash Jr., Gaithersburg

Regarding the June 9 front-page article "Trump charged over secret files":

What the former president and his allies get very wrong is that it is not President Biden or the Justice Department that voted to indict, but, rather, a jury of his peers. At every chance, this distinction must be made clear as it is one of the strongest pillars of our judicial system.

Esther Siegel, Takoma Park

The prosecutors better prove beyond doubt that former president Donald Trump committed these alleged acts and deserves prison.

Our system of justice is on trial — not just Mr. Trump. The whole world is watching and so, too, are future generations.

John Corrigan, Washington

What possible justification could there be for former president Donald Trump declassifying, by whatever means he presumed, the documents outlined in special counsel Jack Smith's indictment? Those documents were described by Mr. Smith as dealing with "United States nuclear programs; potential vulnerabilities of the United States and its allies to military attack; and plans for possible retaliation in response to foreign attack." There, of course, is no justification.

Mr. Trump's mere pretense of having declassified such documents and his alleged retention of those documents therefore should be enough to have those Republican members of Congress attempting to defend him turn crimson with embarrassment as well as to disqualify Mr. Trump from ever again entering the Oval Office.

Chuck Cutolo, Westbury, N.Y.

The Republican officials and candidates attacking the Justice Department special counsel's indictment of former president Donald Trump for egregious and dangerous disregard for national security secrecy laws are demonstrating an unprincipled willingness to place party over national security to a degree that exposes they are unfit to govern.

That they jumped to their anti-indictment conclusions before the indictment was unsealed and without even being able to read the content of the indictment would be laughable were it not such sad testimony on their lack of respect for or even interest in the revealed facts of the case.

William August, Cambridge, Mass.

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LEANA S. WEN

The smoke might be gone, but the health threat remains

The smoke from Canada's wildfires that engulfed the East Coast last week has dissipated, but the threat remains. With wildfires happening more frequently and in unexpected areas because of climate change, Americans will increasingly need to think about the consequences of air pollutants on their health.

Officials in the region were right to issue stern health warnings about the smoke and urge residents to avoid strenuous activity and stay indoors. Short-term exposure to wildfire smoke has many negative health effects. Less is known about long-term impacts, but there's reason to be concerned.

The primary pollutants of concern are the fine particles that wildfires release into the air. Such "particulate matter" is microscopic; those 2.5 microns or smaller are referred to as "PM 2.5." If inhaled, PM 2.5 can infiltrate deep in our lungs. From there, it can enter the bloodstream and affect other organs. It can also trigger the body's immune system, just as invading viruses or bacteria would. But because our immune system can't neutralize particulate matter, the body produces an inflammatory response, with both short- and long-term implications.

The immediate impact of wildfire smoke is evident to anyone who breathed it last week and experienced hoarseness, coughing and shortness of breath, but it can also lead to more severe illness. One study of wildfires in California found that pediatric emergency room visits for asthma increased 112 percent in the days after exposure. For infants younger than 1, emergency room visits for asthma spiked *243 percent*. Another study found a 7.2 percent increase in the risk of hospitalization for respiratory conditions among adults 65 years or older during the days when PM 2.5 concentrations exceeded the safety limit.

The respiratory system is not the only affected part of the body. Smoke exposure from wildfires is also correlated with cardiac arrest and heart attacks, as scientists believe that the inflammatory response constricts blood vessels and increases heart rate and blood pressure.

For people with existing cardiovascular conditions, this could be life-threatening. As one study published in the *Journal of the American Heart Association* shows, ER visits for heart attacks increased 42 percent within a day of exposure to dense wildfire smoke. In a separate study, researchers found that being around heavy smoke raised the likelihood of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest for several days after inhaling smoke, with the highest increase — 70 percent — occurring on the second day after exposure.

The lasting effects of wildfire smoke can persist for months. According to an analysis of Montana communities, higher PM 2.5 concentrations during wildfire season in the summer were associated with influenza in the subsequent winter flu season. After a bad wildfire season in 2012, flu rates were three to five times as high as normal. Montanans affected by hazardous PM 2.5 levels still had decreased lung function a year later.

High PM 2.5 levels might also increase susceptibility to the coronavirus. A 2021 study in the journal *Science* examined 92 western U.S. counties affected by 2020 wildfires. Overall, an increase of 10 micrograms of PM 2.5 per cubic meter was associated with a nearly 12 percent increase in coronavirus infections and an 8.4 percent increase in deaths.

In some counties, the effect was apparently even more dramatic. For instance, Whitman County, Wash., saw a nearly 72 percent increase in coronavirus cases after a spike in particulate pollution. And San Bernardino County, Calif., experienced a nearly 66 percent increase in covid deaths. The researchers hypothesized that the inflammatory response to PM 2.5 might distract the immune system from responding to the coronavirus and that the particulate matter might worsen covid-induced tissue damage.

What happens if people are chronically inhaling such pollution? One study of school-age students in northwest China found that long-term exposure was associated with reductions in children's lung capacity. Another review in *JAMA* uncovered links between how much fine particulate matter pregnant women inhale and the likelihood of their babies being born pre-term or with low-birth weight.

There was also a large study in *Lancet Planetary Health* that followed more than 2 million Canadians over a median of 20 years and found that regular wildfire exposure was associated with higher rates of lung and brain cancer. And a landmark *New England Journal of Medicine* report linked particulate matter exposure to increased mortality in more than 600 cities globally.

Overall, the research offers a compelling case for the harm of PM 2.5. Those most vulnerable — children, the elderly, pregnant women and people with chronic lung and heart conditions — should take extra precautions on the days when there are air quality alerts. They might also be at greater risk for respiratory infections in the months that follow.

For most people, one-time wildfire smoke inhalation probably won't lead to major lasting consequences. But the question is what happens when these exposures keep happening. A U.N. report projected that extreme wildfires will increase by 30 percent by 2050. What we know about the health effects from this smoke exposure is already worrisome. What we don't know — but are on track to find out — could be even worse.



NICOLE RIFKIN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Parents, you can't make your kid cool. Maybe stop trying?

BY TRACY MOORE

Last month, I took my 13-year-old to see goth-pop elders the Cure at the Hollywood Bowl. It was the first time I've taken my teen out so late on a school night. We didn't make it home until after midnight, but gleefully singing "Boys Don't Cry" and "Close to Me" with a child who now loves the same band I did as a teen — along with scores of other Gen X parents with their Gen Z kids — was worth it.

I wish I could take credit for this moment of cool, but I can't. My child (who uses the pronouns they and them) suddenly became interested in the Cure because, at a recent middle school dance, the teen band blazed through a cover of "Just Like Heaven." The lead singer, an eighth-grader, announced beforehand, "If you don't know this song, you're dead to me." Add to this that my child's classmates all agreed the band is "total vibes," and that was that. It wasn't me playing these songs to my child as a toddler, although they did remember that — *vaguely*. It was the fact that they started hearing it from friends, who provided the crucial nod of approval.

Psychology has long known this: After a child reaches the teen years, it's peers and not parents and immediate family who shape them the most. I knew this, too, and have always maintained that the child is their own person, not a mini-me. And yet, there is more than a whiff of vanity in my efforts to influence my kid with my own taste. Facebook from eight years ago doesn't lie: It is clear I'm charmed that my then-third-grader loves a certain Pixies song or can be found jumping around to a record by power-pop band Superdrag.

I am not alone in this. My parent friends routinely post proud images of their newborns in Ramones onesies or their sixth-graders dressed up like Margot Tenenbaum from "The Royal Tenenbaums." I like all the pics genuinely, but I think to myself, *I know what you're doing*. And then I think "and Godspeed," because the odds are just as likely that if you try too hard to tip the scales of your kid's coolness, it will backfire. You'll be

the liberal hippie parents on "Family Ties," and your kid will resemble Alex P. Keaton.

It is utterly normal to want your kid to like what you like, just as it is normal to instill them with your values, sense of community, ethics or flair for vintage Swatch watches. There are jokes about this in the culture, such as the still-shared Onion headline "Cool Dad Raising Daughter on Media That Will Put Her Entirely Out of Touch With Her Generation."

So, at the point my child started requesting songs heard at school or with friends, I gave up ground. For me, a former music critic, that wasn't always easy. But I didn't disparage the millionth time I heard "Shut Up and Dance" or a request to listen to vinyl records at a faster than normal speed. It was a way to stay in touch with my child's changing tastes — and an opportunity to continue a two-way conversation.

On road trips, I have played music throughout the decades to demonstrate that a band my kid loves, Tame Impala, can't exist without the psych rock of the 1960s. But I do so rarely; such is the tightrope one walks as a parent, whether it's talking about safe sex or being a good friend or the dangers of fentanyl.

Which is why I would advise parents to tamp down the influencing to a low-key volume. Yes, it's enormously validating when your 5-year-old loves a Siouxsie Sioux song you play, but it is nothing like a genuinely independent response to the music, divorced from your expectations or your hopeful face. Personal taste — and the cool that comes with that — depends on an authentic connection, and I'd much rather have my kid come around organically than feel forced to pretend.

After the Hollywood Bowl show, we talked on the drive home about some of my favorite Cure songs and they told me theirs. Our most-loved tunes weren't the same — or even from the same eras. But what we had was way better: unforced fun that allowed for two totally different paths to the same place. It's hard to imagine anything cooler.

Tracy Moore is a writer in Los Angeles.

If you try too hard to tip the scales of your kid's coolness, it will backfire.

CHARLES LANE

Retire this student loan talking point

As is true of many policies, there are strong arguments to be made for President Biden's \$379 billion student debt forgiveness plan, and not-so strong ones.

On Wednesday, the president resorted to the latter as he vetoed a congressional resolution that would have overturned his plan. The measure had passed both chambers by narrow majorities consisting mostly — but not entirely — of Republicans. (The vote took place under a special law that barred a Senate filibuster.)

"It is a shame for working families across the country that lawmakers continue to pursue this unprecedented attempt to deny critical relief to millions of their own constituents," Biden wrote in his veto message, "even as several of these same lawmakers have had tens of thousands of dollars of their own business loans forgiven by the Federal Government."

White House officials seem enamored of this talking point, which they debuted on Twitter during the loan relief rollout in August 2022, to the progressive Twitterati's delight. "This is the best White House trolling ever!" one exulted.

Actually, it was too clever by half. If anything, an objective compare-and-contrast between Biden's student loan plan and the business loan program at issue, the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), would favor Biden's critics.

Congress created PPP in March 2020, as companies all over the country were shutting down — not because of a business-cycle recession but because governments told their workers and customers to stay home lest they spread a deadly virus.

PPP's purpose was urgent and universally accepted: to help small businesses and nonprofits survive a sudden shock, for which they bore no responsibility, and that otherwise could result in millions of permanent layoffs. It offered

funds to help cover payroll, including benefits, as well as mortgage interest, rent and utilities. The ultimate cost was roughly \$800 billion.

Though the aid took the nominal form of two-year, low-interest loans, delivered through banks, the law anticipated that the vast majority of the money would not — indeed should not — be paid back, to maximize participation in the program.

Instead, businesses could get debt forgiveness based on little more than a written assurance that they had used the money for its intended purposes. Firms linked to 13 Republican members of Congress qualified (as did a few with ties to Democrats). The list includes Rep. Greg Pence (Ind.), former vice president Mike Pence's brother (\$79,441) and — before her election — Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (Ga.) (\$182,300).

Republicans definitely invited Biden's trolling by their sanctimonious denunciation of his student loan plan when it launched. The Twitter account of House Judiciary Committee Republicans harrumphed, "If you take out a loan, you pay it back. Period."

Still, there was no substantive self-contradiction. PPP was a loan in name only, characterized that way mainly as an intentionally modest check on outright fraud.

Students who borrowed from the government, by contrast, made a choice, albeit one constrained by the high cost of tuition, based on their own sense of the personal costs and benefits.

They were on notice of the loans' terms and conditions, which include paying interest and principal, penalties for nonpayment — but also ways to reduce the burden such as income-based repayment plans. The vast majority of student borrowers were actually current on their loans before the pandemic, according to the New York Fed.

Unlike the PPP statute's clear language on debt forgiveness, the statutory authority for wholesale relief of the kind Biden offered was murky. He has based it on a strained interpretation of a post-9/11 law, the pretty clear intention of which was to help service members with student debt on an individualized basis.

Any day now, the Supreme Court will rule on the Biden plan's legality. The justices' comments at oral argument in February implied that Biden's best hope of winning is not a substantive ruling that he properly interpreted the law but a process point: That the states challenging his plan lack standing to sue.

In that regard, he and other Democrats are vulnerable to whataboutism. Biden opted for the big debt relief plan in the midst of the 2022 election campaign, having previously expressed doubts about his legal power to do it in February 2021; then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) also insisted in July 2021 that there could be no large-scale debt relief without a new law.

And she fretted about such a policy's fairness, perceived and actual: "Suppose . . . your child just decided at this time . . . not . . . to go to college but you're paying taxes to forgive somebody else's obligations. You may not be happy about that," she said — words the GOP, not unjustifiably, has thrown back in Democrats' faces.

Such arguments resonate in red states and purple districts, which is probably why Democratic Reps. Jared Golden (Maine) and Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (Wash.) and Sens. Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.), Jon Tester (D-Mont.) and Kyrsten Sinema (I-Ariz.) joined the GOP in voting to overturn Biden's plan. The White House should have spent more time developing a truly persuasive response and less time owning MAGA on Twitter.

EUGENE ROBINSON

Arguments for protecting Trump don't add up

The performative anger from prominent Republicans over Donald Trump's federal felony indictment is full of sound and fury — signifying nothing. None of the arguments against prosecuting the former president makes a bit of sense.

Trump's defenders are following the advice given to rookie trial lawyers: If the facts are against you, pound the law. If the law is against you, pound the facts. And if both are against you, pound the table. Personally, I wonder if some Republicans are going to hurt themselves pummeling the furniture.

They can't argue that special counsel Jack Smith is bringing charges against Trump that the Justice Department doesn't routinely bring against other defendants. Earlier this month, in a federal courtroom in Tampa, a former Air Force intelligence officer named Robert Birchum was sentenced to three years in prison for unlawfully retaining more than 300 classified documents, which he kept in his home and in a storage pod in his driveway.

As with the documents Trump allegedly kept in a gilded ballroom and a chandeliered bathroom at Mar-a-Lago, the papers Birchum illegally hoarded were found during an FBI search. One difference is that Birchum — a retired lieutenant colonel who took responsibility for his actions and pleaded guilty — is a decorated special forces veteran who was in the Pentagon when it was attacked on Sept. 11, 2001. Trump, you may recall, had bone spurs.

The main complaint from Republicans actually seems to be that Trump is *not* being given special treatment — that his alleged offenses, all 37 counts, are not enough to justify turning a former president into a criminal defendant.

That was what they said about Trump's first criminal indictment, by Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, for falsifying business records to hide a hush money payoff to an adult film star. But what would be a serious enough offense? Apparently Trump's 2016 declaration was prescient: "I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody, and I wouldn't lose any voters, okay?"

Surely a man who has held the nation's highest office, and who seeks to hold it again, should be held to a more rigorous standard of conduct, not a more lenient one. When President Biden and former vice president Mike Pence learned that they had retained a handful of classified documents, they turned in the papers and cooperated with authorities. Trump stonewalled the National Archives and the Justice Department for months — prompting the fruitful FBI search of Mar-a-Lago last August. Would Trump have been charged had he just handed over the documents? Of course not.

During his investigation of Trump, Smith went so far as to pierce the sacred shield of attorney-client privilege. For most defendants, I'd say that was going too far. But for a former president, as with a mob boss, I believe it is justified.

It is true that our government classifies more documents than it should, sometimes keeping from citizens information we can and should know. But there are genuine secrets that officials need to protect. This is what Smith alleges in the indictment:

"The classified documents TRUMP stored in his boxes included information regarding defense and weapons capabilities of both the United States and foreign countries; United States nuclear programs; potential vulnerabilities of the United States and its allies to military attack; and plans for possible retaliation in response to a foreign attack. The unauthorized disclosure of these classified documents could put at risk the national security of the United States, foreign relations, the safety of the United States military, and human sources and the continued viability of sensitive intelligence collection methods."

Among the documents Smith alleges Trump stashed away are one "concerning nuclear weaponry of the United States" and one "concerning timeline and details of attack in a foreign country." Seriously, Republicans, you want that stuff just lying around?

The loudest complaint from Trump's defenders, and the most ludicrous, is that Biden is "weaponizing" the justice system against his most formidable opponent in the coming presidential election. Puh-leeze.

For the moment, leave aside the fact that Biden, unlike Trump, does not tell the Justice Department what to do. Just look at the politics. Biden may believe he can defeat any Republican nominee, but he *knows* he can beat Trump. He's already done it.

It would make no sense for Biden to do anything that might hurt Trump's chances of winning the GOP nomination. Critics of the indictment would have to think this is some kind of double-reverse-Machiavelli based on the calculation that multiple felony charges somehow make Trump *more* likely to be the nominee.

But all of that is wheels-within-wheels nonsense. One man alone is responsible for this indictment: the defendant, Donald Trump, who will be arraigned Tuesday.

Spending is down on hotels, flights and restaurants

Amid slowdown signs, the Fed is expected to hold interest rates steady

BY ABHA BHATTARAI

Business has been so slow at the Corner Bar & Diner that many nights, owner Serena Rice closes her New Underwood, S.D., watering hole at 8 p.m., six hours early. Fewer people are stopping in — and when they do, they’re ordering \$3 well whiskeys instead of their usual \$5 pours of Crown Royal.

Rice has taken pricier items like steak and ahi tuna off the menu. Now she mostly serves frozen foods — mini corn dogs, chicken strips, breaded pickles — that won’t go bad if customers don’t show up.

“Everybody that comes to my place is in the same boat: Costs are high and they don’t know how they’re going to get by anymore,” Rice said. “People are broke. It’s cheaper just to stay home.”

Across the country, there are signs that Americans are pulling back on restaurant outings, hotel stays and airline tickets, after months of exuberant consumption. Spending on a range of services, including international travel, taxi rides and clothing alterations, fell in April for this first time this year, according to federal data. People are also spending less on public transportation, child care and funerals.

An emerging pullback would be welcome news for the Federal Reserve, which has been taking aggressive steps for over a year to slow the economy enough to bring down inflation. Much of that fight has been focused on curbing persistent price growth in services such as travel, transportation and restaurants.

The central bank, which has raised borrowing costs by more than 5 percent, is widely expected to pause its aggressive interest-rate hikes when it meets Tuesday and Wednesday. Analysts expect the Fed to hold rates steady for the first time since March 2022.

The potential for slowing demand to continue to bring down prices may help determine whether the Fed resumes interest rate hikes in July and beyond. Although overall spending on services rose in April, by 0.3 percent, that growth was smaller than the 0.8 percent increase in spending on goods.

“Things are coming down from the incredible pace we had seen, but is it enough to derail service-sector inflation?” said Diane Swonk, chief economist at KPMG. “That’s the big question. So far we have not seen that



The Cotogna restaurant in San Francisco on May 26. Spending on a range of services, including international travel, taxi rides and clothing alterations, fell in April for this first time this year, according to federal data. People are also spending less on child care.

happen, but that is what the Fed would welcome with open arms.”

The Fed began rapidly raising interest rates early last year, in hopes that higher borrowing costs would deter customers and businesses from spending so heavily. The idea was that lower demand would eventually translate to lower prices, controlling the steep increases that drove inflation last year.

Until recently, though, higher borrowing rates have had little effect on consumer spending. Many Americans still have extra savings left from covid-era government stimulus checks or from not spending as much on services during the worst of the pandemic, which has allowed them to keep paying for big-ticket items such as cars, as well as travel and entertainment, even as prices continue to climb.

But now, the economy appears to be approaching a turning point. Some of the country’s largest service providers are reporting dampening demand: OpenTable data shows fewer people are dining out. Airbnb expects bookings growth to slow and average daily rates to fall this quarter compared with last year, as people opt for cheaper lodging than they did a year ago. And at McDonald’s, executives say customers are increasingly forgoing fries with their meals.

“We are seeing a broadening economic slowdown. . . . It started with the housing sector, then manufacturing. And now we’re seeing service activity stalling.”

Lydia Boussour, senior economist at EY-Parthenon

“We are seeing a broadening economic slowdown,” said Lydia Boussour, senior economist at EY-Parthenon. “It started with the housing sector, then manufacturing. And now we’re seeing service activity stalling.”

That slowdown in spending, she said, is likely to accelerate enough to contribute to a “modest” recession later this year.

Inflation has been a key challenge for policymakers in the aftermath of the pandemic. A combination of surging demand, thanks to extra savings and government stimulus money, plus supply chain hiccups and labor shortages led to a rapid run-up in prices. Inflation peaked at 9.1 percent in summer 2022 — the highest reading in more than 40 years — but has moderated since then, falling to 4.9 percent in April. New inflation figures, to be released Tuesday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, will offer an updated snapshot.

In the meantime, Americans appear to be optimistic that inflation is easing. Data from the New York Fed’s Survey of Consumer Expectations shows that consumers expect inflation to be about 4.4 percent a year from now, down from an expectation of 4.7 percent in March.

The hope, economists say, is that slowing demand will continue to bring down inflation across

the economy, without tipping it into recession.

Madison Sasser, 24, who until last month worked at Outback Steakhouse in Tampa, is now a server at another national restaurant chain. Most evenings, she says she leaves her five-hour shift with less than \$100 in tips, down from \$130 a few months ago.

“It’s been a lot slower than usual,” she said. “Our winter busy season wasn’t as busy. March was really slow, April and May were really slow. And now June is even slower.”

However, economists stress that the path ahead remains uncertain. Many are forecasting at least a mild recession later this year, even though the economy has so far proved incredibly resilient. Companies are still hiring at a brisk pace, which means many families can afford to keep spending.

But at the same time, more Americans are taking on credit card debt and other loans to cover everyday costs. There are also large differences by income group: Wealthier families, who were able to squirrel away money during the pandemic and have benefited from soaring home values and stock portfolios, have continued to spend heavily, obscuring slowdowns among lower-income groups.

At Bluetail Travel, a high-end

agency in Arlington, for example, demand for luxury river cruises remains brisk. Regulars are locking in dates for 2024 and 2025, even as they balk at higher prices.

“There’s some sticker shock, but people are still trying to make it work,” owner Christina Schlegel said. “They’re saying, ‘Instead of a five-star hotel, maybe we can do a four-star boutique.’ But they’re still spending.”

Overall, though, demand for hotel rooms has fallen for two months in a row and is below 2019 levels, according to the U.S. Travel Association. Meanwhile, Americans spent less on air travel and took fewer flights, both domestically and internationally, in April than they did in March, according to the Airlines Reporting Corp.

Although the slowdown has so far been gradual, many in the industry expect the trend to pick up later this year — and they’re adjusting hiring plans and investments accordingly. Leisure and hospitality companies posted nearly 100,000 fewer jobs in April than they did in March, even as job openings ticked up across the economy.

Geoffrey Jaime, an Airbnb host in California, says demand for his six apartments in the San Bernardino Mountains has fallen sharply, as fewer travelers venture to the area. He’s lowered prices by 22 percent, from about \$500 a week to \$388, and has started advertising on other sites. Still, it’s been tough to make up for the loss in bookings that began in March 2022 and intensified this year.

“There’s been a definite drop-off,” he said. “Two, three years ago, the market was on fire. People had unemployment money, there was stimulus money going around. I remember thinking, ‘This business is incredible.’ But now it’s just completely flattened.”

Debbie Milner, who owns a dog-grooming business in Jacksonville, Ark., says business never really picked up after the pandemic. But in recent weeks, things have “rolled even more downhill.”

She grooms about a dozen dogs a day, down from 40 to 60 a few years ago. Many of her regulars are strapped for cash, which means they’re coming in far less frequently than they used to. Meanwhile, with costs going up, Milner this year raised prices by \$3 per service. (Grooming a small dog starts at about \$45, she said.)

“People that were coming in every six weeks are now here every five months,” said Milner, who started Debbie’s Wagging Tails Grooming about 20 years ago. “Everyone’s tight on money, and it’s like things just went kaput.”

More bomb threats at Target stores amid unabated backlash over Pride goods

BY JACLYN PEISER

Target stores in at least five states were evacuated this weekend after receiving bomb threats. Though no explosives were discovered, the incidents tie into the backlash over the retail chain’s Pride Month merchandise.

The threats Saturday in parts of Oklahoma, New York, New Hampshire, Vermont and Louisiana mirror those made in recent weeks in Ohio, Utah and Pennsylvania. In most instances, unknown individuals emailed the threats to local news outlets. The FBI and the regional Joint Terrorism Task Force have been assisting with the investigation in some jurisdictions.

Law enforcement investigated the threats and determined the stores are safe, Target said in a statement. All stores are “currently open and operating regular hours.”

“The safety of our team members and guests is our top priority,” the statement said.

An email sent to Oklahoma City TV station KFOR on Saturday afternoon listed seven locations in and around the area, starting the message with “we are going play a game” and ending it with “4/19/1995” — the date of the Oklahoma City bombing. The email claimed two of the seven Target stores had bombs.

Several news outlets notified the Oklahoma City police of the threats, police department spokesman Gary Knight said in a

statement. After the stores were evacuated as a precaution, police did not find any suspicious items, he said.

Target weeks earlier announced that it would pull back its merchandise for Pride Month after threats over this year’s collection. In a statement in late May, Target spokeswoman Kayla Castañeda said: “Given these volatile circumstances, we are making adjustments to our plans, including removing items that have been at the center of the most significant confrontational behavior.”

News outlets in Vermont, New Hampshire and New York received the same threatening email Saturday, according to South Burlington Police Chief Shawn Burke. The message, which accused Target of betraying the LGBTQ+ community, named a store in South Burlington, Vt., and ones in Plattsburgh, N.Y., and in Keene and West Lebanon, N.H.

Burke said his officers helped evacuate the store and do a “ cursory search to render the store safe,” which lasted about 25 minutes.

“I think it had quite an impact locally,” he said. “It makes people a little bit uneasy to think about what’s going on. We’re more and more seeing this type of behavior in terms of swatting at schools locally and in terms of stores like Target [nationally],” referring to the practice of calling in fake life-threatening emergencies to



A customer shops in the Pride section of a Target store in Austin on June 6. The company pulled some LGBTQ+ merchandise and promotional materials last month, citing worries about worker safety.

provoke a heavily armed response from police.

At the Plattsburgh location, multiple law enforcement agencies investigated and “determined the threat to not be credible at this time,” according to a statement from the Clinton County sheriff’s office.

A spokesperson for the FBI said the department “remains vigilant and continues to work closely

“We’re more and more seeing this type of behavior in terms of swatting at schools locally and in terms of stores like Target [nationally].”

South Burlington Police Chief Shawn Burke, on a rise in false threats

with our law enforcement partners on a state and local level.”

Police in Lafayette, La., searched two stores there and reviewed security footage after bomb threats were sent to multiple news organizations, according to KLFY. The unknown senders said Target “betrayed the LGBTQ+ community” and “are pathetic cowards who bowed to the wishes of far right extremists who want to exterminate us.”

Target, one of the nation’s largest general-merchandise retailers, is the latest company to find itself at the center of the culture wars. Store employees from Florida to Indiana have reported increasingly hostile interactions with customers angry about the store’s Pride collection.

Target pulled some LGBTQ+ merchandise and promotional materials back from store windows last month, citing worries about worker safety. The company did not specify which items were being removed, but misinformation has centered on its children’s bathing suits that were falsely labeled as “tuck-friendly” by prominent conservative groups and media outlets. But the swimsuits, which provide extra coverage for transgender women without gender-affirming operations, came only in adult sizes, the Associated Press reported.

Several bomb threats soon followed, targeting stores in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Utah, from people claiming to be angry about the removal of merchandise.

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The Washington Post



50115-6x1.25



8 a.m.
67°



Noon
76°



4 p.m.
81°



8 p.m.
76°

High today at approx. 4 p.m.
81°
Precip: 5%
Wind: WSW 7-14 mph

JOHN KELLY'S WASHINGTON
Calling out a couple of unusual suburban street names that just happened to stick. **B3**



THE DISTRICT
City leaders mark progress on controversial development at a former sand filtration plant. **B4**



OBITUARIES
Harvey L. Pitt, 78, had a short, tumultuous reign as head of the Securities and Exchange Commission. **B6**

INSPIRED LIFE



MATTHEW GRAHAM

Clearing the bar

Only 5 percent of lawyers nationally are Black. This new Maryland attorney hopes to help change that.

Matthew Graham was hesitant to allow his wife to record him as he opened his results from the Maryland bar exam. She was insistent. Now he's glad she did.

The video captured Graham, 29, who graduated from the University of Baltimore School of Law in December, as he opened the email. His wife, Ciara Graham, 29, and their 11-month-old daughter, Celine, stood over his shoulder.

"I just felt overwhelmed," said Graham, who was in tears before he even clicked the results that day, April 21. "I was anxious to finally see it."

He erupted into a celebration of joy when he read the word "congratulations." He screamed it out loud. Then, while jumping up and down, he repeatedly shouted, "I passed the bar!"

Not only did Graham pass the bar — the final step to becoming a lawyer — but he got a standout score of 309 out of 400, landing him in the 94th percentile. The minimum passing score in Maryland is 266, and the overall pass rate in the state for the February 2023 exam was 32 percent.

BY SYDNEY PAGE

Matthew Graham, who attended the University of Baltimore School of Law, views his bar exam score for the first time, with his wife and daughter at his side. He passed on his first attempt, scoring a 309 out of 400. The video showing his reaction went viral on TikTok.

While Graham was ecstatic about his bar exam results, he didn't expect anyone outside his immediate circle of family and friends to care. The internet proved him wrong. His wife shared his jubilant reaction video on TikTok, and it has been viewed more than 7 million times.

"It just felt great," said Graham, who grew up in Frederick, Md. "It's difficult to process."

Graham was especially moved by the outpouring of support, he said, because he knows how rare his story is. According to the American Bar Association, about 5 percent of all lawyers are Black — and that number has been stagnant over the past decade — even though about 14 percent of the U.S. population is Black. There are also racial disparities in bar exam scores. In 2022, the first-time pass rate for White examinees was 26 percent higher than Black test takers.

"The lack of diversity in the legal field has dire implications for the legitimacy of the legal system," said Verna Williams, the CEO of Equal Justice Works, a D.C.-based nonprofit aimed at supporting public service lawyers and promot-

SEE **BAR EXAM** ON **B2**

DEAL REACHED ON FEDERAL CHARGES

Still faces state case in son's shooting of teacher

BY JIM MORRISON AND JUSTIN JOUVENAL

NEWPORT NEWS, VA. — The mother of a 6-year-old boy who shot a teacher at Virginia's Richneck Elementary School in January pleaded guilty to federal gun charges Monday, and a filing by prosecutors appears to undercut her lawyer's assertion that the gun used in the shooting was safely stored.

Deja Taylor, 26, of Newport News, Va., pleaded guilty in federal court to one count of being an illegal drug user while possessing a firearm and one count of falsely claiming she did not smoke marijuana on the background check form she filled out when she purchased the handgun her son used in the shooting. Federal law prohibits users of illegal drugs from possessing a firearm, and purchasers have to attest they are not drug users at the time they buy a gun.

Under the terms of the plea deal, prosecutors agreed to recommend that Taylor face between 18 and 24 months in prison when she is sentenced — though that is not binding on the judge. She is scheduled to be sentenced Oct. 18. Taylor faces a

SEE **RICHNECK** ON **B2**

Shooting preceded by parking quarrel

Incident left 3 attendees of a nearby graduation party dead in Annapolis

BY JASMINE HILTON

A man who is accused of killing three people and wounding three others in an Annapolis shooting had just been arguing with a neighbor over street parking during a large graduation party before opening fire Sunday night, according to officials and charging documents filed in the case.

Charles Robert Smith, 45, of Annapolis, was arrested and charged with three counts of second-degree murder and related counts in the killings of 55-year-old Nicholas Mireles, 27-year-old Mario Antonio Mireles Ruiz and 25-year-old Christian Marlon Segovia, Annapolis Police Chief Edward C. Jackson said at a news conference Monday afternoon.

"A parent's... proudest moment is their kid's graduation from high school. And on a graduation day, on a block party, where you're around family, where you should feel safe, this kind of violence happened," Annapolis Mayor Gavin Buckley said at the news conference. "When you turn violent, and you have access to guns,

SEE **SHOOTING** ON **B5**

2 more Marines plead guilty in the Jan. 6 riot

Pair who worked in intelligence traveled to D.C. from Quantico

BY RACHEL WEINER AND DAN LAMOTHE

Two Marines who worked in intelligence gathering and were on active duty during the Jan. 6 riot pleaded guilty Monday to their involvement with the mob at the U.S. Capitol, joining a colleague who admitted his participation last month.

Sgts. Joshua Abate, 22, and Dodge Dale Hellonen, 23, were arrested in January along with Cpl. Micah R. Coomer, 24. All three pleaded to the misdemeanor charge of illegally demonstrating inside the Capitol building.

While court documents don't indicate when the three Marines

were identified by law enforcement as members of the mob that sought to keep lawmakers from certifying President Biden's 2020 election victory over Donald Trump, Hellonen admitted his involvement a year ago and Coomer's Facebook account was searched in August 2021.

At the time of his plea, a Marines spokesman said Coomer was working as an engineer in the 1st Radio Battalion at Camp Pendleton, which handles intelligence drawn from electronic and telecommunication networks. Abate was working for the Marine Corps' Cryptologic Support Battalion, which partners with the National Security Agency at Fort Meade. Hellonen was assigned to the Marine Raider Support Battalion, which supports special operations at Camp Lejeune. The Intercept previously reported that all three men were given new intelligence-related assignments after Jan. 6.

SEE **JAN. 6** ON **B4**

Republican Va. state senator tries to tack toward the middle on abortion

BY LAURA VOZZELLA

RICHMOND — Republican state Sen. Siobhan S. Dunnivant, facing a tough reelection fight after redistricting turned her territory blue and the Supreme Court struck down *Roe v. Wade*, is aiming to get out front on the issue of abortion with a video launched early Monday morning.

A practicing obstetrician-gynecologist running under the slogan "Dunnivant delivers," Dunnivant (R-Henrico) is targeting voters in her suburban Richmond district with a 60-second commercial that spells out a nuanced stance on a polarizing topic.

Her policy plan, introduced in the ad and fleshed out in an interview with The Washington Post last week, is significantly more restrictive than current Virginia law but defies easy comparisons to the antiabortion leg-



State Sen. Siobhan S. Dunnivant (R-Henrico) will face a challenge from Del. Schuyler T. VanValkenburg (D-Henrico) in November.



PHOTOS BY BILL O'LEARY/THE WASHINGTON POST

islation that her fellow Republicans have recently proposed in the state — more permissive in some aspects, less so in others.

"This is a really hard subject," Dunnivant told The Post. "I feel compelled based on my life ex-

perience to step forward and ... find common ground."

The ad — online only for now — is an early effort by Dunnivant to define herself on a critical topic before her Democratic

SEE **ABORTION** ON **B3**



Petula Dvorak

She is away. Her column will resume when she returns.

Md. attorney hopes story inspires would-be Black lawyers

BAR EXAM FROM B1

ing equality and justice in the legal system. “Law touches everything in society. It’s essential that there be diversity in all its dimensions, including gender, ethnicity, economic status, as well as race.”

About 86 percent of lawyers are non-Hispanic White people, even though White people make up just under 58 percent of the U.S. population.

There are several factors that contribute to the racial disparity in the legal field, Williams explained, beginning with unequal access to education. Students of color are “very often relegated to school systems that are not really well-funded or well-resourced,” Williams said, adding that law school admission tests also “seem to favor people who have the funds to sign up for courses.”

When Black students graduate from law school, they are left with loan debts that are 97 percent higher than those of White law school graduates, she said. Given the lack of diversity in the legal field, often, “young Black folks don’t see being a lawyer as a reality.”

Sharing stories like Graham’s “is extraordinarily important,” Williams said. “He is an inspiration on so many different levels.”

“It’s the kind of thing that helps people have more faith in the system,” she added.

Getting to where he is today, Graham said, was no easy feat. He enrolled in law school as an evening student and worked full-



GENISE THOMAS

Matthew Graham celebrates with his wife, Ciara, and their daughter, Celine, at the University of Baltimore School of Law’s commencement ceremony on May 17.

time during the day as a paralegal and law clerk. For 3½ years, he said, he had no room for error.

As a young Black man, Graham felt he didn’t have the same financial resources as many of his classmates, and while he wished he didn’t have to juggle his schoolwork and day job, “I didn’t have the option.”

“You have to have resources to get into law school,” he said. “The legal field favors those who have more economic resources, and on average, African Americans have less than other races.”

Despite the challenges, Graham was determined to become a lawyer, and he was willing to do whatever it took to complete his degree — and pass the bar exam on the first try.

“It was a huge amount of pressure,” he said. “Especially having a young baby and being a new husband.”

“I worked as hard as I could and finished near the top of my class,” said Graham, who graduated a semester early.

Still, one major obstacle remained: the bar exam.

When it came time to study, Graham hunkered down. For nine weeks straight, “I put in about 55 to 60 hours a week,” he said. “I left myself no choice to fail.”

When he walked into the exam room on Feb. 21, his nerves were immediately calmed by his environment. He was taking the exam at Martins West, a banquet hall in Woodlawn, Md. — which happened to be the same venue where he married his wife in 2021. The two have been together for 10 years.

“My wife was so important to my success,” he said. Taking the exam in that room “just felt like peace.”

When he finished the two-day test, Graham was confident that he passed, but he started to

worry as other states released results. “I noticed that the pass rates were super low,” said Graham, who saw that Pennsylvania had a 44 percent overall pass rate and that in Tennessee, only 36 percent of people passed.

“Maybe I didn’t do that well; maybe this could go badly,” he recalled thinking.

Relief washed over him when he received his score after two months of anticipation. Graham was sworn into the Maryland State Bar Association on May 25 as a licensed attorney. He is working in Frederick as a litiga-

“The legal field favors those who have more economic resources, and on average, African Americans have less than other races.”

Matthew Graham

tion associate for a law firm.

Now that he is a lawyer, Graham hopes to become a mentor to prospective law students — particularly those who feel underrepresented in the field.

“I want to be an inspiration to African Americans here and African Americans in Ghana, where my parents were born,” he said, adding that he is planning to do speaking events at schools and that he will volunteer with non-profit organizations that support anyone who wants to join the legal profession.

“I want to share my story and uplift people,” Graham said. “You can make it through, just as I did.”

Mother of 6-year-old who shot Va. teacher pleads guilty to federal gun charges

RICHNECK FROM B1

second set of charges in state court that have yet to be resolved.

The case drew national attention because of the young age of the shooter, and sparked outcry in Newport News over whether administrators did enough to prevent it. Abby Zwerner, the first-grade teacher who was gravely wounded in the incident, filed a \$40 million lawsuit against Richneck administrators and other Newport News school officials, alleging that an assistant principal ignored at least three warnings from teachers and school employees that the boy had a gun on the day of the shooting.

James Ellenson, an attorney for Taylor, had previously said the 9mm Taurus was safely secured on the top shelf of Taylor’s bedroom closet with a trigger lock attached. He said it was unclear how the boy got hold of the weapon before bringing it to school.

But federal prosecutors wrote in a statement of facts filed with the plea deal that investigators found no lock box, trigger lock or trigger lock key during a search of Taylor’s residences following the shooting. Authorities did find a firearm barrel lock in a trash bag that had been filled a few weeks before the shooting at one of Taylor’s homes, according to the statement of facts.

Taylor admitted to being a marijuana user for 11 years and to lying about her drug use when she purchased the handgun at a Yorktown, Va., gun shop in July 2022, according to the statement of facts. A search of her purse, a car and rooms at residences she

shared with her mother and grandfather turned up large amounts of marijuana and drug paraphernalia, federal prosecutors wrote.

Taylor was arrested in April 2021 after she was stopped for speeding in Williamsburg, Va., according to the statement of facts. The arresting officer allegedly found marijuana in plain view, digital scales and marijuana and pills in Taylor’s purse. Her son, who later carried out the shooting, was in the car “directly next to ... several marijuana edibles that looked like rice treats,” federal prosecutors wrote. Taylor denied knowledge of the drugs in the car.

“She takes full responsibility for her son’s actions.”

Gene Rossi,
an attorney for Deja Taylor

Taylor, who wore black pants and shirt with a mustard-colored sweater, stood at a podium in the courtroom and spoke softly, saying “guilty” when the judge asked her for her plea. Her grandfather and mother sat in the first row behind her.

When asked if she had ever been treated for mental health issues or drug addiction, she answered mental health.

After the hearing, Gene Rossi, another attorney for Taylor, said his client was regretful about the shooting. She had previously apologized for what happened and said her son suffered from

ADHD.

“Ms. Taylor’s role in this tragedy is a complete accident and a complete mistake,” Rossi said after the hearing. “She takes full responsibility for her son’s actions and will feel guilt for the rest of her life.”

Both of Taylor’s attorneys declined to comment on prosecutors’ assertions that appeared to contradict the claim the gun was stored safely. Diane Toscano, an attorney for Zwerner, said in a statement that Taylor’s attorney’s story about the gun are false.

“The attorney’s statements that the gun was safely secured defied common sense. Now we know it also defied the evidence,” Toscano said.

U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia Jessica D. Aber said in a statement that enforcing federal firearms laws is key to public safety.

“Federal requirements for firearm ownership are not optional and exist to protect owners, their family members, and the communities where they live,” Aber said. “Failing to abide by those requirements when purchasing or possessing a firearm can have far-reaching consequences.”

Newport News police said the boy brought Taylor’s gun to school in a backpack on the afternoon of Jan. 6.

Zwerner’s lawsuit alleges that she personally told the assistant principal, Ebony Parker, that the boy threatened to beat up a kindergartner and was in a “violent mood” in the hours before the shooting. Zwerner also alleges the boy showed the gun to a fellow student at recess and threatened to shoot the other boy if he told anyone.

After recess, Zwerner, 25, was



BILLY SCHUERMAN/AP

Deja Taylor, 26, pleaded guilty in federal court to one count of being an illegal drug user while possessing a firearm and one count of falsely claiming she did not smoke marijuana on the background check form she filled out when she purchased the handgun her son used to shoot his first-grade teacher.

teaching a class when the boy pulled out the gun at his desk and shot her, police said. The bullet hit her hand and chest, but Zwerner managed to evacuate the students from the classroom before she exited and collapsed in the school’s office.

Zwerner was rushed to the hospital in serious condition and has undergone multiple surgeries. She described the shooting as surreal in her only interview about what happened on the “Today” show.

“Some days are not-so-good days where I can’t get up out of bed,” Zwerner said during the

March interview. “Some days are better than others where I can get out of bed and make it to my appointments. From going through what I’ve gone through, I try to stay positive. I try to have a positive outlook on what’s happened and where my future’s heading.”

The boy’s family said he has been receiving mental health care since the shooting and is in the care of his grandfather. Newport News Commonwealth’s Attorney Howard E. Gwynn said in a previous interview that the boy would not be charged in connection with the shooting.

A Newport News grand jury indicted Taylor in April on one felony count of child neglect and a misdemeanor count of recklessly storing a firearm in such a way that a child could gain access to it. Ellenson said he is seeking a plea deal on those charges. A trial is scheduled for Aug. 15.

Gwynn has also empaneled a special grand jury in April to continue to investigate any security lapses that contributed to the shooting. To date, the special grand jury has not issued any indictments or reports on the incident.

THE REGION

Smidgen of rain Monday leaves us wanting more

BY MARTIN WEIL

Rain fell in sprinkles, sighs and spatters throughout the D.C. area Monday, but perhaps this dry region found those relatively small amounts better than what we had received earlier this

month, which was virtually nothing.

Clouds seemed to do their part, often filling the skies, blotting out the strong sunlight of June and bustling about as if preparing to show their prowess at producing precipitation.

But alas, for all the atmospheric ominousness — and for all the desire of so many to obtain nature’s aid for needy lawn, farm and tree — except for a few scattered downpours, the droplet quantity that actually descended seemed but a pittance.

By 5 p.m., Dulles International Airport had apparently hit the jackpot. It measured 0.09 inches. But drought and dryness do not yield to such meager amounts.

Baltimore-Washington International Marshall Airport had recorded even less. The 5 p.m.

total came to one-twentieth of an inch. (More fell later.)

In Washington, the National Weather Service gave the official 5 p.m. total as 0.03 inches.

Yet storms do not stop work at 5 p.m. Not surrendering their rainy potential, the clouds lavished 0.2 inches on Washington between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., a lot for the day and a lot for the month.

In the evening, clouds still sailed across our skies. In one

place, a single swollen mass of droplets showed a spectrum of gray, from near black at one end to the look at the other of worn whiteness.

Finally, by sunset it appeared that clouds had largely surrendered the western sky. A few remained to carry the orange tinge of daylight’s end.

The day may have started with hopeful cries of “rain, rain,” but it may have ended with wistful calls to come again another day.



Subscriber Exclusives

The Washington Post

Rock on: Free tickets to The Revivalists on July 8 at Merriweather Post Pavilion

The eight-piece rock band fronted by David Shaw dropped album *Pour It Out Into The Night* on June 2. On it: 12 songs that are “brimming with life-after-lockdown sentiments of living in the moment and appreciating the here and now” (americansongwriter.com). “Mirroring the push-and-pull of the past few years, the boys...deliver a bevy of anthems marked by moments of sonic complexity, celebration, and catharsis” (therevivalists.com). “The Revivalists make the kind of rock ‘n’ roll that grabs you and doesn’t let go” (blackwaxcafe.com). Also performing: indie-folk band The Head and the Heart and country music star Jaime Wyatt.

See details at [washingtonpost.com/my-post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/my-post).



Word on the street: How these two N.Va. roads got their unusual names



John Kelly's Washington

Do you remember where you were when you first heard the word “Verizon”? Me neither.

I do remember thinking, *What does that even mean?* A very horizontal

horizon?

Well, I just now went to the Verizon website and found a news release from the year 2000 that explains: “The new name comes from the Latin word ‘veritas,’ which means truth, and also connotes certainty and reliability; and ‘horizon,’ which signifies the possibilities ahead.”

I’d gone to the website to refresh my memory about where Verizon came from. It was from the merger of Bell Atlantic and GTE. And Bell Atlantic was a descendant of American Telephone and Telegraph, known as AT&T.

I took this meandering journey down a figurative Memory Lane so we could arrive at an actual physical lane: Atteentee Road in Springfield. When **David Crowe** first moved to the D.C. area in the late 1970s, he lived on that street, which was pronounced just like that telecom company: “A-T-N-T.”

Wrote David, who lives in Afton, Va., now: “The story I was told was that a major phone line runs down the road but an abbreviation was not an allowable name. Interestingly, I still got mail using the abbreviation along with several variations of the spelled-out version.”

Could the street really be named after AT&T? Apparently so. Chris Barbuschak from the City of Fairfax Regional Library’s Virginia Room pulled a deed from July 12, 1918, in which **Joseph R. Hayden**, a Nebraska



PHOTOS BY JOHN KELLY/THE WASHINGTON POST

department store magnate, granted the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. of Virginia the rights to construct and operate telephone and telegraph lines through his property, or, as the deed put it: “the right, privilege and authority to construct, operate and maintain its lines of telephone and telegraph, including the necessary poles, wires, cables and fixtures upon, over and across the property which I own.”

It also gave AT&T the right to trim trees along the lines.

Hayden’s property was among hundreds of acres sold in 1946 to Carr Inc., the company owned by **Edward R. Carr** that developed much of Springfield. In 1951, Carr sold the section that includes Atteentee Road to

“No one ever got around to submitting new paperwork to give the road a better name and so it has remained Temporary Road.”

Tom Boltz, former Reston resident

Crestwood Construction. Crestwood built the homes along Atteentee Road.

Even today, when so much in our lives is wireless, utility poles still run along Atteentee Road.

Meanwhile, over in Reston, we find the oddly — and frankly, misleadingly — named Temporary Road. It runs between Reston Parkway and North Shore Drive.

Tom Boltz and his wife, **Jean**, live in the Greenspring retirement community in Springfield, but they used to live in Reston. A few years ago they were on vacation when they met a woman who said her boyfriend had worked as a young man for **Robert E. Simon** when the developer was planning Reston.

“I commented that I wondered if he might know the



LEFT: Atteentee Road in Springfield gets its name from AT&T, which in 1918 bought the rights to put telephone and telegraph lines through the property. **ABOVE:** The name of Temporary Road in Reston was meant to be a placeholder. But it stuck.

origin of the Temporary Road name,” Tom wrote. “She said she didn’t know, but then said, ‘Let’s call him up and find out.’”

A phone was produced, and Tom had a chance to consult a primary source.

“He told me that Fairfax County always required that developers furnish a name for any roads shown on a development map when it was submitted to the government,” Tom wrote. “Just before submission of the plans for that section of Reston, someone noticed that this very short road was unnamed. So he suggested calling it ‘Temporary Road’ with the idea of renaming it later and his boss accepted his idea to avoid any submission delay. However, no one ever got around to submitting new paperwork to give the road a better name and so it has remained Temporary Road to this day.”

This particular Temporary

Road was an earlier Temporary Road that actually *was* temporary. It connected North Shore Drive and Old Reston Avenue, running in front of the Temporary Road Picnic Pavilion.

In 1984, the Reston Land Corp. started work to realign that road to the north to better serve new apartment buildings.

“Part of the original road still exists and is now a trail,” wrote Chris from the Virginia Room. “Temporary Road relocated to its present site and became permanent in 1985.”

In 2000, **Jackie Friedlander** recounted the road’s history in the Reston Times. She noted that the intention had always been to come up with something else. “When the county government started searching for a permanent name, however, the residents insisted on keeping the old familiar ‘Temporary’ title,” she wrote.

But when you think about it, isn’t everything temporary?

Abortion looms large in competitive race for redrawn Va. 16th Senate District

ABORION FROM BI

challenger, Del. Schuyler T. Van Valkenburg (D-Henrico), has a chance to do so. The move speaks to the prominent role abortion will play in the race, which is sure to draw tremendous national money and attention given Virginia’s status as the only state in the South that hasn’t tightened abortion restrictions in the year since the Supreme Court overturned *Roe*, the landmark ruling that for nearly 50 years guaranteed the right to abortion nationwide.

The ad comes as most Virginia politicians are focused on June 20 primaries for state Senate and House seats across the state. But Dunnivant and VanValkenburg are already in general election mode, having faced no competition for their parties’ nomination in the 16th Senate District, which covers part of Henrico County and leans blue under newly drawn maps.

The matchup between Dunnivant and VanValkenburg is expected to be among the most hard-fought of the Nov. 7 elections, when all 40 seats in the Senate and 100 in the House of Delegates will be on the ballot.

In response to the ad, VanValkenburg described Dunnivant’s position as “extremism” in a text message to The Post.

“Senator Dunnivant has launched her campaign with her new abortion ban proposal that shows that she is drastically out of touch with her constituents,” VanValkenburg wrote.

The ad begins with Dunnivant speaking directly to the camera from her kitchen.

“As an OB/GYN, I’ve cared for moms and babies and shared moments of great joy and heartache,” she says. “My own experience as a mother has informed my care and my patients’ experiences have shaped me. This is the perspective I bring to the conversation on abortion.”

The tone of the spot — from the soft music playing in the background to the use of “conversation” rather than “debate” — seems intended to cool the heated emotions the topic typically triggers. As Dunnivant goes on to spell out her position, she says nothing about “banning” the procedure but allowing it to “remain legal up to 15 weeks.”

Abortion is lawful in Virginia during the first and second trimesters of a pregnancy, through about 26 weeks. The procedure is allowed in the third trimester only if three doctors certify that continuing the pregnancy is “likely to result in the death of the woman or substantially and irretrievably impair the mental or physical health of the woman,” state code says.

Dunnivant said she supports legal abortion for any reason up to 15 weeks — and after that in cases of rape and incest, when the mother’s life (but not her mental or physical health) is at risk, and in cases of severe fetal anomalies.

But she would put a time limit on those exceptions, supporting abortion in those cases only up to the point of viability, which she says ranges from 22 to 24 weeks of gestation. After that point, she said doctors, while prioritizing the mother’s life, should deliver the baby rather than abort. Delivery — typically by C-section in an emergency — would put the mother at no greater physical risk than abortion, she said.

“The life of the mother is always preeminent,” she told The Post. “It’s just an extraordinary situation that I’ve never seen

that would require killing a baby to save a mother in the third trimester.”

Describing her position in the ad, she says: “After 15 weeks there should be reasonable exceptions for rape, incest, life of the mother and severe fetal anomalies. What I cannot accept is the current Virginia law that allows for abortion up to the moment of birth. As a physician, I know this is not reasonable. It is unnecessary, extreme and heartbreaking.”

Time limits on exceptions have not been a typical feature of abortion legislation in Virginia’s Capitol. The bill that Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) backed this year, for example, called for a ban after 15 weeks with certain exceptions but no cutoff.

Youngkin’s exceptions were rape and incest, and if continuing the pregnancy could result in

the mother’s death or could “substantially and irreversibly impair ... [her] major bodily functions, not including psychological or emotional conditions.” He did not support exceptions for severe fetal anomalies.

Dunnivant said she also would seek legislation, as she did without success earlier this year, to clarify that abortion restrictions do not apply to nonviable pregnancies.

She said the measure is needed to ensure women can get access to lifesaving care for emergencies, such as incomplete miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies.

VanValkenburg opposes additional restrictions on abortion, his campaign manager, Rachel Rothman, said in an interview Monday.

“He is the only pro-choice candidate in the race and un-

equivocally supports upholding the current law,” she said.

In his text to The Post, VanValkenburg wrote: “Virginians

The matchup between Dunnivant and VanValkenburg is expected to be among the most hard-fought of the Nov. 7 elections for the General Assembly.

want to uphold our current laws that give women access to critical maternal healthcare services, including abortion. I am focused

on protecting a woman’s right to make her own healthcare decisions with control over her own bodily autonomy. There is no place for this kind of extremism here in Virginia.”

A Washington Post-Schar School poll released in April found that most Virginia voters oppose the idea of tightening access to abortions. Overall, 34 percent said abortion laws should “remain as they are” and 41 percent said they should be “less strict,” while 17 percent said abortion laws should be made “more strict.”

The respondents were not reminded of the details of Virginia’s current law, however. When asked whether they would support a 15-week ban with the exceptions Youngkin had proposed, 49 percent of voters said they would support it, and 46 percent said they were opposed.

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Guilty pleas from two more Marines in Jan. 6 breach

JAN. 6 FROM B1

An attorney for Hellonen said in court Monday that her client will “likely” face consequences in the military system as well, but “it has not happened yet.” She added that “he may be separated” from the Marines rather than charged in military court.

As of May 19, the three Marines were still on active duty, said Yvonne Carlock, a service spokeswoman. It was not clear on Monday if any of them recently has been removed from the service.

The three men traveled to Washington from Marine Corps Base Quantico in Prince William County, according to the court record. They entered the Capitol about 10 minutes after other rioters first breached the building, and stayed inside for almost an hour. They joined chants of “Stop the Steal!” and “Four More Years!”; they put Coomer’s “Make America Great Again” hat on a statue in the Rotunda and took pictures of it.

They were identified to the FBI

by fellow Marines; Abate also admitted his involvement in a security clearance interview in June 2022, more than a year after the riot. In that interview, Abate said the three “buddies” entered the Capitol together and “walked around and tried not to get hit with tear gas.” He said one of his friends also smoked a cigarette inside the Capitol Rotunda.

On Coomer’s Facebook account, investigators found discussion of “civil war” and “the boogaloo,” a reference to a far-right extremist movement that gained popularity in 2020.

A fourth active-duty Marine, Maj. Christopher Warnagiris, was arrested in May 2021 and is set to go to trial this fall on charges that include felony obstruction of Congress and interfering with police. An active-duty Navy sailor who was stationed on an aircraft carrier in Norfolk at the time of the riot was arrested in April and charged with misdemeanor crimes. And a veteran re-enlisted in the Army after the FBI identified him as having attacked police outside the



Marine Cpl. Micah R. Coomer, circled right, Sgt. Joshua Abate, circled left, and Sgt. Dodge Dale Hellonen, circled center, in a still frame from surveillance camera footage inside the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. The circles were drawn by investigators.

“I wish that I was meeting you under different circumstances.”

Judge Ana C. Reyes

Capitol with chemical spray. He has been sentenced to 44 months in prison.

Over 10 percent of those charged with breaking the law during the Capitol assault have a military background, according to studies by the University of Maryland and George Washington University. The Proud Boys and the Oath Keepers, whose leaders have been convicted of engag-

ing in seditious conspiracy, both recruited heavily among veterans. After the Capitol attack, the Pentagon updated its personnel policies to prohibit endorsement or promotion of extremist views and the Defense Department began engaging in “continuous vetting” of employees’ records. But officials said that they did not plan to proactively monitor social media for violations and that they could not do much about veterans who began embracing such beliefs.

Coomer will be sentenced in late August. Abate and Hellonen will be sentenced in September.

“This is difficult for everyone,” Judge Ana C. Reyes told Hellonen. “I wish that I was meeting you under different circumstances.”

Emily Guskin contributed to this report.

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THE DISTRICT

City leaders celebrate changes at McMillan site, but not all are sold

BY MARY CLAIRE MOLLOY

City leaders marked progress Monday in the multimillion-dollar transformation of a former sand filtration facility in Northwest Washington, which has been the subject of multiple lawsuits and protests, into a hub of community amenities and private development.

“This is a day a lot of people have been waiting for, literally for more than a generation,” said Council member Kenyan R. McDuffie (I-At Large), who grew up near the McMillan site, at North Capitol Street and Michigan Avenue NW.

Against the rumbling backdrop of neon-vested construction workers and their equipment, McDuffie joined other local leaders telling a crowd of community members about the forthcoming park, community center and pool slated to open in 2024. Private developers will deliver a grocery store, retail shops, restaurants, housing units and health-care facilities on the north side of the site by 2026. The development of 146 townhouses and 467 rental apartments is part of Mayor Muriel E. Bowser’s initiative to create more housing in D.C.

The project also preserves some of the unique historical structures on the site, including 20 sand silos and two underground filter beds. Circular sand bins will remain the same structurally, said William Saffron, a project designer working with architectural firm Quinn Evans, but their internal space could be used for public amenities such as restaurants or coffee shops.

“I am just really excited that the District has stayed the

“This is a day a lot of people have been waiting for, literally for more than a generation.”

Kenyan R. McDuffie, D.C. council

course,” Bowser (D) said, briefly hinting at the nearly 36-year saga of protests, red tape and lawsuits over the McMillan project.

The 25-acre historical site — home to a network of catacombs and sand bins once used to purify the city’s water during typhoid outbreaks — was one of the last untouched parcels of land in a city grappling with rising living costs. What exactly to do with a landmark designed by the son of famed landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted has been a perpetual question mark — and

since the city purchased the site in the 1980s, potential answers have been rife with community disagreements.

Chantal James has lived here for 11 years in the same house her grandmother bought decades ago. She said she thought the development would push out working-class African Americans.

“We do not want our neighborhood gentrified,” said James, 36, who was not at Monday’s event. “Every time I see those little cranes, it fills me with rage. It’s better walled off as an abandoned property than what they’re doing.”

Activists who want the site to be a green space for the community say the project will increase traffic and pollution in the area. They have long argued that the development goes against community needs in favor of what developers want.

“We were destroyed by the power of the city government to relentlessly push ahead,” said Daniel Goldon Wolkoff, a member of Save McMillan Park, one of two community groups whose lawsuits targeted the project for years. Their last appeal over the validity of the city’s demolition permits was ruled null after the D.C. Council passed legislation directing that the project “shall proceed expeditiously and without further delay through all phases.”

Despite the controversy, some residents are excited about the coming amenities.

“One of the reasons why we moved here was because of the development,” said Anne Havemann, 41. She wanted her 5-month-old daughter, Sophie, and 2-year-old son, Owen, to grow up in a neighborhood with a pool, splash pad and recreational center — all of which will be on the McMillan site once it’s complete.

“I think the neighbors have won,” she said. “D.C. has won.”

It took other residents longer to be convinced.

“I was opposed to it all at first because I didn’t like the change,” said Laverne Grant, 66, who has lived in the neighborhood for more than four decades. But soon, she wanted the redevelopment of the site, seeing it as something for her grandchildren.

“It’s something I’ve been waiting for,” she said.

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D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D) and D.C. Council member Kenyan R. McDuffie (I-At Large) at the McMillan event in Ward 5. The former sand filtration facility is being redeveloped.

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Annapolis shooting leaves 3 attending a nearby party dead

SHOOTING FROM B1

this is the kind of thing that happens.”

Smith is being held at Jennifer Road Detention Center without bond. His family could not be reached for comment Monday, and online court records did not list an attorney for Smith.

Nicholas Mireles and Mario Mireles were father and son, and Segovia was a friend of Mario’s, according to charging documents. They were found in a yard and pronounced dead at the scene.

Before the shooting Sunday night on Paddington Place, there was “a large party with many cars parking on the street,” according to the charging documents.

During that time, a City of Annapolis Parking Enforcement employee received a parking complaint that a car was parked blocking Smith’s driveway.

Mario Mireles went to that residence “to talk about the parking” with someone there and an argument ensued, according to the charging documents. Smith then came home “and confronted Mario Mireles.”

“The verbal argument became physical and Mr. Smith pulled out a gun. He and Mario Mireles tussled over the gun. During the tussle, Mr. Smith shot Mario Mireles. He also shot Christian Segovia,” police said in the charging documents. “Mr. Smith then stood over Mario Mireles and shot him several more times.”

Partygoers heard the gunfire and saw Mario Mireles on the ground, according to the charging documents. While they attempted to help, Smith went back into his house, “retrieved a rifle and then began to fire out of the front window of his residence at the people attempting to render aid to Mario



BRIAN WITTE/AP

ABOVE: Annapolis Police Chief Edward C. Jackson speaks Monday at a news conference after Sunday’s shooting. RIGHT: Police stand among a crowd outside a home where three were fatally shot.

Mireles and Christian Segovia.”

Smith shot and killed Mario Mireles’s father, Nicholas, who came to his son’s aid, the charging documents said. According to witnesses, none of the victims had a firearm, police said in the charging documents. Ballistic evidence was collected from the outside and inside of a residence near the victims, including from near a window “that was shattered as if someone was firing from inside the residence.”

According to charging documents, when officers arrived around 7:57 p.m., Smith was at a front door “with his hands up, surrendering to police.” He told police “that he shot the people because they shot at his house,” police said in charging documents. Smith was taken into custody.

Three victims who survived the shooting were taken to hospitals and are in stable condition, Jackson said.

When he arrived at the scene

Sunday night, Jackson said there were “easily 150 to 200” people outside.

At the news conference, Jackson said he could not confirm that the parking dispute was the motive of the shooting. When asked, Jackson said it is “too early to tell” whether the shooting may have been a hate crime, but police “have to look at every possible angle.” Smith is White, and Mireles, Mireles Ruiz and Segovia were Hispanic, Jackson said.

“Something happened that caused the suspect, or now defendant, to use deadly force and to cause that kind of damage,” Jackson said. “We’re still very, very much trying to find out what was the motivation behind this.”

Police have not determined whether there was an exchange of gunfire. The indications are that “the suspect was on his property and fired toward the victims,” Jackson said.

The weapons used in the shooting were a “long gun” and a semi-



PAUL W. GILLESPIE/BALTIMORE SUN/AP

automatic handgun, Jackson said, adding that the weapons are being processed and that he could not confirm the make and model of the guns.

Jackson said the FBI is assisting at the crime scene and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is examining ballistic evidence.

Officials at the news conference called for an end to gun violence and offered resources.

“Today, Annapolis grieves, but this pain is accompanied by purpose,” Maryland Gov. Wes Moore (D) said. “Knowing that, in response we will choose to do more than give hearts and thoughts and prayers because that’s simply not enough. We will choose to tackle the issues of violence in our com-

munities head-on, unapologetically and unafraid because this moment demands that we be fearless.”

Anne Arundel County Executive Stuart Pittman (D) said he has worked with a gun violence prevention task force and intervention team to reduce violence alongside Buckley. But Pittman said: “I don’t think there’s anything that we as a local jurisdiction could have done to prevent weapons of the kind that were used.”

“They were powerful enough to do a huge amount of damage on the front lawn of a home in a quiet neighborhood in a short amount of time,” Pittman said. “Weapons like this have no place in our neighborhoods.”

Jackson said the crime scene will likely be held for another day and there are search warrants for “several residences in the area in the effort to obtain evidence.”

Efforts to reach relatives of Mireles, of Odenton, Mireles Ruiz, of Annapolis and Segovia, of Severn, on Monday afternoon were unsuccessful.

Officials vowed support, particularly for the Latino community, including community outreach services that will be provided over the coming days.

“This was an isolated incident,” Jackson said. “Annapolis still remains one of the safest cities in the region.”

Samantha Latson contributed to this report.

MARYLAND

Millions of oyster larvae planted as part of Chesapeake restoration campaign

BY CAITLYN FREEMAN

As part of the Operation Build-a-Reef campaign, 30 million oyster spat were planted recently in the Severn River at Jonas and Anne Catharine Green Park in Annapolis.

Spat, or oyster larvae, were placed throughout the river as part of the partnership between the Severn River Association and Oyster Recovery Partnership. The campaign aims to restore the depleted oyster population and reefs in the Chesapeake Bay.

About 130 million spat have been planted in the river since the partnership began in 2018, Jesse Iliff, the association’s executive director, said at a news conference Wednesday. He said the oysters help alleviate dead zones in the water by filtering out algae, which can deplete oxygen levels.

“This is an absolute cornerstone of our restoration work,” Iliff said.

Several local and state officials attended the planting, including County Executive Stuart Pittman. He praised the initiative and spoke of the challenges involved with environmental restoration.

“We’re really fixing what we’ve done, trying to do better than our predecessors,” Pittman said. “My dad always said that it’s each generation’s job to do better than the generation before it. And we have a lot of generations that kind of destroyed a lot of life in the Chesapeake Bay, and bringing it back is not easy, but it is God’s work. It’s nature’s work.”

Echoing Pittman, Del. Dana Jones, who represents Annapolis, said the state legislature allocated more than \$1.97 million for oyster restoration programs in its fiscal 2023 operating budget.

“I have a 12-year-old little boy at home,” she said. “The work we do today is in fact for the kids tomorrow.”

Soon after the news conference, the Robert Lee, an oyster-planting barge, arrived to drop off hundreds of thousands of pounds of spat. The 72-foot barge carries a mountain of oyster shells that are pumped over the side at certain spots determined by GPS.

The hope is that the spat will become adults, which takes three years. Once they reach adulthood, their filtration and reproductive abilities begin to emerge. In previous years, organizers have said the survival rate of the planted oysters is about 80 percent.

After two years off because of the coronavirus pandemic, the program returned last year. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has previously provided funding for the project, but donations paid for the \$40,000 in spat planted this year, said Ward Slacum, executive director of the recovery partnership. Smyth Jewelers, a Maryland-based jewelry



PAUL W. GILLESPIE/CAPITAL GAZETTE

The crew of the Robert Lee drops off oyster spat in the Severn River during a recent planting operation. After maturing, the oysters will help alleviate dead zones in the water by filtering out algae.

chain, and Tito’s Handmade Vodka were key donors this year.

After being placed, the oysters are monitored by the Severn River Association. To measure the efficacy of the spat planting, Iliff said the association and the partnership commissioned scuba divers from the Army Corps of Engineers to study the growth of the oysters. The studies have shown improvement.

“The Army Corps study has shown that in places where these plantings have gone, we’ve had good survival,” Iliff said. “There’s some indication of natural reproduction.”

Slacum said 2023 marked the state’s second consecutive record oyster harvest in more than 30 years. Since 1993, Slacum’s organization has planted more than 9 billion oysters.

“That’s an incredible milestone,” he said. “It’s a testament to all of our oyster recovery efforts.”

— *Baltimore Sun*

OBITUARIES

JIM HINES, 76

American sprinter was first to break the 10-second barrier in the 100 meters

BY BRIAN MURPHY

At the U.S. track and field championships in June 1968, sprinter Jim Hines said he felt a world record was “coming on” in the men’s 100 meters. That meant something huge: trying to be the first to break the 10-second barrier.

Mr. Hines was proved right. He first clocked a 9.8 in a heat, but the tail wind in Sacramento was too strong to count as a record. Then, with a gentle 1.8 mph breeze, he crossed the line in another heat in a hand-timed 9.9 seconds to set a new global mark and claim the title of fastest man in the world.

It stood only briefly. Soon, two other sprinters, Ronnie Ray Smith and Charles Greene, clocked 9.9 in their heats on the packed-clay track. The stopwatch-marked times were considered official records. But there was a caveat amid the three-way celebrations: a supplemental Bu-ova electronic timing system had them all at just over 10 seconds.

“This should make for some interesting trials at the Olympics,” said Mr. Hines, who died June 3 in Hayward, Calif., at 76.

At the Mexico City Games that October, hand timing was still used, but it was complemented by a state-of-the-art camera system

that was considered accurate to hundredths of a second. For Mr. Hines and his rivals, the Olympics presented a chance to have technology confirm a sub-10-second run.

In the 100-meter finals, Mr. Hines was in lane three. His rival Greene was to his left in lane one. At the gun, Mr. Hines was a split-second slower out of the blocks. Another American, Mel Pender, led the eight-man field in the first 20 meters. Greene then surged to the front.

The 6-foot Mr. Hines — with his compact running style of pumping arms and ramrod-straight back — pushed ahead with about 30 meters left. Jamaica’s Lennox Miller was a half-stride back to his right.

At the finish line, Mr. Hines leaned in and raised his right arm in triumph. “It was the best 100 I ever raced,” he said afterward. The hand time was 9.9 seconds. The electronic time: 9.95 seconds, the first technology-clocked sub-10 at 100 meters.

Miller was second and Greene took the bronze, both hand-timed at 10.0 seconds. In 1977, the International Association of Athletics Federations, now known as World Athletics, added Mr. Hines’s 9.95 seconds in Mexico City as part of the automatic-timed records.



AFP/GETTY IMAGES

From left, Mel Pender, Charles Greene, Roger Bambuck and Jim Hines train for the 1968 Olympic Games. Months earlier, Mr. Hines and Greene were among three sprinters who clocked hand-timed 9.9-second finishes in the 100 meters during the “Night of Speed.”

After the win, Mr. Hines clutched his good luck charm, a wrinkled bucket hat that he carried to all his pre-Olympic meets. “It always treats me right,” he said. “I haven’t washed it in five months.” He was also part of another victory in Mexico City as anchor of the 4x100-meter relay, which took gold at 38.2 seconds.

Mr. Hines’s 100-meter record stood until 1983, when American Calvin Smith ran 9.93. (The current men’s world record is

9.58 seconds by Jamaica’s Usain Bolt, set in 2009 in Berlin.)

Mr. Hines, who was Black, tried to avoid the politics of the Games. He repeated “no comment” when asked about efforts by some Black athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympics as a protest over racial policies in the United States.

In 1991, he told the Los Angeles Times that he didn’t feel represented by one of the most stirring images of the Games: U.S. sprinters Tommie Smith and John Car-

los raising black-gloved fists during the medal ceremony for the 200 meters.

“Most of us felt the best way a Black athlete could make a statement was by going and doing his best,” Mr. Hines said. “Tommie and John felt what they were doing was for all Black athletes and Black men in America. They didn’t think it out.”

Played football

James Ray Hines was born in Dumas, Ark., on Sept. 10, 1946, and moved with his family to Oakland, Calif., when he was 6. His father had construction jobs, and his mother worked in a cannery.

Mr. Hines attended Texas Southern University, a historically Black college in Houston, where he ran track for the school’s Flying Tigers team. His speed drew the attention of professional football. He was drafted in 1968 by the Miami Dolphins, even though he had not played competitive football since high school. The team let him train for the Olympics before signing a contract.

The decision to join the Dolphins blocked him from any future Olympics, whose rules at the time did not allow professional athletes. He played the 1969 season with the Dolphins as a receiv-

er but was used sparingly, making two receptions over nine games. He was traded to the Kansas City Chiefs and played in one game. He then left the sport.

He participated in professional track meets and later worked as a social worker in the Oakland area and on oil rigs in Texas. His death was announced by World Athletics, but no cause was provided. His wife, Joyce, died in 2010. Survivors include two children; two sisters; and four grandchildren.

The 1968 meet in Sacramento became immortalized as the “Night of Speed” among track fans. Mr. Hines ranked it as a bigger moment than even his Olympic victory. “There will never be another night like it,” said Mr. Hines. “That was the greatest sprinting series in the history of track and field.”

He also said it represented a much more freewheeling era in the sport when runners, if coaches knew it or not, often got together to find ways to relax before a big meet.

“Sometimes the race was won the night before at the hotel,” he told the Sacramento Bee in 1995. “The guys today lock themselves in their rooms, but we’d have a couple of cold beers, play cards, go to a movie. We were the best of friends off the track.”

OBITUARIES

HARVEY L. PITT, 78

Expert in securities law had turbulent reign as SEC leader

BY JAMES R. HAGERTY

Harvey L. Pitt, who was appointed chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission in 2001 and pressured into resigning 15 months later after political missteps and an ill-timed push for more cooperative relations with the firms he was in charge of regulating, died May 30 at a hospital in Washington. He was 78.

A family statement announced the death but did not provide a cause.

Before he got the top job at the SEC, which he described as his lifelong ambition, Mr. Pitt was widely regarded as one of the nation's foremost authorities on securities law. Hired as an SEC staff member at 23, he was promoted seven years later to become the agency's youngest general counsel ever.

“Somewhere along the way, accountants became afraid to talk to the SEC, and the SEC appeared to be unwilling to listen to the profession.”

Harvey L. Pitt, in an October 2001 speech as chairman of the SEC

He subsequently began a lucrative reign during private practice, at the international law firm Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson in Washington. Multiple secretaries were needed to help him juggle the constant demands of his clients, including the “Big Five” accounting firms, the New York Stock Exchange, the brokerage firm Merrill Lynch and the insurance goliath Lloyd's of London.

When President George W. Bush nominated him to head the SEC, Mr. Pitt had admirers on both sides of the aisle. Sen. Charles E. Schumer, a New York Democrat, called him “the Zeus” of the securities field. The Senate confirmed him in early August 2001 in a routine voice vote.

Six weeks later, Mr. Pitt was praised for responding quickly and calmly to the financial effects

of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, which ruptured communications links on Wall Street and forced a temporary closing of securities markets. A day after the attacks, he took a train to a still-smoldering New York for talks with Wall Street leaders and representatives of telecommunications providers.

Mr. Pitt, a Republican, was eager to differentiate himself from his Democratic predecessor, Arthur Levitt, a Clinton administration appointee who led the SEC for nearly eight years and sometimes clashed with Republicans demanding deregulation of financial markets.

Mr. Pitt wanted the agency to take a less confrontational approach to regulation and rule-making. “Somewhere along the way, accountants became afraid to talk to the SEC, and the SEC appeared to be unwilling to listen to the profession,” he said in an October 2001 speech. “Those days are ended.”

In an interview with The Washington Post, he promised to make the SEC “a kinder, gentler place for everyone.”

Meanwhile, the energy conglomerate Enron — previously a darling of Wall Street — was beginning its spectacular collapse into bankruptcy amid disclosures that it had falsified its accounts, a scandal that soon engulfed and destroyed Enron's auditor, Arthur Andersen.

Enron's fall and other accounting scandals of the era made Mr. Pitt's emphasis on friendly chats and self-regulation seem naive and suspect. Though Mr. Pitt and his supporters insisted he was always ready to crack down on abuses, he was stuck with the wrong image as business icons crumbled, greed could no longer be seen as even remotely good, and politicians wanted to show that they were tough on fraud.

Mr. Pitt was especially vulnerable to criticism because he had spent 23 years as a private lawyer, not just representing securities and accounting firms but also Ivan Boesky. He helped the stock speculator negotiate with investigators to minimize his prison time and fines for insider trading. Boesky agreed to pay a \$100 million fine and was sentenced to three years in prison.

Giving more ammunition to critics, Mr. Pitt suggested that his position as SEC chairman should be elevated to Cabinet rank and



ANDREA BRUCE/THE WASHINGTON POST



SHAWN THEW/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

ABOVE: Harvey L. Pitt was appointed chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission in 2001 and resigned 15 months later amid political missteps and an ill-timed push for more cooperative relations with the companies he was in charge of regulating. LEFT: Mr. Pitt's support from the White House collapsed amid criticism of his decision to push William Webster, right, to head an accounting-oversight board even though Webster had chaired the audit committee of a firm facing fraud accusations.

that his pay should be increased accordingly.

Meanwhile, Mr. Pitt strove to display his tougher side and ordered top executives to certify the accuracy of their financial statements, but his political backing dwindled. In October 2002, his support from the White House collapsed amid criticism of his decision to push William Webster, a former director of the CIA and FBI, as a candidate to head a new accounting-oversight board, even though Webster had chaired

the audit committee of a company facing fraud accusations.

In early November 2002, Mr. Pitt wrote a resignation letter saying “the turmoil surrounding my chairmanship” was making it hard for the SEC to do its work. He remained in the post for several more months before the Bush administration tapped a successor, William H. Donaldson, a founder of the investment bank Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette and chief executive of the health-care giant Aetna.

Cynthia A. Glassman, a Republican who served as an SEC commissioner while Mr. Pitt was chairman, said it was a misperception that he was soft on accounting firms and business in general. She said he vigorously carried out his SEC duties but wasn't fully attuned to political winds. “He wasn't a political creature,” she said.

Harvey Lloyd Pitt was born in Brooklyn on Feb. 28, 1945. His parents were Jewish immigrants from Poland. His father, who left

AMA ATA AIDOO, 81

Ghanaian playwright and author was a leading voice for African women

BY BRIAN MURPHY

Ama Ata Aidoo, a Ghanaian playwright and author who became one of Africa's leading literary voices, exploring West African society through the eyes of women and the ghosts of the past such as colonial rule and slavery, died May 31 at 81.

A family statement announced the death but offered no additional details.

Ms. Aidoo's career included stints in academia in the United States and political life at home as Ghana's secretary for education in the early 1980s. The experiences helped shape some of the characters and struggles over more than a dozen novels, plays, short stories and volumes of poetry. Yet she said her work, at its core, was an extension of the oral storytelling traditions used by African women to pass down lore and collective wisdom.

“African women were feminists long before feminism,” Ms. Aidoo said.

She worked like a cultural anthropologist, sifting through layers of history — often rife with oppression and exploitation — in Ghana and other parts of West Africa. Nearly all her central figures were women trying to change their lives but facing challenges imposed by men or cultural forces bigger than themselves.

In Ms. Aidoo's first play, “The Dilemma of a Ghost” (1964), a Ghanaian student returns home with his American wife, a Black woman who grapples with a new way of life, the historical weight of the slave trade and her ancestry, and the confusion of the post-colonial era.

“Changes: A Love Story,” a 1991 novel that won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for best book from Africa, was about a woman who divorces after suffering “marital rape” and then unhappily becomes one of the wives of a Muslim businessman.



PIUS UTOMI EKPEI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Ama Ata Aidoo, a renowned Ghanaian playwright, poet and author, was the headliner at the annual Ake Arts and Book festival in Abeokuta, Nigeria, in 2017.

In her 1977 semi-autobiographical novel, “Our Sister Killjoy,” Ms. Aidoo took aim at Western values through the racism and alienation felt by a Ghanaian student in Britain and Germany. Ms. Aidoo called Bavaria the “heart of darkness,” repurposing the title of Joseph Conrad's novel set in Africa.

“Since we met you people 500 years ago, now look at us,” she said in a 1987 interview while discussing Europe's heavy hand in Africa. “We've given everything, you are still taking. I mean where will the whole Western world be without us Africans? Our cocoa, timber, gold, diamond, platinum.”

“Everything you have is us,” she added. “I am not saying it. It's a fact. And in return for all these, what have we got? Nothing.” (Part of her comments were used

in a 2020 song, “Monsters You Made,” by Nigerian performer Burna Boy.)

Ms. Aidoo was widely described as one of Africa's most prominent feminists. She tried to clarify her goals. Feminism, she said, was an “ideology, like socialism or pan-Africanism” that she supported but thought was too general. Ms. Aidoo saw her mission as trying to change the narrative around African women.

She took offense at what she called Western stereotypes of the “downtrodden wretch” in Africa — women seen as incapable of taking control of their own lives and futures.

“When people ask me rather bluntly every now and then whether I am a feminist, I not only answer yes, but I go on to insist that every woman and ev-

ery man should be a feminist,” Ms. Aidoo said at an African women's conference in 1998, “especially if they believe that Africans should take charge of African land, African wealth, African lives, and the burden of African development.”

A defining moment for her came when she was 15. A teacher asked her what type of career she envisioned. “Without knowing why or even how, I replied that I wanted to be a poet,” she recalled.

Four years later, she won a short story contest and was dazzled by seeing her name in print. She bought herself a new pair of shoes with the prize money.

“I had articulated a dream ... it was a major affirmation for me as a writer,” she later wrote.

‘Long line of fighters’

Ama Ata Aidoo was born on

March 23, 1942, in Abeadzí Kyiakor in a central region of what was known in the West as the Gold Coast, the region's colonial name. Her twin brother was named Kwame Ata.

Their father was a local chief of the Fante people and was a strong supporter of education, building the village's first schoolhouse. She called herself part of “a long line of fighters,” often citing her grandfather's imprisonment and torture by British colonial authorities.

Ms. Aidoo, who for a time in her youth went by the first name Christina, received a degree in English from the University of Ghana in 1964, seven years after Ghana's independence. Ms. Aidoo was awarded a two-year creative writing fellowship at Stanford University and then returned to Ghana in 1970 to begin a 12-year tenure as a lecturer at the University of Cape Coast.

Her second play, “Anowa,” which debuted in 1970, tackled questions of Africa's indigenous slave trade in the 19th century through the life of an African woman whose husband becomes an enslaver. The couple's lives end in tragedy.

After a coup in Ghana in late 1981 by a military officer, Jerry Rawlings, the new government lavished attention on the arts. Ms. Aidoo took the position of education secretary in January 1982, saying she thought “direct access to state power” would give her opportunities to grow education options, particularly for girls. Frustrated by the slow pace of reforms, she wrote her resignation letter after 18 months in the post.

She left for Zimbabwe in 1983, working on curriculum programs for the country's Education Ministry. While in the capital, Harare, she wrote a collection of poems, “Someone talking to sometime” (1985), and a children's book, “The Eagle and the

school around the sixth grade, worked for the Waldbaum's grocery stores, first as a delicatessen worker and later as a manager. (The Pitt family described him as “the best lox cutter in the Western Hemisphere.”) His mother was a seamstress.

He received a bachelor's degree in political science from Brooklyn College in 1965 and got a scholarship to study law at St. John's University in Queens, where he graduated three years later.

After an initial plan to focus on labor law, he shifted to securities law “almost by a fluke,” he said in an oral history with the SEC Historical Society. The switch came when he represented St. John's at a national moot court competition. Facing a team from Columbia University, he made arguments in a case involving people who had lost money because of improperly audited accounts, something that would arise in real life when Enron crashed.

Though Mr. Pitt's team didn't win the competition, his mastery of the arcane subject matter so impressed a representative of the SEC that he was invited to apply for a job at the agency. He joined the general counsel's office and swiftly received promotions.

His first marriage, to Phyllis Yagerman, ended in divorce. In 1984, he married Sarah “Saree” Ruffin. In addition to his wife, survivors include two children from his first marriage, Emily Pitt and Jonathan Pitt; two children from his second marriage, Robert Pitt and Sara “Sally” Pitt Plowden; a sister; and three grandchildren.

Mr. Pitt spent the past two decades as chief executive of Kalamazoo Partners, a Washington-based consulting firm focused on regulatory compliance and corporate governance. He also contributed opinion essays to the Wall Street Journal.

Shortly after Mr. Pitt resigned from the SEC in 2002, a law firm partner at Fried Frank told the New York Times there was a “wonderful paradox” in his former colleague having left a thriving practice to fulfill his ambition as chair of the watchdog agency.

“If Harvey had stayed at Fried Frank through the last year,” the partner said, “he would have had the greatest practice in the world because every troubled company from Enron down would have wanted him to represent them.”

Chickens and Other Stories,” in 1986.

She was a writer-in-residence at the University of Richmond in 1989 and was a visiting professor in the Africana studies department at Brown University from 2003 to 2010. In 2000, she founded the Mbaasem Foundation in Ghana to support African women writers.

“I have always felt uncomfortable living abroad: racism, the cold, the weather, the food, the people,” she said in a 2003 interview published by the University of Alicante in Spain. “I also felt some kind of patriotic sense of guilt. Something like, Oh, my dear! Look at all the problems we have at home. What am I doing here?”

“When people ask me rather bluntly every now and then whether I am a feminist, I not only answer yes, but I go on to insist that every woman and every man should be a feminist.”

Ama Ata Aidoo

Survivors include a daughter. Complete information on survivors was not immediately available.

In 2014, Ms. Aidoo was asked on BBC's “HARDtalk” program whether she constructs her women characters as a form of literary activism.

“People sometimes question me, for instance, ‘Why are your women so strong?’” she said. “And I say, ‘That is the only woman I know.’”



Just a nosebleed —or was it?

Read “Medical Mysteries,” Tuesdays in Health & Science.

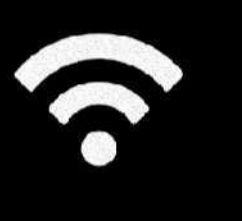
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A nonstop noise in her head...

Read “Medical Mysteries,” Tuesdays in Health & Science.

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DEATH NOTICE

FARR

JANET LEE FARR
“G” (Age 94)

On June 6, 2023 of Silver Spring, MD. Devoted wife of the late Edward S. Farr, loving mother of Darby Lemerise (JR), the late Daran Ryan (Daniel), the late Edward S. Farr, Jr. (Kim), and the late Daryl Widmeyer (Doug), cherished grandmother of Dawn, Deana, Robby, Danette, Rian, TJ, Corey, Cody, Devin, DB, and Dayna; adored great grandmother of 17. Mrs. Farr adored her family, enjoyed playing bridge, going bowling, and always made the family laugh. Friends may call at Hines-Rinaldi Funeral Home, 11800 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD on June 19, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, where services will be held directly after visitation. Interment Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Brentwood, MD. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Montgomery Hospice Casey House, 6001 Muncaster Mill Rd., Rockville, MD 20855. Please view and sign the guestbook at www.hinesrinaldifuneralhome.com

DEATH NOTICE

HEBRON

AKEEM HEBRON (Age 34)

Akeem Hebron of Gaithersburg, Maryland, passed away on June 9, 2023. He graduated from Good Counsel High School in 2006. During his time at Good Counsel, he was the #1 ranked player in the state of Maryland with 131 tackles and 13 sacks as a linebacker. He was first team All-State, All-Conference and All-Metro and was voted a USA Today Parade All-American and Army All-American. He was also captain of the team. Akeem went on to earn a full-ride scholarship to play football at the University of Georgia. While at Georgia, he received the Iron Man Award in 2006 and 2010, and was a member of the Georgia Football Unity Council from 2006 to 2010. After graduating from the University of Georgia, he landed a job at Hunt Consulting. In his free time, Akeem enjoyed spending time with family and friends. He loved coaching football at his alma mater Good Counsel and for his sons' sports teams. Akeem is survived by his mother, Fern, father, James, two sisters, Carisma and Ignico, and his two sons, Adrian and Kade. Service date is still being determined.



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DEATH NOTICE

JAMES

LEO DOUGLAS JAMES (Age 83)

Leo Douglas James passed away peacefully on May 25, 2023. Loving husband of Felicia; father of Leo, Stephen, Kevin, DeWayne and Danielle. Leo is survived by five children, a brother, 16 grandchildren and a host of family and friends. A Celebration of Life will be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 viewing 10 a.m. until time of service 11 a.m. at Ebenezer AME Church, 7701 Allentown Road, Fort Washington, MD. Interment Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery.



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DEATH NOTICE

MARTIN

IVORY MARTIN III
“Rick”

On Friday, June 2, 2023. Ivory Martin III was born on February 3, 1952, in Washington, DC. Rick leaves to cherish his memory, a loving daughter, Morganna Gleaton (Demond); three grandchildren, Katana, Kamya, and Desmond; two sisters, Paula Martin and Deborah Rush; three brothers, John Martin (Ginger), Timothy Martin (Angie) and Daryle Martin (Sheree); aunts, Edna Coates, Felecia McCray, and Roberta Harrison (Thomas); uncles, Harry Datcher and Ronald Datcher; sister and brothers-in-law, Carrie Johnson, Jesse Johnson (Deborah) and Angela Burton; and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, family and friends. Rick was preceded in death by his wife (Lizze Yvonne Martin) and his parents (Ivory Thomas Martin II and Marlene A. Williams). His funeral services will be held on Saturday, June 17, 2023 at Antioch Baptist Church in Upper Marlboro, MD starting at 10 a.m. and burial services will be held at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Suitland, MD.

DEATH NOTICE

ROCHFORD

THOMAS P. ROCHFORD
NOVEMBER 15, 1945 - MAY 15, 2023

Tom passed away Monday, May 15, 2023 at his home in Montgomery Village, MD with his wife RoseMary at his side. Tom was born in Kilkelly, Co Mayo, Ireland. Also survived by daughter Cindy (Kevin) and grandsons Christopher and Trevor. Brother Brendan of Red Bank, NJ and sister Una of Laguna Beach, CA. Predeceased by brother David and sister Helena. Tom retired from The National Gallery of Art in 2008. Prior to the Gallery, Tom was part of The Homeland Security's first group of TSA agents at Reagan National Airport. Tom enlisted in the U.S. Army during the US - Vietnam Conflict and was stationed in Korea. Service Wednesday June 14, 2023 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Gaithersburg at 12 noon in the Historic Chapel. Tom's remains shall be buried at the foot of his father's grave in Urtaur Abbey Cemetery in Kilkelly Ireland. Additional details www.marylandcremationservices.com

DEATH NOTICE

RYAN

ROBERT F. RYAN
(Age 87)

Robert F. Ryan, M.D. died peacefully at home in Arlington, VA on Monday, June 12, 2023. He was born in Washington, DC on August 30, 1935. Dr. Ryan was predeceased by his parents, Anna Mulvihill Ryan and John J. Ryan, Sr., his brother John (Jack) J. Ryan, Jr., and his sister Ann C. Ryan. Dr. Ryan was a life-long member of St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington, DC. He served on the altar for ten years and later was a member of the Parish Council. Surviving are his friend and companion of 55 years, Stuart B. Bedell, his sister-in-law Fay C. Ryan, and many nieces and nephews. Dr. Ryan was born in Washington, DC, and was a graduate of St. John's College High School, and Georgetown University, both

DEATH NOTICE

SIMMONS

PATRICIA ANN GERBER SIMMONS

Patricia Ann Gerber Simmons passed away on March 8, 2023 surrounded by her family. Pat was born and raised in Middletown, Ohio went on to the College of Wooster where she met and later married her husband, James Paterson Simmons (d. 1998). She earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology and lived in Massachusetts, Michigan, and Indiana before settling in Rockville, Maryland in 1976. Throughout her life, Pat served as an active church leader, a systems analyst, a dynamic trainer/teacher and a wonderful musician who sang and played classical piano. Her curiosity and training in human development fueled an insatiable desire to learn what motivates people to pursue their ambitions, passions and joys. Pat loved the questions as much as the answers. She enjoyed tackling challenges whether it was a staffing problem at the Department of Energy, a lack luster resume or a feral kitchen cupboard. She would seek to identify the cause, delegate, negotiate and do what she could to find a couple of creative solutions. As the family reporter, Pat connected and tracked all things related to the Gerber and Simmons families present or past. She enjoyed calling folks and took the time to hear their stories. She deeply cared for many

DEATH NOTICE

SHORT

JAMES SHORT

James Short of Arlington, VA passed away on June 5, 2023 peacefully after a long illness with his beloved sister by his side. James is survived by his sister Joan Maher, her four children with three spouses, ten grandchildren with five spouses, seven great-granddaughters and numerous neighbors and Senior Center friends. James was kind, loving and loved by all. Services with the family will be private. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.adamsgreen.com

DEATH NOTICE

WAGMAN

MELVIN WAGMAN (Age 94)

Melvin Wagman passed away peacefully at his home in Potomac on June 8, 2023. Faithful husband of Jacqueline (Epstein) Wagman (in memoriam). Devoted father of Alan and father-in-law of Laura (Sagner) Wagman. Loving grandfather of Garrett, Greta, and Griffin. Affectionate brother of Harold Wagman (in memoriam) and Helen (Wagman) Nyer. Graveside funeral services will be held on Wednesday, June 14 at 1 p.m. at Mount Lebanon Cemetery in Adelphi, MD. Shiva will be observed at Melvin's home following the funeral and on June 15, from 2 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cure Alzheimer's Fund, curealz.org. Arrangements by Hines-Rinaldi Funeral Home, Inc. under Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater Washington Contract.

DEATH NOTICE

PROCTOR

ANTOINETTA SYLVIE PROCTOR

Antoinetta Sylvie Proctor of District Heights, MD entered eternal rest peacefully on June 2, 2023. Toni leaves to cherish her memory: her children Kyle A. Proctor, Nina A. Proctor, Jon A. Chappelle and Charles L. Proctor, Jr. (Voland); her brother Eugene Chappelle (Lisa); her brother-in-laws, Philip Proctor (Laurino) and Sterling Proctor; five grandkids, Shatia N. Harris (Amiri), Charles L. Proctor, III, Madison R. Grooms, Kyle A. Proctor, Jr., Khloe R. Proctor; one great-grandson, Jaden L. Benedicto; niece, Janelle Moore (James) and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. Graveside inurnment ceremony to be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 10 a.m. Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton, MD.

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PROCTOR

ANTOINETTA SYLVIE PROCTOR

Antoinetta Sylvie Proctor of District Heights, MD entered eternal rest peacefully on June 2, 2023. Toni leaves to cherish her memory: her children Kyle A. Proctor, Nina A. Proctor, Jon A. Chappelle and Charles L. Proctor, Jr. (Voland); her brother Eugene Chappelle (Lisa); her brother-in-laws, Philip Proctor (Laurino) and Sterling Proctor; five grandkids, Shatia N. Harris (Amiri), Charles L. Proctor, III, Madison R. Grooms, Kyle A. Proctor, Jr., Khloe R. Proctor; one great-grandson, Jaden L. Benedicto; niece, Janelle Moore (James) and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. Graveside inurnment ceremony to be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 10 a.m. Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton, MD.

DEATH NOTICE

ERCOLANO

INGEBORG ERCOLANO

Ingeborg "Inge" Elisabeth Ercolano, 87, of Arlington, VA passed away in her home on May 6, 2023 after a two year struggle with cancer. She worked hard to support her family both here and back in Germany. She is survived by her son, Roberto; daughter, Adriana; and grandson, Marcus. A funeral Mass will be held Friday June 30 at 11 a.m., St. Ann's Catholic Church, 5300 10th St. N, Arlington, VA. Memorial gifts may be made to Goodwin Hospice c/o Goodwin Living Foundation, 4800 Fillmore Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22311 with Hospice in the memo line) or online at <https://goodwinliving.org/giving/donation-form-hospice/>. Please see murphyfuneralhomes.com

DEATH NOTICE

MEIGHAN

ROBERT BRUCE MEIGHAN
“Bob”

On June 11, 2023, Robert Bruce Meighan “Bob” passed away in Delray Beach, Florida. Bob was born near Fargo, N.D. on September 23, 1938 to Robert and Alvera Meighan. Shortly thereafter, the family moved to Spokane, WA, where he lived until attending Georgetown Law School in Washington, DC. Bob was blessed with four siblings, Jacob, William, Michael (deceased), and Mary (deceased). He began his life-long love of golf by caddying at the Spokane Country Club. Other jobs in his youth included fighting forest fires and driving a truck building Going to

DEATH NOTICE

OPPEL

JERALD “JERRY” OPPEL
“Jerry”

Jerald “Jerry” Oppel, of Pikesville, Maryland, passed away on Sunday, June 11, 2023 at the age of 82. He is survived by his beloved wife, Gail Shalvitz Oppel; children, Karen Beth Oppel and Emily (Moses) Gershbein; step-children, Amanda Shalvitz (Jonathan) Berkowitz and Daniel Scott (Heather) Shalvitz; sister, Irene “Buzzie” Himelfarb; granddaughter, Tilly Elaine Gershbein; step-grandchildren, Ryken Berkowitz, Noah Berkowitz, Colin Matthew Shalvitz, and Zachary Ryan Shalvitz; nephews, Saul, Joel, and Richard; and lifelong friends, Roland and Alegra Best. He was predeceased by his parents, Philip and Yetta Oppel. Jerry attended Western Maryland College (now known as McDaniel College), completing a Bachelors of Arts degree in 1963 after serving four years in the ROTC program. He

DEATH NOTICES

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SATURDAY-SUNDAY 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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800-627-1150 ext 4-4122
EMAIL:
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Email and faxes MUST include name, home address & home phone # of the responsible billing party.
Email deadline - 3 p.m. daily
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CURRENT 2023 RATES: (PER DAY)

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2" - \$355 (text only)
3" - \$505
4" - \$555
5" - \$700

SUNDAY
Black & White
1" - \$185 (text only)
2" - \$390 (text only)
3" - \$560
4" - \$590
5" - \$765

6"+ for ALL Black & White notices
\$155 each additional inch Mon - Sat
\$185 each additional inch Sunday

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Color
3" - \$650
4" - \$700
5" - \$855

SUNDAY
Color
3" - \$685
4" - \$785
5" - \$955

6"+ for ALL color notices
\$260 each additional inch Mon - Sat
\$290 each additional inch Sunday

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THE WEATHER

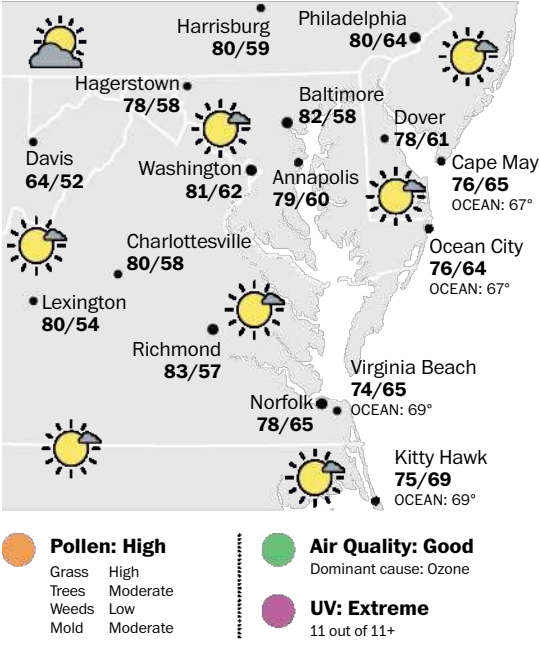
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A beautiful June day

 Today is going to be a gem, with lots of sun, low humidity and comfortable highs in the low 80s. The breeze from the west at about 10 mph will also be delightful. Clouds increase tonight, and a little impulse passing to our north might set off a shower or two, mainly north of the District and after midnight. Lows range from the upper 50s to low 60s.

Today Mostly sunny  81° 62° FEELS*: 84° CHNCE PRECIP: 5% WIND: WSW 7-14 mph HUMIDITY: Moderate	Wednesday T-storm  79° 61° FEELS: 78° P: 55% W: SW 8-16 mph H: Moderate	Thursday Partly sunny  84° 64° FEELS: 88° P: 5% W: WNW 7-14 mph H: Moderate	Friday T-storm  81° 62° FEELS: 83° P: 80% W: WNW 7-14 mph H: Moderate	Saturday Partly sunny  83° 62° FEELS: 84° P: 10% W: SSW 7-14 mph H: Low	Sunday T-storm  83° 66° FEELS: 88° P: 60% W: W 3-6 mph H: Moderate
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REGION



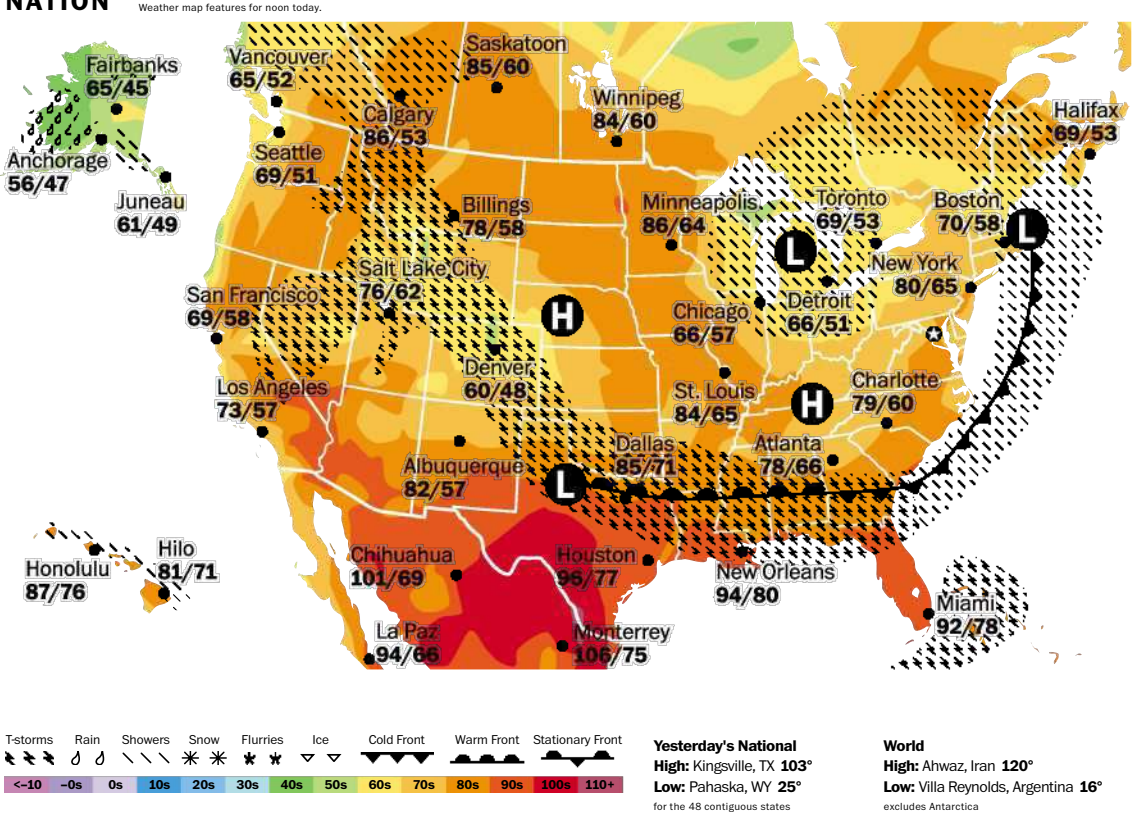
Blue Ridge: Today, mostly sunny; less humid in northern parts. High 60 to 67. Winds west-southwest 7-14 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 55 to 59. Winds west-southwest 6-12 mph.

Atlantic beaches: Today, mostly sunny; less humid. High 74 to 78. Winds west-southwest 6-12 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 62 to 66. Winds south 7-14 mph. Wednesday, partly sunny; partly sunny, then turning cloudy in the south. High 78 to 86.

Waterways: *Upper Potomac River:* Today, mostly sunny. Wind west-southwest 6-12 knots. Waves 2 feet or less. Visibility unrestricted. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay:* Today, mostly sunny. Wind southwest 6-12 knots. Waves 1-2 feet on the Lower Potomac and the Chesapeake Bay. • *River Stages:* The stage at Little Falls will be around 2.80 feet today, with no change of 2.80 Wednesday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

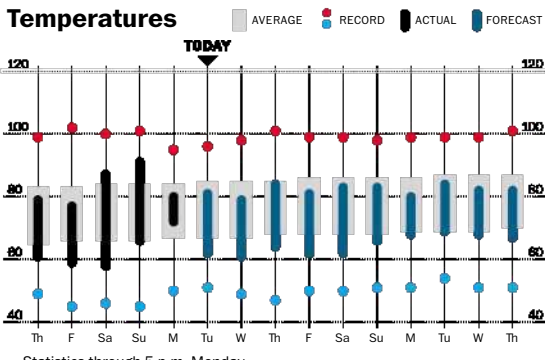
Today's tides (High tides in Bold)			
Washington	4:50 a.m.	11:59 a.m.	5:19 p.m.
Annapolis	2:28 a.m.	8:42 a.m.	2:03 p.m.
Ocean City	4:12 a.m.	10:24 a.m.	4:52 p.m.
Norfolk	12:25 a.m.	6:21 a.m.	12:22 p.m.
Point Lookout	5:00 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	4:22 p.m.

NATION



NATIONAL	Today	Tomorrow	Des Moines	83/61/s	87/64/s	Oklahoma City	77/62/t	84/62/p	WORLD	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	75/58/c	71/58/r	Detroit	66/51/t	73/57/p	Omaha	86/61/p	88/62/s	Addis Ababa	72/56/sh	71/55/sh
Albuquerque	82/57/s	87/60/s	El Paso	92/69/p	97/72/s	Orlando	95/76/p	95/77/t	Amsterdam	83/59/s	79/59/p
Anchorage	56/47/r	58/45/c	Fairbanks, AK	65/45/p	61/44/c	Philadelphia	80/64/s	78/61/t	Athens	81/65/p	82/67/s
Atlanta	78/66/t	77/66/t	Fargo, ND	89/61/p	87/62/p	Phoenix	95/74/s	100/76/s	Auckland	61/43/s	58/42/s
Austin	95/75/p	99/74/p	Hartford, CT	78/58/p	76/57/t	Pittsburgh	69/54/sh	69/50/r	Baghdad	109/83/p	105/81/p
Baltimore	82/58/s	78/57/t	Honolulu	87/76/sh	88/77/sh	Portland, ME	59/53/sh	69/56/sh	Bangkok	94/81/t	93/81/t
Billings, MT	78/58/s	74/52/c	Houston	96/77/p	97/77/p	Portland, OR	75/53/p	71/51/p	Beijing	93/65/s	96/68/s
Birmingham	78/67/t	80/66/t	Indianapolis	72/58/r	73/60/s	Providence, RI	76/58/p	75/57/sh	Berlin	73/54/c	75/57/c
Bismarck, ND	89/58/s	87/61/s	Jackson, MS	88/71/t	91/67/t	Raleigh, NC	82/61/s	86/62/p	Bogota	70/48/p	67/51/t
Boise	84/56/p	76/49/p	Jacksonville, FL	93/71/t	92/71/t	Reno, NV	79/58/t	85/59/s	Brussels	84/56/s	81/55/p
Boston	70/58/p	73/57/sh	Kansas City, MO	81/59/c	87/63/s	Richmond	83/57/s	83/60/p	Buenos Aires	55/43/s	56/45/s
Buffalo	68/54/sh	64/55/r	Las Vegas	93/75/p	97/75/s	Sacramento	82/57/s	84/56/s	Cairo	93/73/p	93/72/s
Burlington, VT	69/57/sh	75/58/sh	Little Rock	81/70/t	85/66/t	St. Louis	84/65/s	85/68/p	Caracas	78/66/t	78/66/t
Charleston, SC	88/70/c	85/68/t	Los Angeles	73/57/p	72/61/p	St. Thomas, VI	89/80/p	89/80/p	Copenhagen	73/54/c	76/58/s
Charleston, WV	76/59/p	74/54/sh	Louisville	79/64/p	83/64/p	Salt Lake City	76/62/t	76/60/c	Dakar	87/77/s	86/77/c
Charlotte	79/60/p	83/62/t	Memphis	80/68/t	83/66/t	San Diego	70/61/p	69/62/p	Dublin	74/53/p	71/52/s
Cheyenne, WY	61/44/t	71/51/t	Miami	92/78/t	92/79/r	San Francisco	69/58/p	70/57/p	Edinburgh	70/50/p	73/50/s
Chicago	66/57/sh	74/61/sh	Milwaukee	62/55/sh	72/61/p	San Juan, PR	90/79/p	93/77/c	Frankfurt	84/59/s	78/56/p
Cincinnati	74/59/p	76/57/sh	Minneapolis	86/64/s	88/66/p	Seattle	69/51/p	70/48/c	Geneva	78/55/t	80/55/s
Cleveland	63/55/sh	69/57/sh	Nashville	80/60/p	84/62/c	Spokane, WA	87/49/p	64/48/c	Ham, Bermuda	82/74/p	81/75/t
Dallas	85/71/t	89/73/p	New Orleans	94/80/s	93/78/p	Syracuse	73/55/p	64/55/r	Helsinki	77/46/p	79/50/p
Denver	60/48/t	77/54/t	New York City	80/65/s	73/59/t	Tampa	93/81/s	91/80/t	Ho Chi Minh City	91/78/t	93/77/t
			Norfolk	78/65/s	86/67/p	Wichita	82/62/c	81/61/t	Hong Kong	92/81/t	87/78/r

OFFICIAL RECORD



Moon Phases			Solar system		
June 18	First Quarter	June 26	Full	July 3	Last Quarter
New					
Sun	5:42 a.m.	8:34 p.m.			
Moon	2:44 a.m.	4:14 p.m.			
Venus	9:09 a.m.	11:36 p.m.			
Mars	9:44 a.m.	11:52 p.m.			
Jupiter	3:13 a.m.	4:42 p.m.			
Saturn	12:51 a.m.	11:49 a.m.			



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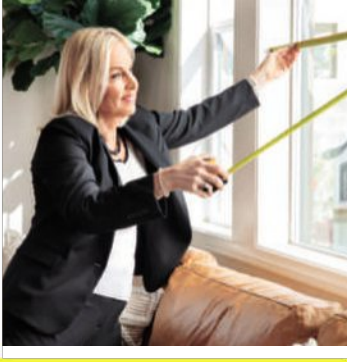
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Will anyone want to be the leader of CNN?

BY JEREMY BARR

For the second time in just over 15 months, David Zaslav is on the hunt for someone to take on one of the biggest jobs in media: the head of CNN. This search might be harder than the first.

The first time around, the Warner Bros. Discovery chief executive gravitated quickly to a veteran TV programmer with a varied and intriguing résumé. Chris Licht had resuscitated CBS's lagging morning show, caught lightning in a bottle with MSNBC's political chat show "Morning Joe" and even excelled at producing Stephen Colbert's late-night comedy show. Zaslav hired him in April 2022 without interviewing anyone else.

But after Licht's abrupt dismissal last week, it's understood that Zaslav will probably do a lot more interviewing. Not only to find someone with the managerial magic to run a some 4,000-person global news operation — but also to persuade one of the few qualified people to *want* the job.

"The job of running a 24-hour news organization, at the best of times, is like walking into a Category 3 hurricane," said Jon Klein, who ran CNN in the United States from 2004 to 2010.

And this is not the best of times for CNN.

SEE CNN ON C3

MUSIC REVIEW

Monáe's living in the present, and it's a gift

BY CHRIS RICHARDS

Oh, you were hoping for some sci-fi pop songs that might articulate your agita over the recent proliferation of artificial intelligence? Sorry, Janelle Monáe is out by the pool. She has told at least two major publications that she no longer identifies as a futurist but as a present-urist. She has been getting naked in magazines and music videos, presumably trying to persuade everyone that she's not a robot anymore. And within the first 14 seconds of her summery new album, "The Age of Pleasure," she says it straight up: "I'm not the same."

But before we can fully listen to who she is now — a pansexual pool-party hostess vocalizing her desires from deep within a chlorinated swirl of reggae, trap and Nigerian Afrobeat — let's remember that the old Janelle Monáe never felt same-old.

On her 2007 debut, "Metropolis: Suite I (The Chase)," she introduced herself as Cindi Mayweather, a lovesick android trying to survive a dystopian police state in the year 2719. The character instantly felt like a metaphor for anyone who has been discriminated against for their race or sexual identity, but for a hyper-ambitious musical theater kid who came out of Kansas City, Kan., as fluent in "Stankonia" as she was in "The Wizard of Oz," the Cindi Mayweather persona also offered a sort of

SEE MUSIC REVIEW ON C3

MEMO

Classifying Trump's chandelier

BY GERALDINE DERUITER

Last week, former president Donald Trump was indicted on charges that he mishandled classified documents, allegedly storing them in, among other places, a Mar-a-Lago bathroom. A photo of the scene included in the indictment depicted stacks of boxes under a large crystal chandelier that was somehow simultaneously decadent and drab, the light fixture equivalent of Miss Havisham.

Despite the implications of this indictment for national security, the 2024 presidential race and American democracy, it was the chandelier (and the smaller, adjacent crystal sconce) that generated significant reaction from the public in the following days. Its silent witness to the (alleged) crimes unfolding below offered a different sort of indictment — of wealth and the things to which we, the middle-class masses who grew up with one or two chandelier-free bathrooms, were taught to aspire. And it raised questions, both of design and hygiene. Chief among them: Are toilet chandeliers even a thing?

SEE CHANDELIER ON C4



CONCEPTUAL PHOTO BY ELIZABETH RENSTROM FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Gen Z has had work done — and they'll tell you all about it

BY MADELEINE AGGELER

On the day of her breast augmentation in February, 26-year-old influencer Jazmyn Smith brought more than 240,000 TikTok followers along with her. She posted a TikTok of herself immediately before the surgery, bidding her natural breasts goodbye (1.3 million views) and one of herself immediately after, hazy from sedatives, sipping from a Mott's apple juice box (226,000 views). A TikTok of her feasting on Wendy's chicken nuggets back in her Manhattan apartment later that day, boasting of her new "titty privilege," has more than 260,000 views. And the TikTok about the custom Juicy tracksuit she wore that day — black velour with "Jaz" bedazzled on the arms — has more than 2 million views.

Swiping through TikTok can take one on any number of similar cosmetic journeys, guided by chirpy, young content creators who emerge ever so slightly more

tucked, augmented or symmetrical. Haley Kate, who co-hosts the "Hot Girl Talks" podcast with Smith and Carly Weinstein, made about a dozen TikToks documenting her chin liposuction earlier this year. TikTok star Alix Earle celebrated the anniversary of her breast augmentation — her "boobaversary," as she called it — with more than 5 million followers by making a video in which she outlined the details of her procedure, which she said she paid for from earnings and childhood savings.

"I did 275 cc, moderate profile," she said, describing the size of her implants as she applied makeup. "Not going to lie, I wish I did a little bit more."

Plastic surgery's initial purpose was primarily to reconstruct rather than enhance. During World War I, doctors developed methods for fixing ruined noses and shattered jaws, and after the war, they used them for elective cosmetic pro-

SEE SURGERY ON C2

CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK

Sunday's Tony Awards show was pitch-perfect without a script. **C3**

ELIZABETH GILBERT

The author nixes her novel after criticism of its Russian setting. **C5**



THEATER

"Incendiary" has serious, sociopolitical aspirations but ultimately misfires. **C8**

CAROLYN HAX

How to respond when a "garbage" ex-friend wants to reconnect? **C9**

Gen Z is turning surgery into content

SURGERY FROM C1

cedures. In 1962, Timmie Jean Lindsey, a Texas housewife, became the first person to get silicone breast implants. By the 1990s, aging baby boomers with plenty of discretionary income decided they wanted to freshen up their looks. Liposuction procedures increased tenfold that decade, by some estimates.

But despite its steady growth in popularity, cosmetic surgery has often been discussed by those who undergo it in the hushed, cryptic tones usually reserved for national intelligence agencies. For every celebrity like Dolly Parton, who once famously declared, “If something is bagging, sagging or dragging, I’ll tuck it, suck it or pluck it,” there were a dozen others who outright denied having work done.

In 2011, movie star Megan Fox responded to rumors that she’d had Botox by posting a Facebook album titled, “Things You Can’t Do With Your Face When You Have Botox,” with pictures of her frowning and looking surprised. In 2016, the actor Olivia Munn wrote on Instagram that her recent facial transformation was the result of eating Japanese potatoes and getting better eyebrow grooming. After this year’s Grammy Awards, Madonna denounced widespread speculation about her face as “ageism and misogyny.” And the Kardashian-Jenners — bellwethers of cultural beauty standards — are notoriously cagey about what enhancements they may or may not have undergone, while their fans pick apart paparazzi shots for the telltale signs of a surgeon’s scalpel.

Gen Z, by contrast, shouts about their procedures from the digital rooftops.

“I ask every surgical patient and injection patient if I can put their pictures online,” said Theda Kontis, a facial plastic surgeon in Baltimore and the president of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. “Older patients are sort of wishy-washy about it. Younger people are like, ‘Sure, when is it going to be posted?’ And if I don’t post it, they post it.” Obviousness is the goal now, she explained. “They want people to say, ‘Wow, you got your lips done.’”

Americans young and old emerged from the depths of the pandemic like dissatisfied Narcissuses, determined to fix whatever perceived flaws they had noticed in the terrible depths of their Zoom windows. In 2022, the American Society of Plastic Surgeons surveyed its members and found that 76 percent of surgeons said that they had experienced at least a slight increase in demand compared with before the pandemic. Patients’ top reasons for getting plastic surgery, that same report said, included wanting to “feel refreshed/look younger after aging from pandemic stress” and noticing “things they want to improve during video calls.”

People younger than 30 are still a minority of plastic surgery patients, but doctors who spoke with The Washington Post reported a noticeable increase in that demographic. For the most part, Kontis said, Gen Z patients are interested in “prejuvenation” measures: injectables such as Botox and soft-tissue fillers that will prevent the natural ravages of aging.

What really sets the members of this generation apart, surgeons agree, is not just that they are coming in earlier for treatments but also that they are coming in knowing exactly what treatments they want.

“My older patients will come in and say: ‘I want to look better. I don’t like this. I’m not sure what I need,’” Kontis said. “The younger patients come in and say: ‘I want fillers in my cheeks, and I want Botox here, because I don’t want to get crow’s feet.’ They know exactly what they want, and they know what it does.”

Countless TikTok and Instagram accounts chronicle procedures or pick apart celebrities’ evolving looks. An Instagram account run by Houston-based dietitian Dana Omar Harrell (@igfamouslydانا) has more than 260,000 followers and posts before-and-after photos of celebrities, guessing what work they may have had done. Scrolling through the account can give the sense of being a character in “The Matrix” who has realized that everything around them is a simulation.

Smith, the TikTokker, says she pored over hashtags for “breast augmentation” and “breast augmentation removal,” so she could prepare herself for what to expect if she needed to have her implants removed. She came to a conclusion: “I could get struck by lightning tomorrow, and at the end of the day, I know boobs are going to make me feel better.”

Smith started getting preventive Botox at 19 and got a nose job at 23. Although she never had any reservations about cosmetic procedures — because her mother, grandmother and aunt have all had work done — she has noticed a change in how her peers discuss plastic surgery.

“When I would bring it up when I was younger that I wanted a nose job, it was like, ‘Oh, you don’t need it.’ And now it’s transformed to, ‘If that’s what’s going to make you feel better, I fully support you,’” Smith said. “It’s just a more supportive conversation, not questioning whether someone needs something or not.”

This acceptance of the value of cosmetic work is not limited to zoomers. When I brought up this story — over dinners and coffees, at parties — hands flew to necks, foreheads and eyes. Fingers pinched at sags, wrinkles and droops. Their owners — people in their late 20s to their 50s, mostly women, but some men, too — made clear-eyed assertions about all the things they planned to change as they got older or when they had more money and time to spare.

At no point in these conversations did anyone suggest that we were fine the way

we were, or that aging was a privilege instead of a humiliating process of degradation that is to be resisted at all costs. These were, as Smith puts it, “supportive” conversations: We were supporting each other’s aesthetic aspirations. Supporting our bodily autonomy. Supporting our right to use our time and money to bend reality to our will.

And yet, for all our enthusiasm about cosmetic procedures, Americans still seem confused about how to discuss their relative philosophical merits: It’s empowering to do what you want with your body, but it’s not empowering to feel the need to conform to conventional beauty standards; no one owes anyone information about their body and medical history, but don’t lie about what you’ve had done; and you should love yourself just as you are, unless you don’t, then you should change it.

Gen Z is perhaps even more tangled up in this discourse than any other generation. In addition to growing up during what Lara Devgan, a plastic surgeon in New York, described as a “mainstreaming of plastic surgery,” 20-somethings also grew up during a mainstreaming of body positivity. While Dove commercials and curvier Barbie dolls urged them to love their bodies, Instagram filters and reality TV urged them to consider how they might be more beautiful if they looked completely different. They were told to accept themselves just as they are, then shown all the ways in which they should change.

“We’re in a culture that’s promoting body acceptance, and we’re also still in a culture that is very much committed to hierarchizing women and their value based on how they look,” said Virgie Tovar, an author, lecturer and expert on weight-based discrimination and body positivity.

Transparency, then, serves as a loophole of sorts: a way to comply with cultural beauty standards while at the same time undermining them. By showing one’s followers just how much work goes into looking conventionally hot, influencers get to show that they understand how unrealistic these standards are, while still benefiting from their adherence to them. (Sure, maybe I entered into a Faustian bargain, but I did so of my own accord, and look at what a hassle it is to work with demons, anyway. Please follow my page to learn more.)

Tovar argued that there is a hierarchy of

values at play. “Transparency is an excellent value,” she said, “but if we take a step back and say the next part of the hierarchy is that we still believe in a beauty standard that is based on a White supremacist, thin ideal, then that’s not a really good value.” Practicing transparency without reckoning with that next, more complicated step, Tovar said, “is leading perhaps to the normalization of something like an unnecessary surgery.”

“I do believe it’s not feminist to get plastic surgery, but I don’t think it’s unfeminist to get plastic surgery. It’s just neutral,” said Eli Rallo, 24, a content creator, author and podcast host who has been open about her own cosmetic procedures with her 717,000 TikTok followers. (Women are not the only ones getting elective cosmetic procedures, of course. Male TikTok stars such as Sebastian Bails have also broadcast the work they’ve had done. But overall, the number of male cosmetic surgery patients is still significantly lower. According to the last available statistics from the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, in 2020, male patients represented 8 percent of total cosmetic procedures in the United States.)

This openness and vulnerability was part of the draw of TikTok, Rallo argued.

“I think people were getting sick and tired of the Instagram influencer as we know her,” Rallo said. “The most beautiful, the most wealthy, the most aspirational: We’re looking at these people; they’re not even real.” TikTok, she said, was a medium where “people could just be themselves.” However, she acknowledged that “the TikTok algorithm still does really prioritize prettiness.”

Rallo grew up in New Jersey and got a breast reduction when she was 18, because she couldn’t find prom dresses that fit her F/G-cup chest. The procedure was covered by insurance, but because of how her breasts continued to develop and heal, she had to have a revision. She had another reduction in 2022, and is down to a C/D-cup. She would go even smaller if she could, but said: “This is probably the safest for my internal organs.”

Worrying about the well-being of her organs makes Rallo a fairly conscientious member of her peer group. Devgan said that, in her practice, she has noticed that Gen-Z patients tend to be “terrifyingly risk-friendly”: both frightfully open to undergoing major surgery, and a little naive

about what surgery actually entails.

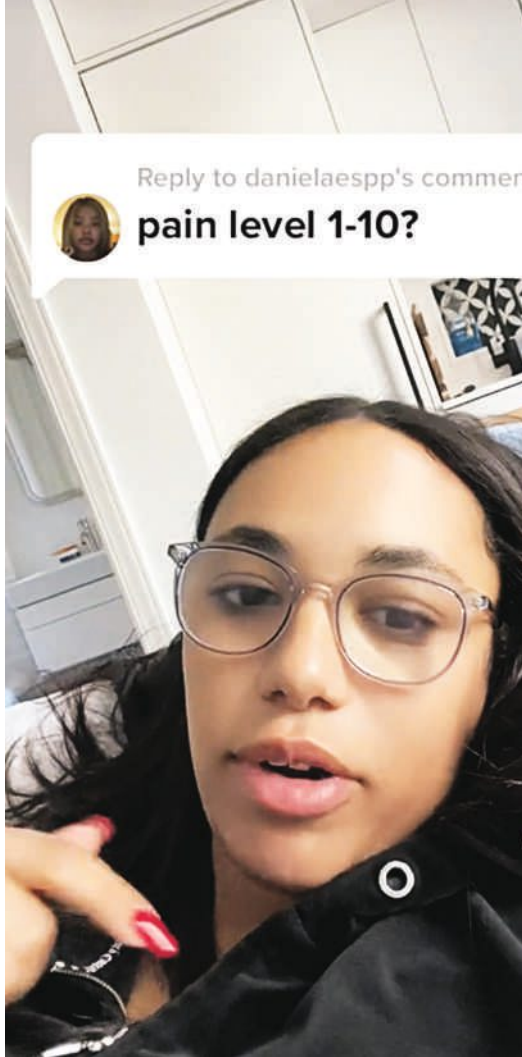
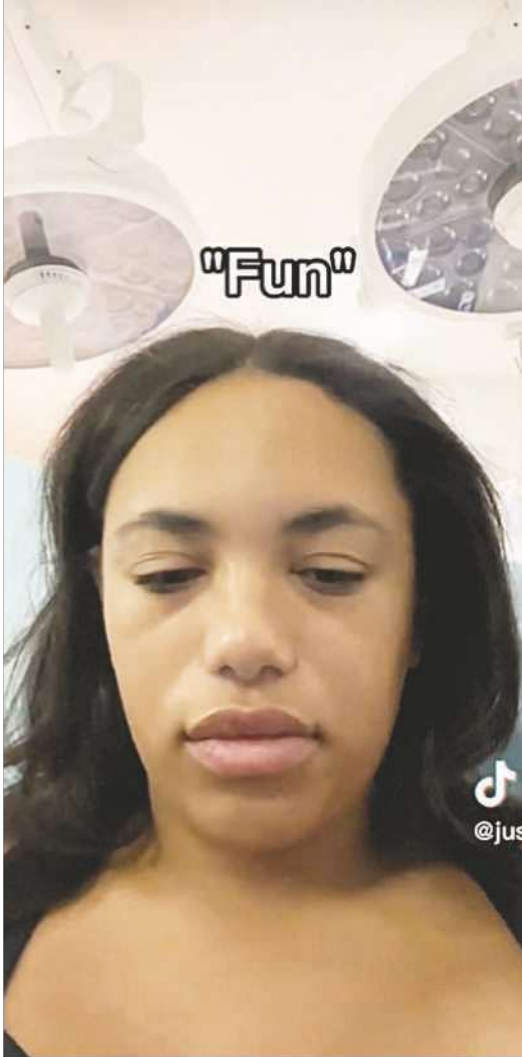
During a consultation, Devgan said, she will often do an anatomical analysis and talk patients through a number of options, ranging from least to most invasive. “For example, options for a brow lift could be the use of Botox, or a suture suspension, or surgery,” she said. “And I’m always shocked by how frequently someone in this younger age group will be like, ‘Okay, can we do the surgery right now?’”

Major surgery always involves a significant degree of risk, but nonsurgical interventions can be hazardous, too. Kontis said that she warns young patients who come in asking for a liquid rhinoplasty — the injection of dermal fillers in and around the nose to alter its shape — that the procedure can be dangerous and can potentially result in blindness, the embolization of a blood vessel or the loss of skin on the nose. “They look at me like: ‘Well not if I go to so-and-so injector. It’s not on social media. It’s really safe!’” Kontis said. “I’m sorry, but this is the truth.”

Why would they be worried? Even the most complex, potentially dangerous procedures look easy, breezy and fast when they’re collapsed into a 30-second time-lapse video set to Kay P’s “Never Dat!” — a popular accompaniment to breast augmentation videos. (Lyrics: “She ain’t like her titties, f--- it, get her new boobs.”)

In her boobaversary video, Earle said she was surprised at just how surgical breast augmentation turned out to be. “No one tells you that they’re just going to like walk you into this cold, refrigerated room, and there’s like a table, and then next to it is just, like, a tray with like knives and slicers. And you’re sitting there, just like, ‘Oh my God, I’m about to get cut open.’”

One thing influencers want you to know is that they’re not trying to persuade you to get work done. (Except when they are. Reports from NBC News and Insider found that beauty companies, med spas and surgeons frequently offer influencers free procedures in exchange for posts.) But as Earle says in her video: “This is also not me convincing anyone to get a boob job. You should love yourself. But if there is something you want to do for yourself, then do it.” And Smith says: “I’m not encouraging anyone to do anything. If I want to get something done, it’s a personal choice, and I’m choosing to share my personal choice.”



JAZMYN SMITH/TIKTOK

Content creator and “Hot Girl Talks” podcast co-host Jazmyn Smith documented her breast augmentation surgery and recovery on TikTok.



LINDSAY D'ADDATO



MARISA SILVA

LEFT: Virgie Tovar, an author, lecturer and expert on weight-based discrimination and body positivity. RIGHT: Eli Rallo, a content creator and author who has been open about her cosmetic procedures.

Getting work done is your choice and your choice alone, young influencers say. They are doing it for themselves, and nobody else! And sometimes they are also sort of doing it for their followers, because their followers had criticized their looks, and they are talking about it because they knew their followers would harass them if they didn’t cop to what they’d had done.

Besides the breast reduction, Rallo has also posted about getting a lip flip — a noninvasive procedure that makes the upper lip look fuller by injecting Botox into the muscle above it — and some filler in her upper lip. She did it, she said, because she was being bullied by followers because her gums were visible when she smiled. She loves her smile now, she said, but admits: “I feel sad that what pushed me there was the TikTok comments.”

Rallo says she felt comfortable detailing the work she’d had done because she’d seen other creators doing the same. But she said there is a pressure to be transparent, too. When you’re an influencer and your job is sharing the details of your life, followers can come to expect *all* the details, and they can become resentful if they feel as if you’re holding back. “I was always pretty open about my breast reduction specifically, because I felt like I knew people were going to talk about it, and I wanted to get in front of that.”

The right to demur or withhold personal surgical information, Smith said, is increasingly a privilege reserved for the mega-famous. “When you’re a big celebrity, you can get away with people not knowing things,” she said. “When you’re a certain type of influencer who shares a lot of the personal details of their life, people feel entitled to a certain amount of information.”

Posting about her procedure was basically a professional obligation, Smith said, because “my job is just sharing things on the internet, anyway.” She admitted that she struggles with drawing boundaries between herself and her followers, and that it’s something she discusses with her therapist. (“I do feel guilty when I don’t share certain stuff,” she said.) Still, she believes that this increased forthrightness around cosmetic procedures has overall made things “easier and better.”

“Before it was like: It could be done, it could not be done. You don’t know,” she says. “People confirming that they have had whatever done and being open about it makes it different. There can’t be all this secrecy and guessing.”

Tovar also said there’s potential in this moment to better identify and question the narrow aesthetic norms to which people might feel pressure to adhere: “The potential silver lining here is that if we’re being transparent about the fact that we’re doing [cosmetic procedures], can we go to the next step of transparency of why we’re doing it? And can that open up a conversation that leads to something different?”

In 1991, Canadian feminist philosopher Kathryn Pauly Morgan published a paper titled “Women and the Knife: Cosmetic Surgery and the Colonization of Women’s Bodies.” In it, she wrote that elective cosmetic surgery “is becoming the norm.” She posited that, as a result, women who elect not to go under the knife would “increasingly be stigmatized and seen as deviant.”

A little melodramatic. But I thought of that line when I was on the phone with Kontis. I asked her why Gen Z seems so much more comfortable broadcasting their cosmetic work than other generations. “Because everyone else does,” she said simply. “They want to be like everyone else.” Then, she added: “There’s no natural beauty anymore.” I felt sad when she said that. And, as she spoke, I caught sight of my soft neck in the reflection of my computer screen, and thought about how I’d love to get it tightened up.

CRITIC’S NOTEBOOK

The unscripted Tonys deserve a standing ovation

BY PETER MARKS

NEW YORK — The esteemed Tony Awards show commentator Lin-Manuel Miranda may have said it best. “Never in my wildest dreams!” he declared, surveying the audience Sunday night that had traveled uptown to the United Palace, in his own Washington Heights neighborhood.

Television viewers might have marveled similarly as they tuned in to the 76th installment of the ceremony — and encountered something extraordinary: a Broadway awards show that worked. Not only worked, but whizzed. Not only whizzed, but zinged. With a gallant and effervescent Ariana DeBose as the emcee, and a seamless stream of numbers from nominated musicals intermingled with straight-forward award presentations, the show jauntily conveyed a Mickey-and-Judy, let’s-put-on-a-show conviviality.

It didn’t even seem to matter that the combined run time of the Tonys pre-show on the Pluto TV streaming service, and the CBS main event, was 30 minutes longer than last year. What possibly could have accounted for this miraculous turn of events?

It’s a more sensitive question than one might think. The Tony Awards became embroiled this year in an issue over which it had no control: a nationwide strike by the Writers Guild of America, whose members normally write the opening and introductory banter and monologues, as well as tribute speeches. Because the networks are part of the management structure that the guild is striking, the union’s writers were barred from participating. (Some

award winners did still refer to handwritten notes.)

After some behind-the-scenes negotiations — during which playwrights including Tony Kushner and Jeremy O. Harris lobbied their fellow writers about how vital the Tonys are to stirring up interest in the productions in Broadway’s 41 theaters — the WGA agreed not to picket the proceedings. The proviso was that the show would be produced, gulp, without a script.

The resulting program was akin to a kitchen accidentally creating a great dish by leaving out a classic ingredient. Who knew that going script-less could be so refreshing? The Oscars have gone several times with host-less permutations, but those experiments never caught on. At the outset of Sunday’s main three-hour telecast, DeBose and director Glenn Weiss (the evening’s control-room hero) had the TV cameras pan the ornate 3,000-seat converted movie house on Broadway and 175th Street. They showed a hall with countdown clocks but not the teleprompters that awards-show presenters usually rely upon.

This proved both strategically and psychologically important. That DeBose disclosed the reality of the situation invested viewers in a freewheeling approach that everyone would be asked to adjust to. And the celebrities knew that what they said would not be perceived as canned, but as words of their own choosing. (We’ve been conditioned to ceremonial inauthenticity, speeches delivered with speakers’ eyes shifting to unseen screens, in words that don’t sound like theirs.)

Some Tony winners, hands



THEO WARGO/GETTY IMAGES FOR TONY AWARDS PRODUCTIONS

Julianne Hough, left, and Ariana DeBose, the night’s emcee, perform during the 76th Tony Awards at New York’s United Palace on Sunday.

shaking, still did the read-the-list-of-thank-yous thing, and some presenters slipped in tributes to the WGA, while others contributed the requisite political digs. Denée Benton, who distinguished herself several years ago in “Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812,” earned the evening’s oh-she-went-there accolade: In presenting the Tony for excellence in theater education to Florida teacher Jason Zembuch Young, Benton took a devastating swipe at Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R). She called him “the current grand wizard — I’m sorry, excuse me, governor — of my home state of Florida.”

We theater scribes live for such peppery spontaneity; it’s what the danger and excitement of live TV are about. It doesn’t, of course,

mean that writers should be subtracted from the production after the strike is over. (And anyway, we’ll have to see what the ratings tell us, though it is hard to envision the Tonys ever being robust again in that department.) It does mean that perhaps the contrived cleverness that too often translates as time-wasting “entertainment” — the packing peanuts, if you will, of awards shows — could be permanently shelved.

The lesson of the 2023 Tonys is: Let theater be theater. Give the proceedings pace, and ensure the numbers from the nominated musicals (which the shows’ producers pay to televise) are slick. The advantage the Tonys, like the Grammys, have over the Oscars and Emmys is a deep inventory of

ready-made musical entertainment. Let’s not even speak of the wildly uneven and typically over-produced best-song sequences at the Academy Awards.

So please pack in more exhilarating musical moments, of the kind that were provided Sunday night: Lea Michele singing “Don’t Rain on My Parade” from “Funny Girl”; DeBose and Julianne Hough (who was goofy-charming as co-host of the pre-show with Skylar Astin) dancing Bob Fosse’s “Hot Honey Rag” from “Chicago.” And leave the wordier segments out.

It helps, too, of course, if the awards themselves honor the breadth of Broadway creativity. And the wins Sunday by J. Harrison Ghee and Alex Newell, who are both nonbinary, as best lead-

ing and featured actor in a musical (for “Some Like It Hot” and “Shucked,” respectively) gave the evening thrilling reminders of theater’s welcoming arms. The victories, too, by shows with Jewish themes — “Leopoldstadt” as best play and “Parade” as best musical revival — helped to reinforce Broadway’s image as a bulwark against the rising antisemitism besetting the nation.

Die-hard Tony watchers love to express their joy at their favorite shows’ triumphs and gripe about the ceremonies that seem to crawl like traffic on an interstate on Memorial Day weekend. They’re unaccustomed to the shocking words that escaped so many viewers’ lips as Sunday night wound down: Where did the time go?

A new kind of splash for Monáe

MUSIC REVIEW FROM C1

protective shelter. “This is a cold war,” Monáe sang on her 2010 album, “The ArchAndroid,” keeping her futuristic storyline going, the clarity of her voice belying the uncertainties of her 21st-century reality. “Do you know what you’re fighting for?”

As her work began to circulate, her multitudes began to emerge. Monáe publicly declared herself pansexual in 2018, then nonbinary in 2022, and by then, she’d already gone from a big pop star to an even bigger film star. All of Hollywood snapped to attention in 2016 when she graced Barry Jenkins’s “Moonlight,” playing a woman tasked with listening to an abused child who initially refuses to speak. (When it comes to portraying good listeners, great musicians barely need to act.) Last year, she starred in Rian Johnson’s waggish “Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery,” cast as a steely, centrifugal character clutching layers of secrets — a persona-juggling act that Monáe had been practicing in her music for years.

Clearly, she has learned plenty about committing to characters across her first three albums, AI-related concept records that channeled Stevie Wonder, Betty Davis and Philip K. Dick in equal measure, culminating in 2018 with “Dirty Computer,” which Monáe eventually spun off into a short film and a book. In the introduction to the latter, “The Memory Librarian: And Other Stories of Dirty Computer,” she writes about a techno-dystopia in which an authoritarian regime, the New Dawn, has the power to erase the memories of androids and humans alike: “Even before the Dawn, we lived in a nation that asked us to forget in order to find wholeness, but memory of who we’ve been — of who we’ve been punished for being — was always the only map into tomorrow.”

So yeah, after trying to reconcile past and future in melody, celluloid, keystrokes and more, it makes sense that Monáe would want to stake out some fresh turf in the present. Her music seems tailor-made for this American moment, right? AI is on the rise. Anti-transgender policies are being shaped across the country, with Monáe herself condemning politicians responsible, including Texas Gov. Greg Abbott (R) and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R). But on “The Age of Pleasure,” Monáe’s



VIVIAN KILLALEA/GETTY IMAGES FOR IMDB

Janelle Monáe, seen in October, lets listeners know at the start of her new album, “The Age of Pleasure,” that she’s not the same.

politics are latent. “I also shouldn’t have to teach anybody why it’s important to protect queer Black life, trans Black life, nonbinary Black life,” she recently told Rolling Stone. “I shouldn’t have to make an album about it.”

Instead, she has made an album about a different kind of now: a summer of desire and fulfillment played out by the poolside. In that same Rolling Stone chat, Monáe explained how she made these new songs for the parties she likes to throw at Wondaland West, the recording studio/compound in Los Angeles where she works and lives — which means she just minted a massive pop album with a small audience in mind. Cool switcheroo, that. At the start of her career, Monáe’s cosmic ambitions felt wider than her abilities. Here, the abilities exceed the ambition. And there’s something unmistakably exciting about funneling that hyper-abundance of talent into the intimacy of a pool party. She’s not giving us everything she’s got, but we’re still getting about all we can handle.

On the silver screen, it’s a trick Monáe does with her eyes, which managed to communicate more

than all of her lines in “Moonlight” put together. Inside these new songs, though, she does it with her voice, enacting restraint by playfully softening her timbre, signaling serenity and making her phrasing feel liquid. “I want to feel your lips on mine,” she sings on “Lipstick Lover,” smearing the melody over a loping reggae pulse as if it were melting in the July sunshine.

Like she said, she’s not the same. Or if she is, only a little bit. Like during “Know Better,” a song that locates the sweetest sweet spot between the artificial pulse of Rihanna’s “Work,” the stern Afrobeat horns of Seun Kuti and Egypt 80, and, for good measure, that saxophone riff made famous in A.D. 1992 by Wreckx-N-Effect’s “Rumpshaker.” Monáe describes the sensation of wanting as “the flicker of electricity” while her longtime co-producer Nate Wonder punctuates the track with a riveting drum fill that seems to outpace the speed of human hands. Of all the cuts on “The Age of Pleasure,” it’s the only song where Monáe’s exactitude comes close to eclipsing her humanity. Otherwise, no robots in the pool.

Potential hurdles in filling role

CNN FROM C1

The network’s next leader will have to captain a crew of wary and frustrated employees at a time of severe financial pressure for the company and the broader television industry. Warner Bros. Discovery was saddled with debt as part of the merger that formed it last year, a figure that sits at \$49.5 billion. The company is feeling the brunt of industry-wide declines in advertising and revenue from cable TV subscriptions, which has weighed down CNN’s bottom line, though the network is still heavily profitable.

Considering all the structural and managerial challenges at play, the list of potential candidates who check all the boxes “is very, very small,” said an industry executive who spoke on the condition of anonymity to speak candidly.

“It’s not a pretty management picture,” said Frank Sesno, a former CNN Washington bureau chief.

Meanwhile, the circumstances of Licht’s departure — after a ratings decline and programming blunders that left staff demoralized — could scare off some contenders. While Licht maintained throughout his tenure that he made his own decisions and was not simply doing Zaslav’s bidding, his firing made clear that he served at the pleasure of the man who picked him.

“Whoever is picked, the major question will be: How much power will they have to push back on Zaslav?” asked a CNN veteran who spoke on the condition of anonymity to speak candidly. The industry executive, who has close knowledge of CNN, said that “anybody who is good is going to demand that they have the authority to run the business.”

In the interim, CNN will be run by three longtime programming executives — Amy Entelis, Virginia Moseley and Eric Sherling — and a business-side exec, David C. Leavy, a Discovery veteran who was named chief operating officer of CNN less than two weeks ago and was immediately tasked to serve as a sounding board for the network’s frustrated journalists.

No matter how qualified the candidate, the next leader of CNN will struggle against the larger pressures building against the entire cable-television industry. CNN’s overall ratings have slumped badly, losing just over one-third of its viewers on average during 2022, a phenomenon that some observers say reflects consumers’ declining appetite for news after the boom years of the frenetic Trump era.

And yet many of Warner Bros. Discovery’s other cable networks — including HGTV and Animal Planet — have also experienced slumping ratings. Viewers have been canceling their cable and satellite subscriptions for years, and the trend is accelerating. While network executives are scrambling to compensate for their declining television business by building up their streaming offerings, Warner Bros. Discovery shuttered CNN’s \$100 million streaming service after barely a month last year.

Analysts note, though, that Warner Bros. Discovery’s media properties — including CNN — still generate plenty of cash that can pay down the parent company’s debts. Meanwhile, the company’s big bet on streaming, Max, is showing declining losses from its predecessors, Discovery Plus and HBO Max, which gives Zaslav some financial flexibility.

“What CNN needs now is a calming presence, a statesperson, somebody that the talent trusts.”

Jay Sures, vice chairman of the United Talent Agency

“CNN is going to have to get as much profitability out of their current cable- and digital-focused business as they can while simultaneously developing an efficient streaming strategy,” said Klein, who runs the streaming sports platform HANG. “The next leader of CNN needs to have a foot in both worlds, journalism and technology.”

And former CBS News president Andrew Heyward warned against the idea that CNN is a damaged property in dire need of an overhaul. A senior adviser at the Cronkite School of Journalism at Arizona State University, he has argued that TV news networks should divvy up oversight among multiple bosses.

“The idea that we need a charismatic figure, a colossus striding across the landscape, I’m not sure that’s particularly helpful to the news organization as opposed to actually addressing these challenges,” he said.

Of the interim leaders, Entelis, 72, has the longest track record, close relationships with the network’s most prominent journalists and a reputation as a taste-making savant. Under her leadership as executive vice president

for talent and content development, CNN became known as not just a cable news network but also as a purveyor of high-quality non-fiction programming. In March, her unit won CNN its first Academy Award for the 2022 documentary “Navalny.”

But in October, Entelis’s influence was curbed when Licht announced that CNN would stop acquiring films such as “Navalny” and cut back on high-priced but popular shows, such as the travel program “Stanley Tucci: Searching for Italy,” which was canceled. And CNN insiders also say she lacks some of the daily journalism and news programming chops that might be necessary to run the network on a permanent basis — if, in fact, she would even want the job. “She’s a television person. She’s not a news person,” the CNN veteran said.

Still, the network is in need of stability, and that might come from a familiar face, whether Entelis, Moseley or Sherling. A veteran of ABC News, Moseley is CNN’s executive vice president of editorial, overseeing all domestic newsgathering — “a great editorial person, a great show person,” in the words of a friend who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss top executives. Sherling, meanwhile, oversees all live programming, special projects and live events programming.

In a memo to employees on Thursday, the interim leaders laid out their mission: “to remove the barriers and distractions that have made your jobs harder, refocus on the unparalleled work you are producing every day, and offer open and regular lines of communication to ensure that you feel invested and engaged in our path forward.”

More than anything, the executives will be charged with calming the troops and getting the buy-in of the network’s most prominent anchors, who had privately voiced their frustrations with Licht’s leadership in the days before his ouster. One of those anchors, Jake Tapper, told The Washington Post that he wants to return focus to the network’s journalistic mission.

Jay Sures, the vice chairman of the United Talent Agency, represents many of CNN’s top anchors, including Tapper — the ones that the next leader of the network will need to keep happy.

“What CNN needs now is a calming presence, a statesperson, somebody that the talent trusts who will put journalism first, ahead of everything,” Sures said.

Paul Farhi contributed to this report.

TELEVISION

TV HIGHLIGHTS



ELIZABETH SISSON/NETFLIX

Amy Schumer: Emergency Contact (Netflix) In this stand-up special, Amy Schumer, seen in her earlier show “Growing,” discusses her postpartum experience, lasering her face, chewable Viagra and more.

Deadliest Catch (Discovery at 8) Johnathan allies with Keith to triangulate the crab when a storm threatens his record-breaking run; Jack deals with dangerous tidal currents; chaos strikes the Wizard as it’s hit with 30-foot waves.

Life Below Zero: First Alaskans (National Geographic at 8) Alaska Natives work to rebuild after a storm surge floods coastal villages.

The Real Housewives of New Jersey (Bravo at 8) The men of New Jersey face off; John and Frank theorize about what Louie is doing with a private investigator; Paul and Dolores consider their future; the tempers of Teresa and Joe hit a boiling point.

Dancing Queens (Bravo at 9) The dancers at the Atlanta Open are surprised by Leonie’s appearance; Sabrina and Stas take their tension to the dance floor; Donie is frustrated by her placement; Colette gets peace in the ballroom and at home.

Contraband: Seized at the Border (Discovery at 9:02) Officers talk to a man who is

traveling with two children that aren’t his; a traveler is caught smuggling cash; drugs are found hidden in a truck; a man under the influence is restrained in Progreso, Tex.

Frontline (PBS at 10) This episode focuses on truck accidents, investigating decades of legal maneuvering, political influence, lax regulation and industry opposition to measures that could help save lives.

House Hunters (HGTV at 10:01) An aspiring country musician wants to pursue his dreams and move to Nashville; his mother joins him on the search and offers advice — and a down payment.

Storage Wars (A&E at 10:01) Rene is met with middling profits in Stanton; Dusty finds a pile of quality equipment; Brandi ends up with the green, just not in the way she anticipated.

RETURNING
Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta (MTV at 8) Season 11.

— Olivia McCormack

BROADCAST CHANNELS												
6/13/23	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30		
4.1 WRC (NBC)	• NBC News	• Hollywood	• America's Got Talent				• Hot Wheels-Challenge		• News	(:35) • J. Fallon		
4.2 WRC (IND)	Bones		Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Roseanne	Roseanne	The Nanny	The Nanny		
5.1 WTTG (Fox)	• Fox 5	• TMZ	• Beat Shazam		• Don't Forget the Lyrics!		• Fox 5 News at 10		• Fox 5 News		• The Final 5	
7.1 WJLA (ABC)	• Wheel	• Jeopardy!	• Celebrity Wheel		• Celebrity Jeopardy!		• Shark Tank		• News	• J.Kimmel		
9.1 WUSA (CBS)	• News	• ET	• FBI		• FBI: International		• FBI: Most Wanted		• 9 News		(:35) • Colbert	
14.1 WFDC (UNI)	• La rosa de Guadalupe		• Perdona nuestros		• El amor invencible		• Mujer		• Noticias		• Noticiero	
20.1 WDCA (MNTV)	• FamFeud	• Family Feud	• Fox 5 News On the Plus		• FamFeud	• FamFeud	• Big Bang	• Big Bang	• Chicago Fire			
22.1 WMPT (PBS)	• Farm	• Outdoors	• The Jewish Journey: America			• Mavis Staples		• Memory Makeover				
26.1 WETA (PBS)	• PBS NewsHour		• Mavis Staples			• Steves		• Frontline		• Young Forever		
32.1 WHUT (PBS)	• Veterans in	• To Dine For	• America ReFramed			• Nature		• Veterans	• BBC News	• Money		
50.1 WDCW (CW)	• Neighbor	• Neighbor	• Superman & Lois			• Gotham Knights		• DC News Now		• Seinfeld	• Seinfeld	
66.1 WPXW (ION)	• Chicago Fire		• Chicago Fire			• Chicago Fire		• Chicago Fire		• Chicago Fire		
CABLE CHANNELS												
A&E	Customer	Customer	Customer	Customer	Customer	Customer	Storage	Storage	(:05) Storage	(:35) Storage		
AMC	(5:30) Movie: Back to the ...		Movie: Ghostbusters ★★★ (1984)						Movie: Ghostbusters II ★★ (1989)			
Animal Planet	Louisiana Law		Louisiana Law		Louisiana Law		Yellowstone Wardens		Yellowstone Wardens			
BET	Celebrity Family Feud		Celebrity Family Feud		Celebrity Family Feud		Celebrity Family Feud		Celebrity Family Feud			
Bravo	Housewives of NJ		Housewives of NJ		Dancing Queens		Watch What		Housewives of NJ		Vanderpump	
Cartoon Network	King/Hill	King/Hill	King/Hill	King/Hill	Burgers	Burgers	American	American	American	Rick		
CNN	E. B. OutFront (Live)		Cooper 360 (Live)		CNN Primetime (Live)		CNN Tonight (Live)		CNN Tonight (Live)			
Comedy Central	(:10) Office	(:45) Office	(:20) The Office		(:55) Office		The Office		The Office		South Park	
Discovery	Deadliest Catch		Deadliest Catch		Contraband: Seized		(:05) When Elevators		(:05) Sinkholes			
Disney	Kiff	Kiff	Movie: Alvin & the Chipmunks: Chipwre...			(:35) Hailey	Marvel's Mo	Marvel's Mo	Saturdays	Saturdays		
E!	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	E! News	Sex-City		
ESPN	SportsCenter		30 for 30		30 for 30		The Ultimate Fighter		SportsCenter (Live)			
ESPN2	The Point		The Ultimate Fighter		Athletes Unlimited Softball		Teams TBA (Live)		The Ultimate Fighter			
Food Network	Chopped		Chopped		Supermarket Stakeout		Supermarket Stakeout		Supermarket Stakeout			
Fox News	Jesse Watters (Live)		Fox News Tonight (Live)		Hannity (Live)		The Ingraham Angle (Live)		Gutfeld!			
Freeform	(5:40) Movie: Twilight Sa...		(:20) Movie: The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 ★★			(2012)				The 700 Club		
FX	(4:30) Movie: Ford v Ferrari		Movie: Thor: The Dark World ★★ (2013)						Movie: X-Men: The Last Stand ★★ (2006)			
Hallmark	(6:00) Movie: Feeling But...		Movie: Winter Castle (2019)						Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls
Hallmark M&M	Aurora Teagarden Mysteries				Aurora Teagarden Mysteries				Murder, She Wrote			
HBO	(6:10) Movie: Quantum of ...		The Idol		The Idol		Movie: The Big Wedding ★ (2013)		Sarah			
HGTV	100 Day Dream Home		Windy City Rehab		Windy City Rehab		Hunters		Hunters Int'l		Hunters	Hunters Int'l
History	Skinwalker Ranch		Secret of Skinwalker		The Secret of Skinwalker Ranch				(:05) Beyond Skinwalker			
Lifetime	Castle		Castle		Castle		(:05) Castle		(:05) Castle			
MASN	2023	Nats Xtra	MLB Baseball Washington Nationals at Houston Astros (Live)				O's Xtra		Bensinger		Ballgame	
MSNBC	The ReidOut (Live)		All In With (Live)		Alex Wagner Tonight (Live)		The Last Word With (Live)		11th Hour (Live)			
MTV	Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta		Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta		Couples Retreat		Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta		Ridiculous		Ridiculous	
Nat'l Geographic	Life Below Ze		Life Below Ze		Life Below Zero		Life Below Ze		Life Below Ze			
NBC SportsNet WA	Basketball Washington Mystics at Indiana Fever (Live)		Mystics		Fairways of Life		Fairways of Life		golf			
Nickelodeon	Movie: Shrek Forever After ★★ (2010)		Friends		Friends		Friends		Friends		Friends	
NWSN	On Balance		Cuomo		Dan Abrams Live (Live)		Banfield		Cuomo			
PARMT	Two Men		Movie: 21 Jump Street ★★★ (2012)				(:35) Movie: Anchorman: Legend of Ron ...					
Syfy	(6:15) Movie: XXX ★★ (2002)				Movie: XXX: State of the Union ★★ (2005)				Movie: Olympus Has Fallen			
TBS	MLB Baseball New York Yankees at New York Mets (Live)				MLB Close		Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon		
TCM	(6:45) Movie: Woman in G...		Movie: Sunset Boulevard ★★★★★ (1950)				Movie: In a Lonely Place ★★ (1950)					
TLC	7 Little Johnstons		7 Little Johnstons		Doubling Down		You, Me & My Ex					
TNT	NHL on TNT Face Off (Live)		2023 Stanley Cup Final Florida Panthers at Vegas Golden Knights (Live)				NHL on TNT		Body Cam			
Travel	Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures			
TruTV	NHL on TNT Face Off (Live)		2023 Stanley Cup Final Florida Panthers at Vegas Golden Knights (Live)				Jokes		Jokes			
TV Land	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	(:05) King	(:40) King		
TV One	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single		
USA Network	Law & Order: SVU		WWE NXT (Live)				(:10) Movie: Midnight in the Switchgrass (2021)					
VH1	(6:00) Movie: What Men Want ★★ (2019)				Celebrity Family Feud		Celebrity Family Feud		Movie: Titanic ★★★★★			
WNCN	Pocket Hose Emeril		Fed Gov		Fed Gov Today with		World News		WJLA News	FeelSexy	The National Desk (Live)	
LEGEND: Bold indicates new or live programs ♦ High Definition Movie Ratings (from TMS) ★★★★★ Excellent ★★★ Good ★★ Fair ★ Poor No stars: not rated												

About that bathroom chandelier at Trump’s Mar-a-Lago ...

CHANDELIER FROM CI

According to interior designer Lacy Keller, who owns a design firm in Portland, Ore., chandeliers in bathrooms aren’t *that* unusual. She’s had several installed for high-end clients. When choosing a style, Keller takes into account several factors, including whether the fixture can resist heat and moisture.

Would she ever install something like this?

“I wouldn’t put that chandelier in any bathroom,” Keller says. It’s far too big and elaborate, and it hangs too low — anyone trying to use the shower would immediately hit their head.

“It’s overwhelming,” she says. “It’s an example of what not to do.”

Keller suspects that the bathroom is used rarely, if at all. She puts the style as late or even early ’90s, and “overly traditional.” The toilet, she notes, is far from the wall, and might not be plumbed. Additional file boxes stowed in the shower, behind a flimsy beige curtain hanging from a tension rod, further suggest the bathroom was out of order. This suggests a reality that is almost impossible to fathom in its banality: that the former president, like so many of us, has an outdated bathroom in disrepair.

Ruth Mraz-Jankelowitz, an interior designer based in Vancouver and owner of Janks Design

Group, has also put the occasional chandelier in a bathroom, but nothing so ornate as what’s in Mar-a-Lago.

“It’s very odd,” she says.

Chandeliers are used to create focal points, Mraz-Jankelowitz explains. They bring a warm, soft aura of light, so she tends to use them in foyers or dining rooms. But something like the one at Mar-a-Lago is over the top, she says.

“It’s the focal piece. It draws your attention away from everything else.”

This feels useful when “everything else” could be 36 boxes of incriminating evidence.

Which prompts another urgent question: Is a chandelier in the loo even hygienic? Mraz-Jankelowicz explains that probably isn’t a concern for Trump — he has people who clean for him. But what about regular folks who want crystals suspended from the ceiling in intricate formation above their toilet, in hopes that it might draw a visitor’s eye away from a dated countertop or boxes of classified documents?

I asked Aaron Wendelboe, professor of epidemiology at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, about the implications of having unexpected items in a bathroom, whether they be a large crystal chandelier or stacks of papers containing proof of alien life, and he didn’t immediately hang up on me,



JUSTICE DEPARTMENT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A photo released as part of the indictment of former president Donald Trump showed boxes filled with classified documents that were stored in a bathroom with a big chandelier.

which was nice.

Wendelboe said that when you flush a toilet, fecal material can get aerosolized and “will pretty much go everywhere,” even in

distant corners and door jambs.

Did this mean the boxes in Trump’s bathroom were potentially covered in poo particles?

“Yes, theoretically,” he said. “If

someone’s using the bathroom, your items are going to get contaminated. If no one’s using the bathroom, they’re probably not contaminated.”

Foreign press group sells Golden Globes

BY HERB SCRIBNER
AND ZOE GLASSER

The Golden Globe Awards will shift into a new era as Dick Clark Productions and investor Todd Boehly’s Eldridge company purchased the rights, assets and properties of the awards show from the Hollywood Foreign Press, the association announced Monday.

As a result, the HFPA will close its doors, according to a statement. All proceeds from the transaction will go toward the new Golden Globe Foundation, which

will focus on “entertainment-related charitable giving,” according to a news release.

“We are excited to close on this much anticipated member-approved transaction and transition from a member-led organization to a commercial enterprise,” said Helen Hoehne, president of the HFPA, in a statement.

The awards show will now be controlled by Dick Clark Productions. Boehly, chairman of investment company Eldridge, said in a statement that the transaction will lead to “the evolution of

the Golden Globes.”

The awards show faced controversy over the past two years after the Los Angeles Times reported that the HFPA, whose 310 members vote on the nominees, had no Black members. A lawsuit from Norwegian journalist Kjersti Flaa also alleged that the association participated in a number of unethical practices, including “accepting thousands of dollars in emoluments.” The controversy led NBC to announce that it would not be airing the 2022 ceremony.

In response, the HFPA then



MATT SAYLES/AP

Dick Clark Productions will now handle the awards show.

hired a “chief diversity officer” and added rules for its members that barred them from accepting studio gifts. Hoehne became the new president and added 21 different members, 29 percent of whom were Black.

Boehly said the new leadership will take “a robust approach to governance” and expand the “diverse and international voting body” for the awards. The new leadership team will look to implement “a professional, safe, and accountable environment, and trusting new ownership with a new direction for the Globes.”

Next year’s 81st annual Golden Globe Awards will take place on Sunday, Jan. 7.

Read “Medical Mysteries,” Tuesdays in **Health & Science**.

wapo.st/medicalmysteries

The Washington Post

Gilbert pulls novel after outcry over Russian setting

BY SOPHIA NGUYEN

Elizabeth Gilbert, the best-selling author of “Eat, Pray, Love” and other books, said Monday that she would pull her upcoming novel, “The Snow Forest,” from publication following outcries online about its Russian setting. She announced her decision in a video posted to her Twitter, Instagram and Facebook accounts.

Gilbert cited “an enormous, massive outpouring of reactions and responses from my Ukrainian readers, expressing anger, sorrow, disappointment and pain about the fact that I would choose to release a book into the world right now, any book, no matter what the subject of it is, that is set in Russia.” As a result, she said, “I am making a course correction and I am removing the book from its publication schedule.”

“The Snow Forest,” which was scheduled to be published on Feb. 13, 2024, was inspired by the true story of a religious Russian family who, in the 1930s, left Russia for a life of extreme solitude in Siberia, only to be discovered decades lat-

er by Soviet geologists, according to Gilbert’s publisher, Riverhead Books. Gilbert has described the characters as deciding to “remove themselves from society to resist the Soviet government and to try to defend nature against industrialization.” In a video message to her fans last week, Gilbert said, “This is a book that is going to take you into the deepest realms of the Siberian taiga, and into the heart and mind of an extraordinary girl born into that world, a girl of great spiritual and creative talent, raised far, far, far from everything that we call normal.”

“The Snow Forest” currently has an average one-star rating on Goodreads, with hundreds posting comments since June 10 criticizing Gilbert for romanticizing Russian culture. “It looks like Elizabeth Gilbert herself ‘lived isolated and undetected’ last few years. Because how else can you explain publishing an ‘inspiring story’ about russians, while they are committing genocide against Ukrainians at this moment?” one reviewer wrote. Others pointed out that the announced publica-

tion date fell close to the second anniversary of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

Gilbert’s announcement received a mixed reception on social media: Dozens thanked and praised Gilbert for what they called a “brave” decision, and for her integrity and empathy; others expressed skepticism.

“Putin’s Russia is a far right imperialist and terrorist state that deserves all the opprobrium directed at it. But this seems very weird to me. I mean the author’s decision but ... no book should be set in historical Russia now?” novelist and critic Lincoln Michel said on Twitter. “A novel about people resisting the USSR no less? Huh?”

“Fully respect any author’s right to voluntarily withdraw their own title from publication, but this feels like an absurd over correction, and I’m baffled that it was called for in the first place,” author and journalist Otegha Uwagba wrote.

“It presents sort of a logical conundrum,” Keith Gessen, a Russian-born journalist and novelist

wrote over email. “If the book is good, and teaches us things about Russia and the Russian past that we didn’t know — and why else would you write a book set in Russia, if you weren’t trying to do that? — then it’s a bad decision to pull it. But if the book is not good, and uses Russia, as some American authors have done over the years, as a kind of romantic place of History and Tragedy, then it’s an honorable decision. But without having read the book it’s impossible to know which one of these it is.

“In general, though, I don’t have a problem with writers thinking about how their book will be read, or what it is saying politically. Just because it’s fiction doesn’t mean it doesn’t have ideas, or values, or won’t affect people. I think as a writer you have to believe that it does and it will.”

Other writers have received similar pressure after announcing books about Russia. Following Gilbert’s announcement, some Twitter users renewed their pressure on Nora Krug, who in August



2019 PHOTO BY MARLA AUFMUTH/GETTY IMAGES

Best-selling author Elizabeth Gilbert’s novel “The Snow Forest” had been scheduled for release next February.

will publish a graphic memoir, “Diaries of War,” adapting her correspondence with a Ukrainian journalist and a Russian artist, which grew out of a series of op-eds originally published in the Los Angeles Times. The posts accused her of “whitewashing Russians” and of “spreading propaganda,” and demanded that she not proceed with the book. Krug did not immediately respond to a

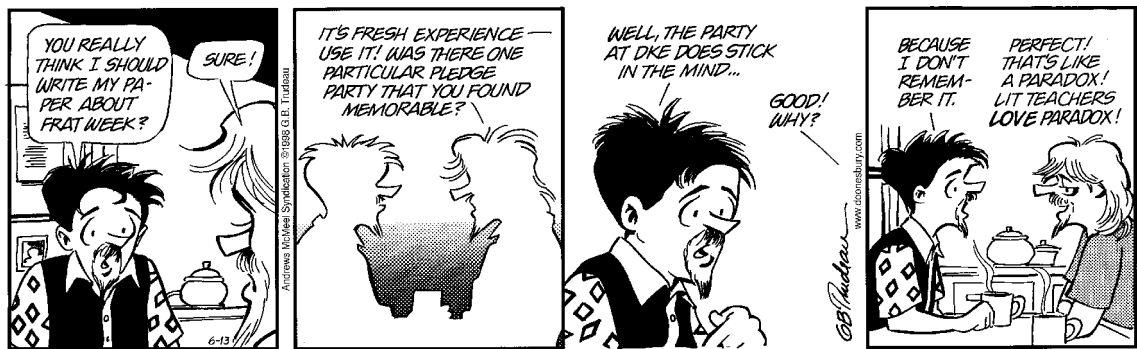
request for comment. Gilbert said on social media that she will now turn her attention to other book projects and that anyone charged for a pre-order would be refunded.

Reached for comment, she declined to elaborate further. A representative from Riverhead also declined to comment, except to say that the novel had been “delayed indefinitely.”

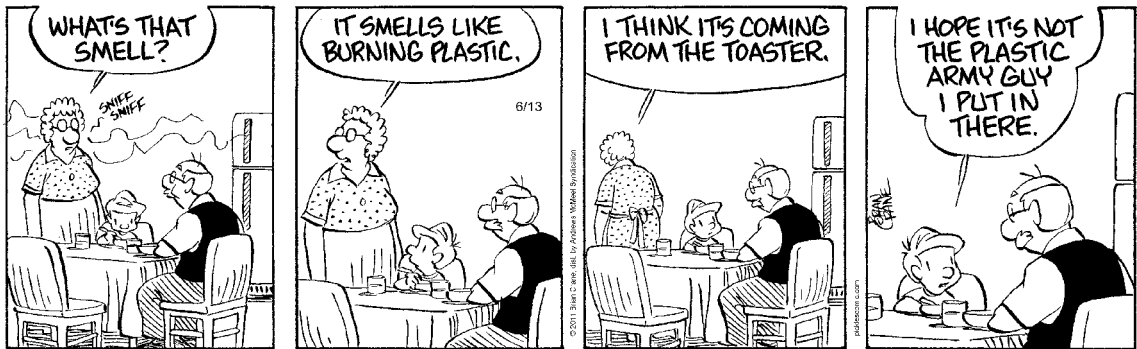
MOVIE DIRECTORY

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CLASSIC DOONESBURY



PICKLES



BRIDGE

N-S VULNERABLE

NORTH

♠ A K J 10
♥ 9 7 5 3
♦ K
♣ 7 5 3 2

WEST

♠ 8 7
♥ 2
♦ A J 8 6 4 3
♣ A Q 10 8

EAST

♠ Q 9 3 2
♥ Q
♦ Q 10 9 7 5 2
♣ J 9

SOUTH (D)

♠ 6 5 4
♥ A K J 10 8 6 4
♦ None
♣ K 6 4

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead — ♦ A

A loser-on-loser play is a “buy-one-get-one-free” deal — and everyone likes those. You lose an unnecessary trick but are trading one loser for another. In the process you develop an extra winner.

Such plays gain in many situations. Today’s West leads the ace of diamonds against four hearts. Say South ruffs, draws trumps and leads a spade to dummy’s 10. East takes the queen and leads the jack of clubs, and the defense gets three clubs. Down one.

South has the material for 10 tricks — seven winners in trumps and three in spades — but he must not let East get in for a club shift. At the first trick, declarer discards a spade, trading a diamond loser for a possible spade loser.

If West shifts to a trump, South wins, takes the A-K of spades and leads the jack. If East covers, South ruffs, leads a trump to dummy and discards a club on the high 10 of spades. If instead East follows low, South pitches a club. He loses at most three tricks however the cards lie.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold:
♠ 8 7 ♥ 2
♦ A J 8 6 4 3 ♠ A Q 10 8

Your partner deals and opens 1NT. The next player passes. What do you say?

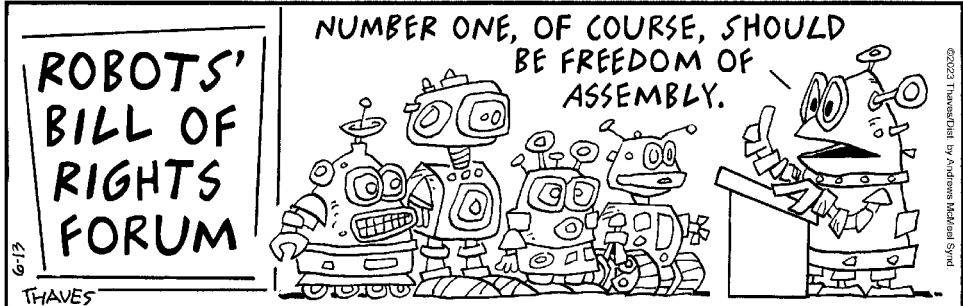
ANSWER: In an unfamiliar partnership, with no special bidding agreements, you would have to bid five diamonds or 3NT. Regular tournament partnerships would have a way to look for the best contract. For instance, responder might start with a bid of two spades as a “transfer” to 2NT, then bid three diamonds to suggest a strong, unbalanced hand.

— Frank Stewart
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RED AND ROVER



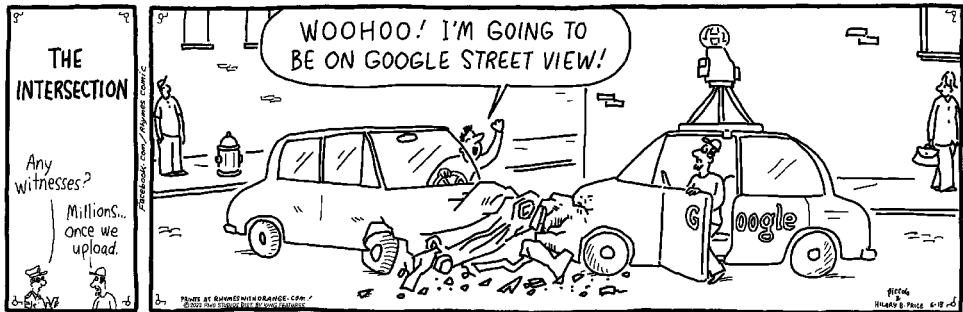
FRANK AND ERNEST



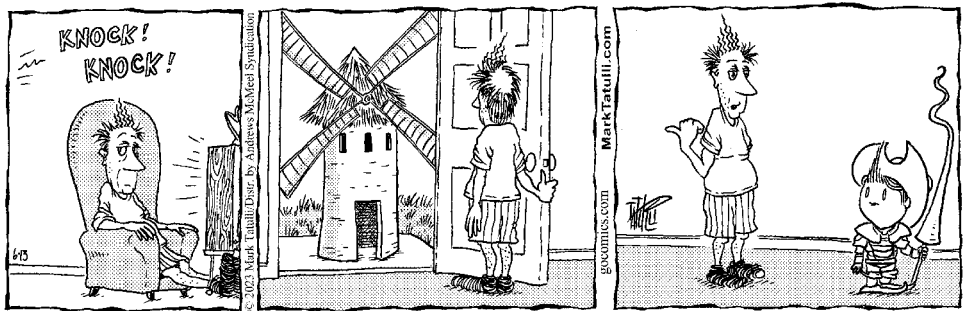
CLASSIC PEANUTS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



LIO



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

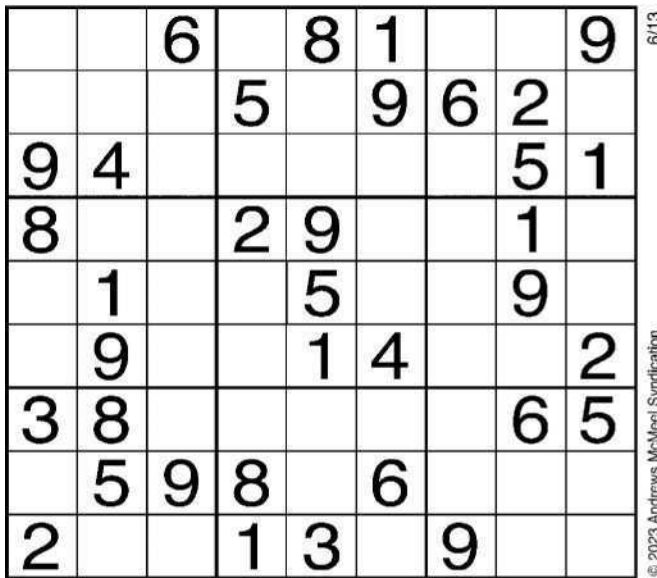


BLONDIE



SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆



SCRABBLE G R A M S

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PAR SCORE 145-155
BEST SCORE 206

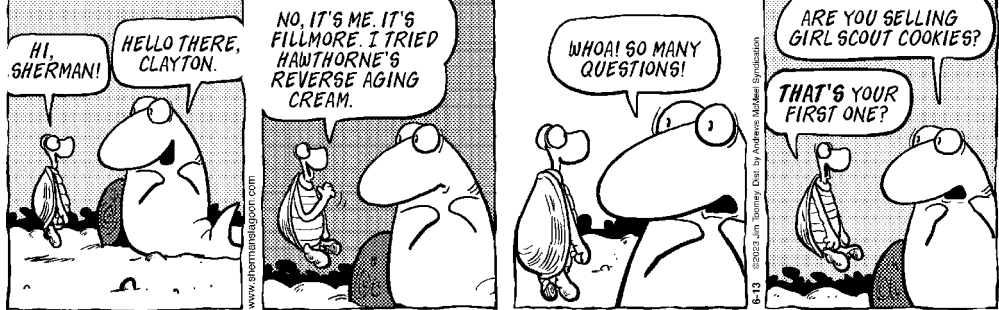
FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. “Blanks” used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players’ Dictionary 5th Edition. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@naspaplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgams@gmail.com

06-13

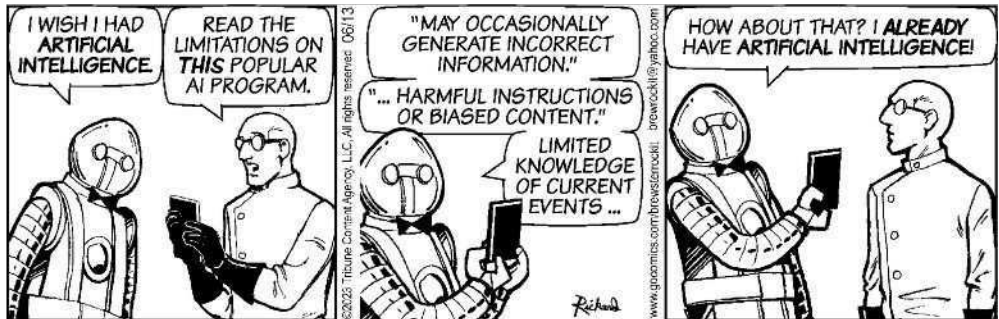
SHERMAN'S LAGOON



CURTIS



BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!



MUTTS

IT'S BEEN SAID THAT A BUTTERFLY FLAPPING ITS WINGS IN BRAZIL CAN PRODUCE A TORNADO IN TEXAS!

HEY! IT'S NOT ALL BAD. HERE, WATCH THIS!

A LABRADOODLE IN TUSCALOOSA JUST ENJOYED A NICE BREEZE.

PATRICK McDONNELL

ZITS

THEY DON'T CALL IT THE PENCIL DRAWER FOR NOTHING.

GOT ONE!

JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN

HOROSCOPE

BIRTHDAY | JUNE 13
You are independent, playful and like to live by your own rules. You have a strong love of adventure! This year you are reaping the rewards of your best efforts. Seize opportunities in business dealings and act on them. Expect promotions, kudos, awards and the spotlight!

HEART OF THE CITY

YOU'VE BEEN ACING ALL OF YOUR CLASSES. DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE BEING CHALLENGED ENOUGH AT SCHOOL?

CHALLENGED? WHAT, LIKE A DANCE BATTLE?

NO, CHARLOTTE.

HEY, I HEARD SEVENTH GRADERS LEARN A LOT OF NEW THINGS. SO WHO KNOWS?

STEENZ

JUDGE PARKER

MIND IF I COME IN?

OH-HH, YOU AND SAM DON'T NEED THE ROOM, DO YOU?

OKAY, GET ALL YOUR JOKES OUT.

ACTUALLY, THAT WAS MY ONLY ONE AND I FEEL PRETTY ICKY ABOUT IT.

FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY

MOON ALERT: Avoid shopping and important decisions from 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. today. After that, the Moon moves from Aries into Taurus.

ARIES
(MARCH 21-APRIL 19). After the Moon Alert today, it's a fortunate time for you financially. Go after what you want. Trust your moneymaking ideas. Also trust your generous impulses, because today you will get what you give, especially in terms of kindness, friendship and nurturing support.

FRAZZ

IF "BAGUETTE" IS FRENCH FOR LIVING IN THE MOMENT...

IT'S NOT, BUT I LIKE THE IMPLICATION.

THEN I IMAGINE THE WORD FOR PATIENCE IS "CROUTON."

DO YOU THINK I'LL END UP MAJORING IN LINGUISTICS OR PHILOSOPHY OR BAKING?

I THINK YOU'LL CHOOSE WHICHEVER ONE GETS YOU THE BEST GRADES FASTEST.

JEF MALLET

CANDORVILLE

I REMEMBER I USED TO HAVE HOBBIES. I USED TO COLLECT COMICS. I USED TO READ. I USED TO BIKE. I USED TO GO TO THE MOVIES...

...I PLAYED TENNIS. I PLAYED CARDS. I SHOT POOL. I WHITTLED LITTLE VULCAN HAND SALUTES OUT OF DRIFTWOOD...

BUT ONCE I HAD A KID. THAT ALL CHANGED. I CAN'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I DID ANY OF THAT.

IT'S LIKE ALL I DO ALL DAY IS MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T DROP DEAD.

TAKE SOME TIME OFF FROM THAT. C-DOG'S INCREDIBLY BAD ADVICE #2

DARRIN BELL

TAURUS
(APRIL 20-MAY 20). Lucky you! After the Moon Alert today, the Moon moves into your sign, and then lines up with lucky, moneybags Jupiter. This will give you good feelings and make you feel generous to others. It will boost your self-confidence and make you rise above petty irritations.

GEMINI
(MAY 21-JUNE 20). This is a feel-good day for you! Especially later in the day, you will awaken to your own personal concerns for the deeper aspects of life. You might seek out metaphysical or spiritual insights from someone.

GARFIELD

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE SO OLD?

I MAY BE OLD...

BUT I'M STILL KICKING!

JIM DAVIS

BARNEY AND CLYDE

I found a valuable wristwatch this morning.

Let me see it. Maybe I can recognize it.

I turned it over to the police.

Did you file a claim for it, if the owner isn't found?

No.

So it might be sold at auction?

Probably.

Know when the auction is?

No.

Find out. One person's loss is another person's gain.

WEINGARTENS & CLARK

CANCER
(JUNE 21-JULY 22). It's a popular day for you! After the Moon Alert today, your ability to schmooze with others will be top notch. In particular, you will deal well with members of the public and large groups. Not only will it be easy to communicate what you want to others, they will endorse your ideas.

DUSTIN

YOU NEVER ASK HOW I'M DOING OR WHAT I DID TODAY.

BECAUSE YOU'RE FINE AND YOU DID NOTHING.

OK, BUT SOMETIMES IT'S STILL NICE TO ASK.

STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

C'MON, MARY! WE GOTTA TRACK DOWN KILLGRAVE!

JUST A SECOND, I NEED TO GRAB-

-THIS!

GET ME UP TO THE ROOF-FAST!

STAN LEE & ALEX SAVIUK

LEO
(JULY 23-AUG. 22). You make a wonderful impression on others today, especially after the Moon Alert, because the Moon is at the top of your chart lined up with Jupiter. This creates an image of success and affluence to others.

VIRGO
(AUG. 23-SEPT. 22). It's a great day to travel! If you can't travel, you will enjoy studying. You have a deep need to explore profound ideas about philosophy, religion, metaphysics and whatever interests you.

PRICKLY CITY

I DON'T THINK WE HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT FROM AL, CARMEN.

OH, WHY'S THAT, WINSLOW?

IT'S EVERYWHERE NOW.

AND THAT'S A GOOD THING?

WHAT'S THE WORST THAT COULD HAPPEN?

WE'RE SEEING IT...

SCOTT STANTIS

LOOSE PARTS

GOURMET PANCAKE RESTAURANTS

... and your syrup ... bottled or tap?

DAVE BLAZECK

LIBRA
(SEPT. 23-OCT. 22). This is an excellent day for financial negotiations about shared property, inheritances, taxes, debt and banking. Whatever happens, you'll come out smelling like a rose! Expect gifts, goodies and favors to come your way.

NON SEQUITUR

DO YOU SWEAR TO OBFUSCATE THE TRUTH BY SPEWING BASELESS CONSPIRACY THEORIES AS IF THEY ARE THE TRUTH, SO HELP YOU TWITTER?

THE COURT OF UNAPPEAL

WILEY

BABY BLUES

I'M STILL BORED.

GO PLAY WITH TRENT.

HIS FAMILY WENT ON A SAFARI IN BOTSWANA.

WOW.

THEN GO PRETEND YOUR FAMILY HAS TRENT'S FAMILY VACATION BUDGET.

STILL BORED.

RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT

SCORPIO
(OCT. 23-NOV. 21). You couldn't pick a better day to enjoy warm relations with partners and close friends. In fact, this is an excellent day to enter into negotiations with a partner. You also might make travel plans with someone.

SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 22-DEC. 21). Today you have opportunities to improve your job or look for a better job. Work-related travel is also likely. Likewise, many of you will learn about ways to improve your health.

BIG NATE

CHESTER! MY MAN!

WHAT?

MRS. GODFREY SAYS YOU NEED HELP STUDYING FOR THE FINAL EXAM!

SO SHE SENT YOU?

CHESTER, LET'S TRY TO MAINTAIN A POSITIVE TEACHER-STUDENT RELATIONSHIP.

WHY DIDN'T SHE SEND ME A SMART KID?

LINCOLN PEIRCE

ON THE FASTTRACK

TECHNICALLY, FI, THERE'S NO REASON TO KEEP MEETING OUTDOORS.

...EXCEPT THAT IT'S AWAY FROM THE REST OF THE STAFF.

NO INTRUDERS ARE GOING TO BARGE IN.

EXCEPTS ANTS!

...WHICH YOU PREFER TO CO-WORKERS?

MASSED INSECTS HAVE A BETTER WORK ETHIC.

BILL HOLBROOK

CAPRICORN
(DEC. 22-JAN. 19). Today it's easy to have good feelings and generosity toward others. You feel that everything is all right and you have nothing to fear.

AQUARIUS
(JAN. 20-FEB. 18). This is a wonderful day to entertain at home! Invite the gang over for pizza and beer. (Or quiche and white wine.) Good feelings will abound, and everyone will have a happy time. Likewise, this is also an excellent day to explore real estate opportunities.

BEETLE BAILEY

THIS IS AN EXCELLENT REPORT

WHO WROTE IT?

OTTO

WITH SOME HELP FROM 'ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE'

GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

A GRAND IDEA TO IMPROVE THE WORLD:

Everybody but me should change.

AS THE IDEA GUY, I DON'T HAVE TO PARTICIPATE.

STEPHAN PASTIS

PISCES
(FEB. 19-MARCH 20). It's a basic truth, yet so often unrecognized, that when we change how we look at things, the things we look at change. That's the power of perception! When we're in a positive frame of mind, then life is positive and hopeful.

— Georgia Nicols

PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

4	5	2	8	3	9	7	6	1
1	3	6	7	4	2	8	5	9
8	7	9	1	5	6	3	2	4
2	4	8	9	6	1	5	7	3
3	9	1	5	7	8	6	4	2
5	6	7	3	2	4	1	9	8
9	1	5	4	8	7	2	3	6
6	8	3	2	9	5	4	1	7
7	2	4	6	1	3	9	8	5

PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

G	A	L	L	O	P	
E	M	I	T	T	E	R
D	I	M	M	S	E	T
A	I	R	I	E	S	T

RACK 1 = 9
RACK 2 = 65
RACK 3 = 74
RACK 4 = 57
TOTAL = 205
PAR SCORE 140-150

SPEED BUMP

YEAH, BUT I HAD GOLIATH ON MY FANTASY LEAGUE TEAM.

DAVE COVERLY

DENNIS THE MENACE

"SORRY, SIR, BUT WE DON'T DO RESTORATIONS. WE'RE THE 'GEEKSQUAD,' NOT THE 'ANTIQUE SQUAD!'"

H. KETCHAM

FAMILY CIRCUS

"I'm pickin' Mommy a bouquet of fuzzballs."

BIL KEANE

REPLY ALL LITE

Be confident. Be assertive. Be aggressive if you have to. But don't ruin your nails.

DONNA A. LEWIS

CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK



TERESA CASTRACANE



NOAH WILLMAN

Nehassau deGannes, at left, in “Incendiary” at Woolly Mammoth Theatre, and Amiah Marshall in Theater Alliance’s “The Bluest Eye.”

Woolly Mammoth’s ‘Incendiary’: A satirical misfire

BY PETER MARKS

A loud chorus of moans erupted in the audience at “Incendiary,” Dave Harris’s well-named, world-premiere play at Woolly Mammoth Theatre. The unusually vocal response was prompted by a character’s disturbing remark in this wack-adoo satire about a woman so psychologically damaged by abuse that she hatches a violent plot to spring her homicidal son from prison.

No twist in the play — a kind of sketch comedy/video game sendup gone overboard — is meant to be taken as anything but outrageous provocation. And yet this particular line, uttered by Terrance Fleming’s incarcerated Eric, comments on the mass murder of children in such a callous way that it leaves a bitter taste in one’s mouth.

Even at a theater with a reputation for pushing boundaries, Eric’s outburst compels you to wonder about intention — and where, maybe, you personally draw a line. (I’m not going to repeat the words here.) Woolly, and I, like plays that unsettle spectators, force us out of our comfort zones and into a rethinking of the sometimes viscerally upsetting power of language. But I suppose what “Incendiary” shows me, distilled through that one cutting statement, is where my own line might be.

“Incendiary’s” author and cast, well-drilled by director Monty Cole, have lots to show us: about America’s gun culture, our affinity for violence, the pipeline that feeds Black

men into hopeless spells behind bars. Set designer Andrew Boyce has some spirited fun with the comedy’s explosive climax. And as a mom who resorts to weaponizing both her guilt and her scars, Nehassau deGannes as Tanya offers a sympathetic portrait of traumatized vulnerability.

At this point in its development, though, the story’s serious, sociopolitical aspirations are overwhelmed by coarser inclinations.

Ofa decidedly more serene sensibility is Theater Alliance’s revival of “The Bluest Eye,” a stage adaptation of Toni Morrison’s 1970 novel of that title that was first produced by the company in 2006. In director Otis Cortez Ramsey-Zöe’s new production, the themes in Morrison’s story of tormented identity and cruel judgment remain as potent as ever.

It’s a story about belonging, too, as embodied by Amiah Marshall’s Pecola, a Black child who has been so conditioned for shame that she believes the only path to happiness is Whiteness. Lydia R. Diamond, the dramatist who adapted Morrison’s book, places Pecola in a 1940s landscape of privation and danger. The adults in her rural Ohio community don’t seem to consider nurture a birthright for a lonely little girl, and so we are witnesses in the Anacostia Playhouse as Pecola scrounges, if you will, for the table scraps of a normal life.

Melanie A. Lawrence and Khalia Muhammad portray neighborhood kids who befriend Pecola, and the pair take on the bulk of the evening’s

narration; like Marshall, they contribute incisive portraits — though Lawrence’s Claudia and Muhammad’s Frieda are anchored in a reality that emotionally immature Pecola can’t quite handle. A false world of Whiteness in Shirley Temple movies and little blond figures on candy wrappers have enraptured Pecola. It’s not the American outsider fantasy of assimilation that Pecola fixates on, but a more tragically unattainable escape.

The furnishings by set designer Tiffani Sydnor are, like the characters, modest, and Ramsey-Zöe drums up the right homespun rhythms in the Playhouse’s black-box theater. Of special achievement is Pauline Lamb as Claudia and Frieda’s mother, a woman with no illusions about how much this world offers her. Delusion is Pecola’s heart-rending affliction; one leaves “The Bluest Eye” with hope that a child’s eyes are wider open these days to who they are, not who they can’t be.

A coming-of-age story of more athletic dimension ended Sunday at the Atlas Performing Arts Center. “The Humours of Bandon,” a smart solo piece written and performed by Margaret Mc Auliffe, is about a teenage step dancer powering through Ireland’s ferocious and backstabbing world of Irish dancing competitions.

In a fleet and funny hour or so, Mc Auliffe — an actor-dancer herself — slips into the guise of 17-year-old Annie, whose heart and feet are set on winning the championship of her dancing league. There are ap-

parently a bunch of these leagues in Ireland, producing talent of a caliber that can fill multiple ensembles of “Riverdance.”

The particular pleasure of this widely toured piece, presented by Solas Nua and directed by Stefanie Preissner, is the primer Mc Auliffe gives on the myriad steps of this singular dance style, characterized by arms held stiffly as the legs and feet work mesmerizing magic. As with any specialty, this one comes with its own lingo and quirks: Annie explains to us that the Irish dancing finals consists of three rounds — reel, traditional and set dance — and that the judges look not only for precision, but also for personality.

Mc Auliffe conveys both. Which is why “The Humours of Bandon” can send you into a little happy dance.

Incendiary, by Dave Harris. Directed by Monty Cole. Set, Andrew Boyce; lighting, Mextly Couzin; costumes, Samantha Jones; sound, Tosin Olufolabi. With Shannon Dorsey, Breon Arzell, Brandon J. Pierce. About 90 minutes. Through June 25 at Woolly Mammoth Theatre, 641 D St. NW. woollymammoth.net.

The Bluest Eye, adapted from Toni Morrison’s novel by Lydia R. Diamond. Directed by Otis Cortez Ramsey-Zöe. Set, Tiffani Sydnor; costumes, Danielle Preston; lighting, John Alexander; sound, Justin Schmitz. With Emmanuel Kyei-Baffour, Nikki Owens, Tre’mon Mills, Devin Nikki Thomas. About 100 minutes. Through June 25 at Anacostia Playhouse, 2020 Shannon Pl. SE. theateralliance.com.

I got laid off. Can I now expose a toxic worker?

Ask Amy

AMY DICKINSON

Dear Amy: I am a 58-year-old worker who was recently laid off. My company hired someone to turn around the department, and she failed miserably. The company terminated her, then threw the babies out with the bath water, getting rid of me and another co-worker at the same time. I guess it worked out well for them, because the other fired co-worker and I were outspoken about what was going on in our department.

We knew the new business model would fail, and it did. The hiring manager who created this mess in this extremely toxic environment is a nightmare. Most employees fear her, because she is cruel, condescending and narcissistic. I have seen her reduce people to tears. She is a bully. This person needs to be told off, and I want to be the one to do it.

Should I express myself, copying her manager and the CEO, as people need to know what’s going on? Or should I let it go and move on? I really feel the need to express myself so that I can leave this behind.

— *Terminated*

Terminated: Definitely write the letter. Get it all out!

Tap the letter to your refrigerator for a week, so every time you reach for the milk, you see it. Grrrr; you really let her have it! Then, when you’ve worked through your rage about this, destroy the letter and move on with the next phase of your life.

You “knew the new business model would fail, and it did.” You were outspoken about problems while you were working there. Given the company’s choice to excise your team, it must be aware of the issues that affected it.

In my (limited) experience, there are times when someone is hired specifically to eliminate positions. And once they’ve done so, they get the ax.

My larger point is that — even though everything you say is

true — your choice to express your unfiltered views could end up backfiring on you in unforeseen ways, affecting your ability to get another position.

Dear Amy: I am friends with a single mother who works two low-wage jobs. There are some months when she can’t pay her bills. I have loaned her money many times.

The problem is that it’s like pulling teeth to get my money back. She seems to feel as if, because I get a decent retirement check and Social Security check, I don’t need my money back. Also, whenever we go out to eat, she feels as if I should pick up the tab.

I worked for 33 years for the state where I live, which has one of the highest costs of living in the country, so I need to be careful with my money. How can I get her to understand that I need my money?

— *Generous*

Generous: One way that people successfully get loans repaid is to make it clear that no more money will be loaned until the previous owed amount is repaid.

However, I think that your expectations of this hard-working single mom are unreasonable. She is barely keeping her head above water, and in helping her, you are also helping her children.

First, you should feel good about your own generosity. Never lend more money than you can afford to lose, in case she can’t — or won’t — repay you.

And yes, you should pick up the check when you two eat out. Doing this is giving your friend a treat — and a break. If you can’t afford to do this, then you shouldn’t eat out.

Amy’s column appears seven days a week at washingtonpost.com/advice. Write to askamy@amydickinson.com or Amy Dickinson, P.O. Box 194, Freeville, N.Y. 13068. ♥ You can also follow her [@askingamy](https://twitter.com/askingamy).

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LA TIMES CROSSWORD

By Jamey Smith

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MONDAY’S LA TIMES SOLUTION

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S K Y G O E A S Y S S N S



NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

‘Garbage’ ex-friend wants to reconnect



Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

Dear Carolyn: About 20 years ago, I broke off a really intense friendship. She did a typical 24-year-old thing,

but it was a dealbreaker nonetheless. I was hurt and upset. She apologized. I told her how I felt and that I wanted nothing more to do with her ever again. Friend moved away soon after.

I got a message from her a couple of days ago. She said she missed our friendship and felt bad that we “fell out of touch.” It’s clear she has no memory of why we aren’t friends anymore.

I have zero interest in being friends with her now. It’s bad enough Friend was a garbage person back then. But it’s even worse — and proving my point — that she has no recollection of her terrible actions and thinks everything has always been hunky-dory with us. I’d like to tell her as much, but I’m not sure what the point is?

— *Are You [bleeping] Kidding Me?*

Are You [bleeping] Kidding Me?: You have no obligation to respond, and there doesn’t seem to be much benefit to responding just to restate the point you tried to make two decades ago. So you’re good there, if you want to be. But given your high levels of passion and certainty, I wonder:

Have you put your own view of what happened under any kind of microscope? You were young then, too. Maybe you legitimately misread something: her actions, her intent, her.

Maybe what she did was totally obvious and “garbage” and there’s nothing to examine. But, having had a few eye-opening encounters with my own two-decade-old certainties, and knowing how much better our memories are at storytelling than at data, I am a big fan of going through the old files sometimes in search of humbling insight. For all you know, she’s in touch because she did the same.

Re: Former Friend: She’s a garbage person? There’s no possibility she’s had a bunch of growth in 20 years? That she does remember what happened, but doesn’t want to open with that? That she’s not out of line at all and you can easily say, “We had some great times and I miss some of those days, but I don’t think it’s possible to recapture them. Hope you’re doing well,” without feeling all this agita that she [gasp] dared to try to speak to you again?

— *Anonymous*

Anonymous: Good stuff here, thank you.

Dear Carolyn: It was an affair. There are two kinds of people: those who can see it all in the bigger picture, and those who

can only see this one specific thing in black and white. It’s one of those things where the two kinds of people can never really understand the other. Move along. #TeamNeverForgiveNeverForget.

— *Kidding Me again*

Kidding Me again: Right, two kinds: people who understand life is fluid and complex, and those who don’t. If your way serves you well, then keep it, but don’t presume to stuff anyone else in a box.

Other readers’ thoughts: • Someone once told me to try to remember everyone at their best, not their worst. Do YOU want to be remembered for your worst behavior or best behavior? Sometimes people commit heinous, unforgivable acts, sure. And sometimes they are just immature 24-year-olds learning like the rest of us.

• I think #TeamNeverForgiveNeverForge t is the saddest thing I have read in a long, long time. My father has lived his ever-diminishing life by this motto; I have watched it wind around his heart like a constrictor. Join #TeamLetItGo; the liberation will be, well, liberating!

Write to Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com. Get her column delivered to your inbox each morning at wapo.st/gethax.

• Join the discussion live at noon Fridays at washingtonpost.com/live-chats.

PGA Tour’s LIV pact faces probe in Senate

Blumenthal says alliance between golf circuits raises ‘serious questions’

BY RICK MAESE

The chair of a powerful Senate subcommittee launched a probe Monday into the partnership between the PGA Tour and its Saudi-funded rival, requesting documents and communications that led to the alliance that rocked the golf world last week.

The PGA Tour and the Saudi Public Investment Fund, which had funded and operated LIV Golf, last week announced the creation of a new for-profit commercial entity meant to unify the sport. In separate letters to PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan and Greg Norman, the chief executive of LIV Golf, Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) said there are “serious questions regarding the reasons for and terms behind the announced agreement.”

Blumenthal, the chair of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, demanded a broad array of documents, including communications that led to the alliance, records related to the dispute between the competing groups that fractured the sport over the past 1½ years and records related to the PGA Tour’s tax-exempt status. Blumenthal told the organizations he wants to see the documents by June 26.

A PGA Tour spokesman said in a statement that the tour is “confident that once Congress learns more about how the PGA Tour will control this new venture, they will understand the opportunities this will create for our players, our communities and our

SEE GOLF ON D3

BASEBALL

For Nationals backup catcher Riley Adams, the preparation is full time even when the gig isn’t. **D3**

BASEBALL

Babe Ruth’s final two public appearances, like everything else about him, linger in history. **D4**

HIGH SCHOOLS

St. Andrew’s Episcopal’s Tinoda Matsatsa is the first Black prep athlete to run a sub-4-minute mile. **D5**



MATTHEW STOCKMAN/GETTY IMAGES

NUGGETS 94, HEAT 89: Nikola Jokic is the center of attention as he is named NBA Finals MVP after posting 28 points, 16 rebounds and four assists in the clincher.

Peak performance

This league is wholly global, and Jokic is its all-world center



Jerry Brewer

and proceeded to transcend imagination. With a Finals MVP performance clinching his adopted city’s first championship, Jokic stands now as a phenomenon that many in his hoops-crazed country once thought impossible: the best player in the world.

The screen didn’t lie. His

unorthodox greatness was as striking on the Arena Sport broadcast in Serbia as it was on ABC in the United States. Or on networks in China, Finland, France, Italy, Latin America and Spain, all of which were on-site covering a sport whose global popularity keeps multiplying.

As the Denver Nuggets celebrate a clinching 94-89 win in Game 5, the world sees the superstar Jokic has become. The world sees the diversifying virtue of the entire NBA.

This is no longer a league that one team, one rivalry or one nation can own.

SEE BREWER ON D2

BY BEN GOLLIVER

DENVER — The Denver Nuggets waited 47 years to win their first NBA championship, so it was only right that they needed all 48 minutes to clinch it.

In a nervy final chapter to a sensational title run Monday night, the Nuggets survived a night filled with turnovers and missed three-pointers and one final push from Jimmy Butler to claim a 94-89 Game 5 victory over the Miami Heat at Ball Arena. Nuggets star Nikola Jokic rebounded from early foul trouble to finish with a game-high 28 points and 16 rebounds as well as four

assists to claim Finals MVP honors and state his case as the best player in basketball.

“It was an ugly game,” said Jokic, who exchanged hugs with his wife and brothers during the post-game celebration. “We couldn’t make shots. But at the end we figured out how to defend.”

Denver showed its jitters with history on the line, committing three turnovers on its first four possessions and losing Jokic and Aaron Gordon to early foul trouble. By the time Jamal Murray finally settled things down midway through the first quarter with a driving dunk, the excitement

SEE NUGGETS ON D2

For Astros GM Brown, a rise with ties to Nationals



Barry Svrluga

those years ago to win it all — Anthony Rendon into the Crawford Boxes, Howie Kendrick off the foul pole, what a team, what a time — were constructed by men who are no longer at Minute Maid Park, pushed out in the wake of a sign-stealing scandal that shook the sport. The

The Washington Nationals head to Houston for a series against the World Series champion Astros this week. The Astros the Nationals beat all

Astros the Nats face this week? They’re the responsibility of a man who had more of an impact on the Nats than he has yet on his own club.

“I thought my window was closing for this type of opportunity,” said Dana Brown, the first-year Houston general manager.

Go back to the dawn of baseball’s return to Washington, when a team fell from the sky and a group of vagabonds had to somehow make it work. Omar Minaya, the general manager when the franchise was still in Montreal, bolted for a better

opportunity with the New York Mets. Jim Bowden, the former general manager in Cincinnati, was hired by Major League Baseball — which owned the team, which was and still is crazy — to be the new GM. And the scouting director — the man responsible for drafting players and overseeing a bare-bones scouting staff — was Dana Brown.

That June, the fledgling Nationals took Ryan Zimmerman with the fourth overall pick, and he leads the franchise in every meaningful offensive category. They took right-hander Marco Estrada in the sixth round, and he

later became an all-star with Toronto. They took lefty John Lannan in the 11th round, and he eventually started for them on Opening Day — twice. They took right-hander Craig Stammen in the 12th round, and he has appeared in 562 big league games.

Oh, for a Nats draft like that this summer.

“It’s crazy,” Brown said. “We were doing it without data. We were just doing it with the

SEE SVRLUGA ON D3

Nationals at Astros

Today, 8 p.m., MASN



DAVID J. PHILLIP/ASSOCIATED PRESS

“We were so fortunate,” Astros General Manager Dana Brown said of the Nationals’ first draft, which yielded Ryan Zimmerman.

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JERRY BREWER

As its foreign players dominate, this global game keeps growing

BREWER FROM D1

While the United States remains rooted as the preeminent basketball power, the sport now prospers because elite talent sprouts from everywhere. Jokic, a 6-foot-11, 285-pound point center, plays like he is from another planet. Maybe his hometown of Sombor, Serbia, once seemed a space shuttle away from NBA fame. Not anymore. It's right here. As the NBA brand swells worldwide, it does not flaunt American dominance and exclusivity. The appeal lies in its accessibility.

“To be quite honest, I never thought Serbia or former Yugoslavia would have a player in the Finals with such an important role,” said Nenad Kostic, an Arena Sport announcer calling games on-site. “This is the first time in our lifetime that we’ve had someone like this. There have been a lot of excellent, unbelievable players from the area, but they were mostly role players, standouts but not the number one guy: Drazen Petrovic, Toni Kukoc, Vlade Divac, Peja Stojakovic. To see Nikola Jokic here on this stage, as a two-time MVP, it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

“We watch and think: ‘When did he get 20 rebounds? How is this even possible?’ ”

NBA globalization is most dramatic at the top of the league, and because individual stars hold disproportionate influence in basketball, the impact will be tremendous. It seems international players have overtaken the league even if the demographics indicate steady growth. But the three players accounting for the past five MVPs didn’t grow up in America. Giannis Antetokounmpo, the Greek-Nigerian forward who unleashes a bundle of athleticism and force every possession, started the streak with back-to-back awards in 2019 and 2020. Then Jokic won the next two seasons. Joel Embiid, the polished and amusing two-way marvel from Cameroon, is now the reigning MVP.

But they aren’t just owning the regular season. Teams led by international stars have won two of the past three championships. In 2021, the Greek Freak led Milwaukee to its first NBA title in 50 years, and the Bucks have been consistent, high-level contenders for the past five seasons. The Nuggets hadn’t even made it to the Finals before Jokic, with Canadian point guard Jamal Murray as his co-star, propelled a Denver team that should contend for a long time, too.

Beyond their appeal to a global audience, Antetokounmpo and Jokic have helped two forgotten American markets find relevance. And they don’t seem like the types to be easily seduced by the prospect of playing in larger cities, either. It’s another way to look at growth.

The rise in international superstars is both random and intentional. No one saw Jokic, the No. 41 pick in the 2014 draft, coming. Antetokounmpo, who was drafted 15th the year before, was a 190-pound string bean as a 19-year-old. Their development

is a credit to their desire. But the mission to seek talent across the globe has been a diligent NBA pursuit for more than three decades. And it started with a commitment to introduce the game worldwide, an effort that has only grown stronger over the years.

The NBA says it has connected with fans in 214 countries and territories during these Finals. The league and its worldwide media partners have been able to deliver games in 60 languages on television, computers and mobile devices. In addition, it has helped organize watch parties in countries spanning six continents.

In America, we looked at this matchup between the Nuggets and Miami Heat and wondered whether TV ratings would suffer because the matchup didn’t seem captivating enough. But the NBA has a broader view, and when considering the world, growth is not a concern. The league is busy activating markets eager to be activated.

“What we see is a lot of opportunity ahead of us,” said Matt Brabants, an NBA senior vice president and the head of international content partnerships. “We think, in some respects, we’ve just scratched the surface.”

With all of the international MVPs and championship influencers, with French phenom Victor Wembanyama highlighting the draft in less than two weeks, it looks like a golden age for players born outside the United States. The NBA doesn’t think so.

“If you’re talking about a golden age in terms of a high point, no,” Brabants said. “I think we still have heights to scale. We don’t, in the media space, take credit for international players who are transcendent. But we are proud of the fact that kids grew up watching and believing in what’s possible.”

Kostic and his television partner, Edin Avdic, have broadcast three straight Finals for Arena Sport. They remember vividly their first NBA Finals experience growing up in 1988 when the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Detroit Pistons in seven games. They were hooked.

It’s crazy to me because that’s the Finals that hooked me as a child.

“It was harder to follow then, but I loved it,” Kostic said. “I remember renting videotapes of NBA games. The video quality was poor, like it had been recorded over something else, but it was wonderful.”

Said Avdic: “I can’t remember how many times I watched the 1992 All-Star Game when Magic [Johnson] came back.”

Me, too. “Basketball is a matter of national pride,” Kostic said of Serbia.

Finally, after producing so many high-caliber players, Serbia has found The One. Jokic, as low-key as he is dominant, would be just as happy looking after his horses in Sombor. But he fell in love with basketball.

He had to find his way to the NBA.

The NBA had to find its way to him.

The dream is mutual.

Nuggets prevail for their first NBA title

NUGGETS FROM D1

from Denver’s home crowd had devolved into annoyed groans.

Handed an opportunity to send the series back to Miami for Game 6, the Heat couldn’t maintain enough scoring momentum to take advantage. Miami made just two of its first 14 shots, and Butler went scoreless in his opening shift. An energetic Bam Adebayo picked up the slack with 14 points in the first quarter, though, and the Heat built a 10-point lead midway through the second.

Denver, flummoxed by Miami’s zone defense, finally made its push midway through the third. Michael Porter Jr. brought the crowd back into the game with three transition plays: a pass to set up a Murray three-pointer, a transition layup he converted after dribbling between his legs backwards and then a three-pointer of his own on the next possession. Before Porter’s three-pointer, Denver had made just two of its first 22 shots from outside.

The endgame was as tense as the rest of the contest: Butler, who had just eight points on 2-for-10 shooting through three quarters, ripped off 13 straight for Miami late in the fourth quarter. His run was boosted by a dubious foul call that nearly spoiled Denver’s celebration as the officials determined that Butler was fouled by Gordon while shooting a three-pointer with 3:21 remaining. Replays appeared to indicate that Gordon didn’t initiate contact and Butler’s right leg had swung forward.

But the Nuggets stayed together in the closing minutes, getting a key steal from Kentavious Caldwell-Pope plus a crucial put-back and two game-clinching free throws from Bruce Brown. Denver’s collective approach down the stretch, which included 10 fourth-quarter points from Jokic, epitomized a campaign in which it used its offensive chemistry and cohesion to defeat all comers.

“All the hard work culminated with us winning a championship,” Nuggets Coach Michael Malone said. “But I’ve got news for you: We’re not satisfied with one. We want more.”

During an NBA regular season marked by parity, the Nuggets welcomed Murray back from a lengthy knee injury and quickly emerged as one of the steadiest contenders. As the Golden State Warriors struggled through a shaky title defense and both the Los Angeles Lakers and Phoenix Suns made dramatic midseason trades in hopes of climbing in the standings, Denver got out to an 8-3 start and claimed the Western Conference’s top seed Dec. 20.

The Nuggets never relinquished pole position over the ensuing four months, racking up a 34-7 home record as Jokic turned in his third straight MVP-caliber campaign.

Despite boasting a fifth-ranked offense and an upgraded supporting cast around Jokic and Murray, Denver cruised along under the radar for months as teams with more internal drama or more celebrated stars dominated the headlines and national television showcase games. Questions lingered about the Nuggets’ mediocre regular season defense, Jokic’s ability to play against spread lineups in the playoffs and Murray’s consistency coming off an 18-month absence.

Past postseason losses to the Lakers, Suns and Warriors led



JUSTIN EDMONDS/GETTY IMAGES

The unlikely playoff run ended for Coach Erik Spoelstra, Jimmy Butler and the eighth-seeded Heat.

many observers to wrongly conclude that the Nuggets might not be able to translate their consistent regular season success into a deep run in the playoffs, where adjustments, versatility and experience are at a premium.

Yet Denver answered every one of those questions convincingly during its 16-4 run to the title, the fastest championship path since Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant and the Warriors went 16-1 in 2017. The Nuggets dispatched the Minnesota Timberwolves in the first round in five games, knocked out the Suns in six and swept the Lakers in the Western Conference finals before their five-game Finals triumph over the Heat. By the end, the Nuggets’ run had the air of anticlimax: They never trailed in a series, won 10 of their last 11 games and went 10-1 at home.

“We are not winning for ourselves,” Jokic said. “We’re winning for the guys next to us. This is a great group of people, a great group of teammates. We believed in each other and the relationships we had with each other.”

This newfound dominance was a result of improved defensive intensity and Jokic’s brilliant orchestration of the league’s most efficient postseason offense. Murray proved to be a reliable scorer and distributor regardless of how much defensive attention he commanded, and Denver got timely contributions from all of its main rotation players at some point along the way.

After Porter and Caldwell-Pope enjoyed outside shooting flurries in the early rounds, Gordon materialized as the X-factor in the Finals thanks to forceful his rim attacks and diligent defense on Butler. Rookie guard Christian Braun and Brown, a backup guard, each took a turn delivering game-changing performances against Miami.

“It took blood, sweat and tears to get back to this point,” Murray said. “We proved a lot of doubters wrong. I learned a lot by myself being out for two postseasons. It’s full circle. It’s great to see it through.”

Denver’s egalitarian approach delivered a long-awaited championship and provided the ultimate validation of Jokic’s unselfish approach to basketball. The Serbian center registered 10 triple-doubles during the title run, and he handi-

ly outplayed a series of formidable interior opponents: Minnesota’s Rudy Gobert and Karl-Anthony Towns; Phoenix’s Deandre Ayton; Los Angeles’s Anthony Davis; and Miami’s Adebayo.

Too big and too skilled to handle one-on-one on the block, Jokic forced Denver’s playoff opponents into impossible predicaments. If they committed too much attention to him, he found Porter and Caldwell-Pope for three-pointers, tossed lobs to Gordon and found Braun for backdoor cuts. If teams tried to single-cover Jokic, he proved deadly at the rim with layups, in the paint with floaters and from beyond the arc with high-arching three-pointers that led LeBron James to compare him to Larry Bird.

Judged by Player Efficiency Rating, Jokic’s postseason play was comparable with the best runs from Michael Jordan, Shaquille O’Neal and James, and he joined Tim Duncan and O’Neal as the only centers to be named Finals MVP in the past 25 years. Murray believes his longtime pick-and-roll partner is just getting started.

“[Jokic] won his first MVP, and his numbers were better with the second MVP,” Murray said Sunday. “His numbers are [even] better now. I think there’s more to come actually. I think we haven’t seen a side of Jokic that we are going to see: just pure dominance, all the way, the whole game — even more than he has been.”

The 28-year-old joined Duncan, Dirk Nowitzki and Giannis Antetokounmpo as single-team stars who led the organizations that drafted them to a championship. Given that the Nuggets drafted Jokic, Murray, Porter and Braun, Malone said Sunday that their path to the title could become a “blueprint” for other small-market teams that are trying to remain competitive in an NBA landscape that is often driven by superstar trade requests.

Indeed, Denver’s edge in continuity proved crucial against each of its first three opponents as Minnesota, Phoenix and Los Angeles had shaken up their rosters with major trades over the past 12 months.

“I feel really fortunate that our journey has been one of patience,” Malone said. “One of drafting really well and developing those play-

ers and then adding the right pieces around them. Some teams want to mortgage their future and go get the surefire player, the all-star. For us, there’s never been a rushed mentality. That starts with the ownership. The Kroenke family has been phenomenal allowing this thing to play itself out and not overreacting to other bumps in the road.”

Now that Jokic has reached the summit, it’s worth remembering that his individual development required a healthy dose of patience. Taken with the 41st pick in the 2014 draft, he waited a year before coming to the NBA. Facing doubts about his weight, conditioning and a Coca-Cola habit that reportedly reached three liters per day, Jokic hardly took the league by storm. He scored just two points in his Oct. 28, 2015, debut at 20, and he didn’t become a full-time starter until midway through his second season.

The pace of his rise picked up from there as he earned his first all-star selection in 2019 and his first MVP award in 2021. Still, Jokic’s reluctance to self-promote, engage deeply with the media or chase major sponsorship deals delayed his full embrace by television talking heads and casual basketball fans, much like Duncan and Kawhi Leonard before him.

After choosing not to campaign for his third straight MVP honor, Jokic finished second to Joel Embiid. Rather than use the snub as motivation, Jokic appeared annoyed when asked about the voting, saluted Embiid’s stellar season and said any critics of the Philadelphia 76ers center’s selection were “mean.”

But a wider recognition of Jokic’s immense abilities started to develop this postseason as he drilled clutch jumpers, dished an endless array of beautiful passes and outdueled megastars such as James and Durant in front of healthy television audiences. Nearly nine years after ESPN aired a Taco Bell commercial as he was being selected in the second round of the 2014 draft, Jokic spent the past two months overtaking Antetokounmpo, Curry and others to become the best player in basketball.

“My journey,” he said this week, with a devout self-deprecation that has become his trademark. “I don’t think it’s that interesting.”

COLLEGES

Terps promote Swope after Vaughn joins Tide

Rob Vaughn, who revitalized Maryland baseball and turned the Terps into one of the Big Ten’s best programs, left Monday after six seasons to fill the coaching vacancy at Alabama.

Maryland moved quickly to find his replacement and promoted **Matt Swope**, a 2003 graduate who had been an assistant in College Park for the past 11 years and Vaughn’s associate head coach for the past two seasons.

Vaughn, 35, won 183 games, fifth most in school history. He guided the Terps to back-to-back Big Ten regular season titles and, last month, their first conference tournament championship. Under Vaughn, Maryland earned three straight berths in the NCAA regionals for the first time.

Swope becomes the first Terp to lead his alma mater since **Tom Bradley**, who graduated in 1972 and led the program from 1991 to 2000 — and recruited Swope to the school.

Swope, who grew up in New Carrollton and graduated from DeMatha, ranks second in

program history in hits (253) and runs (181), fifth in walks (106) and ninth in RBI (135).

“This is truly a dream come true, to be named the head baseball coach at the University of Maryland,” said Swope, who was director of operations from 2013 to 2017 and an assistant coach from 2017 to 2022. “Growing up just down the road from College Park, then playing for the Terps, returning to join the staff, and now being able to lead the Terps is something that means the world to me.”

— *Baltimore Sun*

Vice President Harris saluted more than a thousand athletes from championship teams who gathered at the White House South Lawn, saying sports have a “very special way of bringing people together.”

President Biden had been scheduled to greet the athletes but had a root canal and was unable to attend.

The event included 47 teams from 19 sports. . . .

Just days after leading Oklahoma’s softball team to its third straight national title, pitcher **Jordy Bahl** announced on social media that she is transferring and heading back to her home state of Nebraska.

Bahl pitched 24% scoreless innings at the Women’s College World Series and was named its most outstanding player. She did not say which school she will play for, but there are three Division I programs in the state: Nebraska, Creighton and Omaha. . . .

Drew Bowser’s RBI single in the ninth inning gave Stanford a 7-6 win over Texas in the Cardinal’s NCAA super regional in California and a berth in the College World Series.

SOCCER

As preparations continue for the Concacaf Nations League finals this week, the U.S. men’s national soccer team staff pivoted briefly to another regional tournament that begins in less than two weeks.

Balancing two competitions, interim coach **B.J. Callaghan** named 23 players to the U.S. squad for the Concacaf Gold Cup, a three-week, 16-team event running from June 24 to July 16.

Only five players will appear in both tournaments: goalkeepers **Sean Johnson** and **Matt Turner**, defender **Miles Robinson**, midfielder **Alan Sofiora** and forward **Alex Zendejas**.

While most of the Gold Cup squad comes from MLS teams,

two apiece are from clubs in England, Italy and Mexico with one from the Netherlands. They are Turner (Arsenal), Sofiora (FC Juárez), Zendejas (Club América), goalkeeper **Gabriel Slonina** (Chelsea), defender **Bryan Reynolds** (Roma) and midfielders **Gianluca Busio** (Venezia) and **Djordje Mihailovic** (AZ Alkmaar).

Also on the squad: defenders **DeJuan Jones**, **Aaron Long**, **Matt Miazga**, **Jalen Neal**, **John Tolkin** and **DeAndre Yedlin**; midfielders **Aidan Morris**, **Cristian Roldan** and **James Sands**; and forwards **Cade Cowell**, **Jesús Ferreira**, **Julian Gressel**, **Jordan Morris** and **Brandon Vazquez**.

— *Steven Goff*

Nicaragua was thrown out of the Gold Cup for using an ineligible player in eight matches and was replaced by Trinidad and Tobago. . . .

Kylian Mbappé told Paris Saint-Germain that he will not take up the option of a 12-month extension on his contract, which expires at the end of next season.

The France superstar confirmed his decision in a letter to PSG, a person with knowledge of the correspondence told the Associated Press.

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB	
7 p.m.	Toronto at Baltimore » MASN2, WYYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)
7 p.m.	New York Yankees at New York Mets » TBS
8 p.m.	Washington at Houston » MASN, WJFK (106.7 FM)
10 p.m.	Chicago White Sox at Los Angeles Dodgers » MLB Network

STANLEY CUP FINALS

8 p.m.	Game 5: Florida at Vegas » TNT
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WNBA

7 p.m.	Commissioner’s Cup: Washington at Indiana » NBC Sports Washington
8 p.m.	Commissioner’s Cup: Atlanta at New York » CBS Sports Network
10 p.m.	Commissioner’s Cup: Seattle at Phoenix » CBS Sports Network

TENNIS

5 a.m.	ATP/WTA: Rosmalen Grass Court Championships, early rounds; ATP: Stuttgart Open, early rounds; WTA: Nottingham Open, early rounds » Tennis Channel
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AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE PLAYOFFS — CALDER CUP FINALS

7 p.m.	Game 3: Coachella Valley at Hershey » NBC Sports Washington Plus
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SOFTBALL

6:30 p.m.	Athletes Unlimited: Team Zerkle vs. Team Mulipola » ESPN
9 p.m.	Athletes Unlimited: Team Garcia vs. Team Mulipola » ESPN2

TENNIS

Lorenzo Sonego eliminated defending champion **Matteo Berrettini** from the Stuttgart Open in Germany, defeating the Italian, 6-1, 6-2. Berrettini had been going for his third title in three appearances at the grass-court tournament. . . .

Top-seeded **Maria Sakkari** won her opening match at the Nottingham Open in England. Former champion **Donna Vekic** also advanced to the round of 16 at the grass-court tournament.

MISC.

The Calgary Flames hired their new coach from within. **Ryan Huska** takes over after five years as a Flames assistant. The 47-year-old also coached Calgary’s American Hockey League affiliate for four years. . . .

Cleveland Browns defensive tackle **Perrion Winfrey**’s misdemeanor assault charge was dropped after he completed a pretrial diversion program.

— *From news services and staff reports*

DIGEST

For Adams, catching part time is a full-time job

Nationals’ backup has shown marked improvement in limited chances at the plate but still has plenty to prove to stay in the mix behind it

BY JESSE DOUGHERTY

Major League Baseball is a bit like the Sorting Hat from Harry Potter — an honest game that bluntly tells prodigious athletes just how prodigious they are.

Let’s say a guy — a 6-foot-5 pitcher from a Florida hotbed or a small outfielder from an even smaller town in the Dominican Republic — happens to be one of the 780 active MLB players on a given day. If he’s from the United States, he was almost certainly a youth star, then a high school star, then a college standout unless he was drafted and signed before he could enroll. If he’s from Latin America, he probably attracted scouts when he was 12 — maybe younger — and has been demanding eyeballs ever since. Most of the 780 players, if not all of them, were full-time starters in the minor leagues. And then they get to the majors, where there are only so many spots to go around.

Riley Adams knows a thing or two about that.

“It’s hard when you’re used to playing and then you, uh . . . don’t play a lot anymore,” said Adams, who is the Washington Nationals’ backup catcher and has started 13 of their 64 games. “But I know I could be a starter in this league. I know I could catch 130, 140 games and help a team win. You can’t think you’re a career-long bench player because then you’ve sort of sealed your own fate, right? I know I can play.”

To be clear, Adams is not suggesting he should start over Keibert Ruiz, the switch-hitting 24-year-old whom Washington signed to an eight-year, \$50 million extension in March. Each was acquired at the 2021 trade deadline, Adams from the Toronto Blue Jays for reliever Brad Hand, Ruiz as the



JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

Riley Adams has started 13 of the Nationals’ 64 games while serving as catcher Keibert Ruiz’s backup.

centerpiece of the blockbuster deal that sent Trea Turner and Max Scherzer to the Los Angeles Dodgers. Adams, 26, knows the pecking order, just as he knows he could be a regular in a different situation.

But what Adams outlined is an element of being a backup catcher: He has to prepare as if he could play an inning, nine innings or nine innings over and over at a moment’s notice. He has to be comfortable with every pitcher on the staff. Every pitcher on the staff has to be comfortable with him. He needs to memorize their signs, the scouting reports, the do’s and don’t’s for any opponent. Catching once or twice a week is an around-the-clock deal. And Adams is pretty good at it.

“I feel like I’m learning how to stay engaged and locked in when I’m not in the lineup,” he said. “It’s not necessarily natural, but you treat your non-playing days like game days in your own way. Then you treat your game days like game days, too, which doesn’t take any adjusting. For example, if I’m not starting, I create situations in my head during batting practice and compete with myself. But if I am starting, I am focused on the game plan and the pitcher, and hitting becomes secondary. BP that day is probably a little more passive. It ebbs and flows.”

His offense, though secondary to his defense, has improved in a small sample. Last year, a season split by working on his hitting and

catching with Class AAA Rochester, Adams had a .555 OPS and struck out in almost 30 percent of his 155 plate appearances in the majors. This year, despite some regression in his past two starts, Adams has an .851 OPS with a similarly high strikeout rate in 51 plate appearances. He is doing more damage when he makes contact.

Behind the plate, his game-planning and game-calling are ahead of his receiving. According to advanced defensive metrics, neither he nor Ruiz is particularly good at pitch framing, a skill that could become far less important if MLB adopts an automated strike zone in the near future. For Adams, his 6-4 frame can make it tough for the

NATIONALS ON DECK		
at Houston Astros		
Today	8:10	MASN
Tomorrow	8:10	MASN
Thursday	8:10	MASN
vs. Miami Marlins		
Friday	7:05	MASN
Saturday	4:05	MASN
Sunday	1:35	MASN
vs. St. Louis Cardinals		
Monday	4:05	MASN
June 20	7:05	MASN
June 21	4:05	MASN
<i>Radio: WJFK (106.7 FM)</i>		

umpire to see low strikes, which he is mindful of while trying to pre-sent pitches. With fewer than two strikes and no runners on base, he often catches on one knee so he can get beneath the pitch and avoid blocking the ump’s vision (at least as much as he can).

But both catchers have been regularly complimented for how they work with the pitchers and the coaching staff. To that end, one member of the organization, speaking on the condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to publicly discuss personnel, laid out Adams’s case to stick around. After this season, the Nationals could have him under team control for a minimum of four more years.

“Depending on what you want out of a backup catcher, and opinions on that may vary, I think he’s settling into the role really well,” the person said. “Look, if robo umps come along, he has a solid arm, pitchers seem to like him a lot,

and he’s a strong guy who can run into a homer every now and then. That works for me.”

After Ruiz and Adams, Drew Millas (25 years old) and Israel Pineda (23) are the next catchers in line. Pineda debuted in September but has battled injuries over the past few months, most recently a left oblique strain. Millas, promoted to Rochester in late May, has impressed throughout 2023. Before he left Class AA Harrisburg, he posted a .992 OPS in 25 games, including 16 walks to 16 strikeouts. After 11 games in Class AAA, he has walked once, struck out 10 times and posted a .676 OPS, a tiny sample that shows he needs to adjust to better pitching.

In FanGraphs’ latest look at the Nationals’ system, Eric Longenhagen ranked Millas as the team’s sixth-best prospect, saying that “while Millas will likely be the switch-hitting Robin to Keibert Ruiz’s Batman for the next half decade or so, he’s going to be a luxury to have in that role.” His defense projects well to the major league level. His offensive profile feels similar to what Washington has seen from Ruiz: a lot of contact, flashes of power mixed in.

If the FanGraphs prediction plays out, Millas would squeeze out Adams and leave no room for Pineda, either. The Nationals’ catching situation, then, in a nutshell: three dudes trying to position themselves behind Ruiz. Adams’s audition is coming on the job.

“You know, for me, Riley Adams has done a great job,” Manager Dave Martinez said when asked for his Platonic ideal of a backup catcher. “I talk to him all the time: ‘Hey, look, your job is to manage the pitching staff, really. You come in, you play once or twice a week — you really have to understand the catching part of it.’ ”

BARRY SVRLUGA

Ex-Nats exec is ‘a great clubhouse guy.’ That helped him take charge in Houston.

SVRLUGA FROM D1

scouting eye. I look at it now, I’m like: ‘Wow. We were so fortunate.’ It’s so hard. Learning what I know now, I wouldn’t totally trust just the naked eye.”

Brown’s foundation is that: the scout who judges with that eye and casts what he sees against a bottomless bank of knowledge. But he wouldn’t be in the chair he’s in now — constructing the roster and planning the future of a franchise that just won the World Series — if his mind was limited to what he sees on a radar gun or in a left-handed swing.

Last offseason, when Astros owner Jim Crane decided he didn’t mesh with James Click — the former Tampa Bay exec who was hired to replace Jeff Luhnow, fired in the wake of that sign-stealing scheme — he needed someone with an impeccable reputation who he knew could work with people. Brown, working as the vice president of scouting under Alex Anthopoulos in Atlanta, was the perfect fit —

not only because of what he knew but because he understands what he doesn’t know. Brown’s foundation is as a scout, and he knows what it’s like to drive around the Northeast watching high school games with temperatures in the 40s. But he now runs an organization that has long been regarded as being on the forefront of baseball’s data revolution. His personality and intellect allow both approaches to exist side by side.

“His humility, that’s one of the biggest things that I learned from him,” Anthopoulos said. “It’s incredible. You combine that with personal intelligence, and it allows him to keep getting better and evolving. He’s evolved . . . right along with the game with everything — data, information, all those things. He constantly wants to learn and get better. He gets excited about it.”

There are tangible elements that made Brown — who played at Seton Hall alongside Hall of Famer Craig Biggio and slugger Mo Vaughn — a strong candidate

for a general manager’s job, even in an era when those jobs tend to go to quants from elite colleges who approach baseball like a math problem.

The Braves beat the Astros in the 2021 World Series, and a big piece in that postseason run was reliever Tyler Matzek, a former first-round pick whom Brown convinced Anthopoulos to sign out of independent ball. In 2019, the Braves took a high school outfielder from Georgia, Michael Harris II, in the third round. In 2020, they took right-hander Spencer Strider from Clemson in the fourth round. Last season, Harris was the National League rookie of the year. Strider was second. No other player received any first-place votes.

“People started to look at what we were doing,” Brown said.

But Brown, the only Black general manager in the sport at the moment, is also a firm believer that the summer of 2020 played a big role in his hiring by the Astros. Not because of anyone he scouted when the coronavirus

pandemic upended both the sport and the world but because of the protests that swept through the country after the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police. That summer of tumult caused executives in all industries to consider how and why they hired whom they hired. Theo Epstein, then the president of baseball operations with the Cubs, was particularly introspective and outspoken about his own record and how he believed it contributed to the stark lack of diversity in baseball front offices.

“The majority of people that I’ve hired, if I’m being honest, have similar backgrounds as me and look a lot like me,” Epstein said then. “That’s something I need to ask myself — ‘Why?’ I need to question my own assumptions, my own attitudes. I need to find a way to be better.”

Brown heard that, and loudly. “That’s important for somebody like me to hear somebody like Theo say that, because he’s been such a

successful GM and he’s even saying: ‘You know what? Maybe we have to think about maybe hiring some minorities,’ ” said Brown, 56. “I think that was a big part of it. I’m not saying that these guys are racist. They were just used to hiring people that they were comfortable being around.”

That gets back to one of Brown’s strengths: being comfortable around people and making people feel comfortable around him. When Brown was with the Expos, he hired Anthopoulos, a young Montreal native, as a scouting intern. When Anthopoulos became the general manager in Toronto, he hired Brown as a special assistant, then he hired him again when he got the job in Atlanta. This wasn’t a matter of buddies taking care of each other. This was deep connective tissue personally and professionally.

“As a human being, he’s elite,” Anthopoulos said. “I don’t even think there’s a strong enough word. There’s no better human

being across the board. So that makes him someone people want to work with and work for, which is important, right? You can’t do it alone. You need good staffs. You need good people. . . .

“If he was a player, he’d be a great clubhouse guy. You want to be around him. He makes others around him better.”

The people around him now are the staff of a team that has made the postseason six straight years and won two World Series titles — one tainted, one not. The expectations are to extend that, even though the Astros’ system is thinned because MLB stripped them of first- and second-round draft picks in 2020 and 2021.

“That’s four players who could play up here,” Brown said.

And four players Brown must find for Houston’s future. He once did that for the Nationals, and successfully. He will now do it for the Astros, who have both a reputation to shed and a standard to uphold. In Dana Brown, they have the perfect person to do both.

Athletic announces layoffs, new approach to its coverage

BY BEN STRAUSS

The Athletic, the subscription sports website owned by the New York Times, announced Monday that it was laying off nearly 20 reporters, or about 4 percent of its journalistic staff. The news was delivered in an email to staffers from publisher David Perpitch and executive editor Steven Ginsberg.

The note said an additional 20 reporters would be moved from their current team beats to new ones, including regional coverage or general assignment roles.

That strategy marks a departure from the outlet’s onetime mission, which was to cover every team from every major league across the country with a dedicated reporter. The Athletic has been successful editorially, with millions of subscribers, but that coverage — and the travel and staffing associated with it — is costly.

“The Athletic has generally viewed every league in a similar manner, with similar beats and offerings. But our growing body of research and our own understanding of the sports we cover compel a more nuanced approach,” the note said. “There is no perfect formula for determining which teams to cover, but we are committing dedicated beat reporters to the ones that most consistently produce stories that appeal to both large and news-

hungry fan bases, as well as leaguewide audiences.”

The note described an evolving approach to coverage. The NFL and English Premier League dominate reader interest, it said, and staffing for those leagues remains mostly unchanged. Leagues with more local audiences will have beats eliminated. The company’s overall investment in the newsroom will still grow this year, according to the note, and the company will still have more than 100 beat writers covering specific teams. But a new focus of the site will be stories that appeal to wider audiences.

Among the cuts are several beat reporter jobs for NBA and MLB teams, including the Philadelphia 76ers, Chicago White Sox and Seattle Mariners, and coverage of sports business.

The Athletic was founded in 2016 and raised some \$140 million in venture funding before the New York Times bought it last year for \$550 million in cash to buttress its subscription business. The Athletic now has around 3.3 million subscribers, more than double than when it was acquired. But it has been a drag on the company’s bottom line. Last year, it lost \$6.8 million in February and March and another \$12.6 million in the second quarter, according to public filings by the Times. It lost \$7.8 million in the most recent quarter.

Blumenthal launches inquiry of PGA Tour-LIV deal

GOLF FROM D1

sport, all while protecting an American golf institution.” A LIV spokesman declined to comment.

News of Blumenthal’s probe comes as the world’s top players are converging on Los Angeles Country Club for the U.S. Open, one of golf’s four major championships, which will feature stars from the PGA Tour and LIV Golf.

While the deal was announced Tuesday, there are still unanswered questions and unsettled issues surrounding the agreement, and the surprising partnership could face hurdles, including obtrusion from Congress. The PGA Tour’s policy board will need to approve the final framework of the agreement, and it also might need to pass muster with the Justice Department, which had launched an investigation last year of the PGA Tour over potential antitrust violations.

As golfers arrived Monday in Los Angeles for the U.S. Open, which begins Thursday, the partnership loomed large, even as most players seemed to be in the dark about the details.

Cameron Smith, who joined LIV after winning the 2022 British Open, said that when he first heard about the deal last week, he initially thought it was “kind of a joke.” Then he received a call from Yasir Al-Rumayyan, the governor of the Public Investment Fund and chairman of the newly created PGA-LIV partnership. Smith

said Al-Rumayyan “didn’t really explain too much” in the call, which took place just minutes before the chairman joined Monahan on a CNBC segment touting the agreement. As to its finer points, Smith said there were “a lot of curious players on both sides.”

Matt Fitzpatrick, the reigning U.S. Open champion, echoed that sentiment.

“I found out when everybody else found out, so I know literally nothing,” he said. “It’s pretty clear that nobody knows what’s going on apart from about four people in the world.”

Fitzpatrick, who has previously discussed the alliance being “probably a tough one to swallow” for PGA Tour golfers who turned down lucrative offers from LIV, was asked during a media session whether such golfers should be compensated. A moderator attempted to intervene, but Fitzpatrick said he would answer. He then appeared to think for nearly 10 seconds before saying, “Yeah, I’ll pass.”

While a congressional inquiry isn’t likely to quash the deal on its own, it could subject the parties to mounting public pressure they would rather avoid and potentially produce records, including financial statements and emails, that could draw increased scrutiny on the alliance.

Blumenthal was among several lawmakers to express surprise and voice concern last week when

the alliance was announced. In his role as chair of the investigations subcommittee, he has broad authority to scrutinize the deal and issue subpoenas on a range of matters, from corporate and financial crimes to terrorism.

In the letters, Blumenthal said he wants to know how a jointly operated commercial entity will be structured and governed and how the PGA Tour intends to preserve its tax-exempt status. He described Saudi Arabia’s human rights record as “deeply disturbing” and said he has “concerns about the Saudi government’s role in influencing this effort and the risks posed by a foreign government entity assuming control over a cherished American institution.”

Nearly a week after the sides announced the basic framework of the deal, which also includes Europe’s DP World Tour, the terms and details of the partnership are still largely unknown. The organizations agreed to drop their lawsuits against each other, which could happen as early as this week, according to a person with knowledge of the situation who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the process. The Public Investment Fund is poised to inject billions into the sport, which could help stabilize the PGA Tour but has stoked concerns from many players about the tour’s governance going forward.

Al-Rumayyan will serve as

chair of the newly created commercial entity and will have a seat on the PGA Tour’s influential policy board.

Monahan wrote a letter to some lawmakers Friday, stressing that the deal was not a merger and that the PGA Tour would “retain administrative oversight of golf tournaments, including the administration of the competition and rules governing professional tournament golf.”

“At its core, the PIF is investing in the PGA Tour as it has invested in other U.S.-based companies. The PGA Tour and its tournaments will continue to operate as they do today,” Monahan wrote in the letter, which was first obtained by Politico.

Monahan also appeared to spread some of the blame, noting that in the course of the battle with LIV Golf, he had made overtures to many lawmakers and “suggested ways that Congress could support us in these efforts.”

“We were largely left on our own to fend off the attacks, ostensibly due to the United States’ complex geopolitical alliance with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,” he wrote. “This left the very real prospect of another decade of expensive and distracting litigation and the PGA Tour’s long-term existence under threat.”

Gus Garcia-Roberts in Los Angeles and Paul Kane and Mariana Alfaro in Washington contributed to this report.

BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Atlanta	40	26	.606	—	7-3	L-2
Miami	37	30	.552	3½	8-2	L-1
x-Philadelphia	32	33	.492	7½	7-3	W-1
New York	31	35	.470	9	2-8	L-1
Washington	26	38	.406	13	3-7	W-1

NL leaders

Entering Monday's games.

BATTING

Arraez, Mia	.....	.397
Freeman, LA	.....	.338
Acuña Jr., Atl	.....	.331
Castellanos, Phi	.....	.312
Carroll, Ari	.....	.308
Meneses, Was	.....	.307
Gurriel Jr., Ari	.....	.301
Estrada, SF	.....	.297

HOME RUNS

Alonso, NY	.....	.22
Soler, Mia	.....	.19
Muncy, LA	.....	.18
Olson, Atl	.....	.18
Schwarber, Phi	.....	.17
Betts, LA	.....	.17
Martínez, LA	.....	.16
Gorman, STL	.....	.15

RBI

Alonso, NY	.....	.49
Martínez, LA	.....	.47
Gorman, STL	.....	.46
Muncy, LA	.....	.45
Arenado, STL	.....	.45
Olson, Atl	.....	.45
Freeman, LA	.....	.44
Lindor, NY	.....	.43

STOLEN BASES

Acuña Jr., Atl	.....	.28
Bas, Pit	.....	.19
Carroll, Ari	.....	.19
Marte, NY	.....	.18
Yelich, Mil	.....	.16
Chisholm Jr., Mia	.....	.14
Estrada, SF	.....	.14
Hoerner, Chi	.....	.14

HITS

Arraez, Mia	.....	.91
Freeman, LA	.....	.89
Acuña Jr., Atl	.....	.87
Castellanos, Phi	.....	.79
Meneses, Was	.....	.77
Stott, Phi	.....	.74
Goldschmidt, STL	.....	.71
Nimmo, NY	.....	.70
India, Cin	.....	.69
Thomas, Was	.....	.69

ERA

Stroman, Chi	.....	2.42
Steele, Chi	.....	2.65
Elder, Atl	.....	2.69
Kelly, Ari	.....	2.92
Grisham, LA	.....	2.95
Gray, Was	.....	3.00
Cobb, SF	.....	3.01
Gallen, Ari	.....	3.10
Webb, SF	.....	3.10

GAMES PITCHED

Nardi, Mia	.....	.32
Bird, Col	.....	.31
Minter, Atl	.....	.31
Scott, Mia	.....	.31
Strasberg, Mil	.....	.31
5 tied	.....	.30

SAVES

Doval, SF	.....	.16
Witz, Cin	.....	.15
Haider, SD	.....	.15
Bednar, Pit	.....	.14
Finnegan, Was	.....	.11
Johnson, Col	.....	.11
Severino, NY	.....	.10
Williams, Mil	.....	.10

INNINGS PITCHED

Nola, Phi	.....	.88
Keller, Pit	.....	.87
Stratton, Chi	.....	.85
Gallen, Ari	.....	.84½
Webb, SF	.....	.84½
Alcantara, Mia	.....	.83½
Mikolas, STL	.....	.80½
Burnes, Mil	.....	.77½

STRIKEOUTS

Strider, Atl	.....	.121
Keller, Pit	.....	.101
Greene, Cin	.....	.97
Gallen, Ari	.....	.93
Kershaw, LA	.....	.93
Wheeler, Phi	.....	.87
Luzardo, Mia	.....	.86
Webb, SF	.....	.85
Nola, Phi	.....	.84
Gore, Was	.....	.83

AL leaders

Entering Monday's games.

BATTING

Bichette, Tor	.....	.317
Díaz, TB	.....	.313
Usherla, LA	.....	.303
Hays, Bal	.....	.301
Dubón, Hou	.....	.300
Merrifield, Tor	.....	.300
Yoshida, Bos	.....	.300
Franco, TB	.....	.299

HOME RUNS

Judge, NY	.....	.19
Ohtani, LA	.....	.18
Alvarez, Hou	.....	.17
García, Tex	.....	.15
Robert Jr., Chi	.....	.15
Devers, Bos	.....	.15
Trout, LA	.....	.14
Bichette, Tor	.....	.14

RBI

Alvarez, Hou	.....	.55
García, Tex	.....	.54
Devers, Bos	.....	.52
Semien, Tex	.....	.51
Naylor, Cle	.....	.48
Heim, Tex	.....	.46
Ohtani, LA	.....	.46
Paredes, TB	.....	.45

STOLEN BASES

Ruiz, Oak	.....	.31
Franco, TB	.....	.22
Witt Jr., KC	.....	.20
Mateo, Bal	.....	.18
Merrifield, Tor	.....	.17
Walls, TB	.....	.15
Lowie, TB	.....	.14
Volpe, NY	.....	.14
Mullins, Bal	.....	.13

HITS

Bichette, Tor	.....	.91
Semien, Tex	.....	.79
Franco, TB	.....	.75
Ohtani, LA	.....	.73
Guerrero Jr., Tor	.....	.71
France, Sea	.....	.70
Verdugo, Bos	.....	.70

ERA

Rodriguez, Det	.....	2.13
McClanahan, TB	.....	2.18
Gray, Min	.....	2.25
Gray, Tex	.....	2.32
Valdez, Hou	.....	2.36
Eovaldi, Tex	.....	2.49
Castillo, Sea	.....	2.70
Cole, NY	.....	2.84

GAMES PITCHED

Clase, Cle	.....	.33
Brash, Sea	.....	.32
Karinchak, Cle	.....	.32
Abreu, Hou	.....	.31
Peralta, NY	.....	.31
Swanson, Tor	.....	.31

SAVES

Clase, Cle	.....	.20
Romano, Tor	.....	.18
Bautista, Bal	.....	.17
Estévez, LA	.....	.17
Jansen, Bos	.....	.14
Pressly, Hou	.....	.12
Seiwald, Sea	.....	.12
Smith, Tex	.....	.11

INNINGS PITCHED

Bieber, Cle	.....	.87½
Eovaldi, Tex	.....	.86½
Gausman, Tor	.....	.86½
Cole, NY	.....	.85½
Valdez, Hou	.....	.84
Gibson, Bal	.....	.83
McClanahan, TB	.....	.82½
Bassitt, Tor	.....	.82

STRIKEOUTS

Gausman, Tor	.....	.117
Ohtani, LA	.....	.102
Castillo, Sea	.....	.92
López, Min	.....	.92
McClanahan, TB	.....	.92
Cole, NY	.....	.90
Valdez, Hou	.....	.89
Kopech, Chi	.....	.85
Giolitto, Chi	.....	.84
Ryan, Min	.....	.84

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
x-Tampa Bay	48	20	.706	—	8-2	W-1
Baltimore	41	24	.631	5½	6-4	W-4
New York	38	29	.567	9½	4-6	L-1
Toronto	37	30	.552	10½	7-3	W-1
Boston	33	34	.493	14½	3-7	L-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Minnesota	33	33	.500	—	4-6	L-1
Cleveland	31	34	.477	1½	6-4	W-1
Chicago	29	38	.433	4½	6-4	L-2
Detroit	27	37	.422	5	1-9	W-1
Kansas City	18	48	.273	15	1-9	L-7

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Texas	41	24	.641	—	6-4	L-2
Houston	37	29	.561	4½	4-6	L-1
Los Angeles	37	31	.544	5½	7-3	W-2
Seattle	32	33	.492	9	4-6	W-1
x-Oakland	17	50	.254	25	5-5	W-5

x-Late game

x-Late game

NOTES

PERSONNEL DEPT.

Angels: Purchased the contract of IF Daniel Murphy from the Atlantic League's Long Island Ducks. The 38-year-old ex-Nationals star will report to Class AAA Salt Lake.

Braves: OF Marcell Ozuna underwent tests at a hospital after a fastball from Detroit RHP Garrett Hill hit his right wrist in the fourth inning. Atlanta Manager Brian Snitker said.

Rangers: RHP Jon Gray will not make his scheduled start Tuesday against the Angels while dealing with a blister.

Mets: Signed slugger Luke Voit to a minor league contract. The 32-year-old, who led the majors with 22 homers in 2020 for the Yankees, will join Class AAA Syracuse.

Cardinals: Put RHP Ryan Helsley on the 15-day injured list with a strained right forearm and recalled RHP Jake Woodford.

Royals: Designated OF Jackie Bradley Jr. for assignment.

TODAY

Interleague games

NATIONALS AT ASTROS, 8:10	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Corbin (L)	4-6	4.89	7-6
Brown (R)	5-3	3.69	7-5

BRAVES AT TIGERS, 6:40	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Strider (R)	6-2	3.79	11-2
Olson (R)	0-1	2.70	0-1

ROCKIES AT RED SOX, 7:10	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Anderson (R)	0-0	2.25	3-2
Crawford (R)	1-3	3.68	1-3

YANKEES AT METS, 7:10	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Severino (R)	0-1	5.75	2-2
Scherzer (R)	5-2	3.71	7-3

BREWERS AT TWINS, 7:40	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Burnes (R)	5-4	3.36	7-6
López (R)	3-3	4.25	7-6

REDS AT ROYALS, 8:10	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Williamson (L)	0-0	5.40	4-1
Lyles (R)	0-10	6.84	0-13

GUARDIANS AT PADRES, 9:40	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Bíbee (R)	2-1	3.04	3-5
Musgrove (R)	3-2	4.36	4-4

MARLINS AT MARINERS, 9:40	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Cabrera (R)	5-4	4.29	8-5
Kirby (R)	5-5	3.50	6-6

WHITE SOX AT DODGERS, 10:10	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Lynn (R)	4-6	6.72	5-8
Gonsolin (R)	3-1	2.21	4-4

Interleague scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Arizona 7, at Detroit 5
Miami 6, at Chicago White Sox 5
Oakland 8, at Milwaukee 6

MONDAY'S RESULTS
at Detroit 6, Atlanta 5 (10)
Cincinnati 5, at Kansas City 4 (10)
Colorado 4, at Boston 3 (10)
at Seattle 8, Miami 1

AL games

BLUE JAYS AT ORIOLES, 7:05	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Bassitt (R)	7-4	3.29	8-5
Kremer (R)	6-3	4.89	8-5

ANGELS AT RANGERS, 8:05	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Barria (R)	2-2	1.85	3-0
TBA	----	----	----

RAYS AT ATHLETICS, 9:40	W-L	ERA	TEAM
TBA	----	----	----
Harris (L)	1-0	6.46	1-0

AL scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
at Baltimore 11, Kansas City 3
at Cleveland 5, Houston 0
at Tampa Bay 7, Texas 3
at Toronto 7, Minnesota 6
at L.A. Angels 9, Seattle 4
Boston 5, at N.Y. Yankees 2 (10)

MONDAY'S RESULTS
L.A. Angels 9, at Texas 6 (12)
Tampa Bay at Oakland, late

NL games

GIANTS AT CARDINALS, 7:45	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Cobb (R)	5-2	3.01	9-4
Flaherty (R)	3-4	4.15	8-5

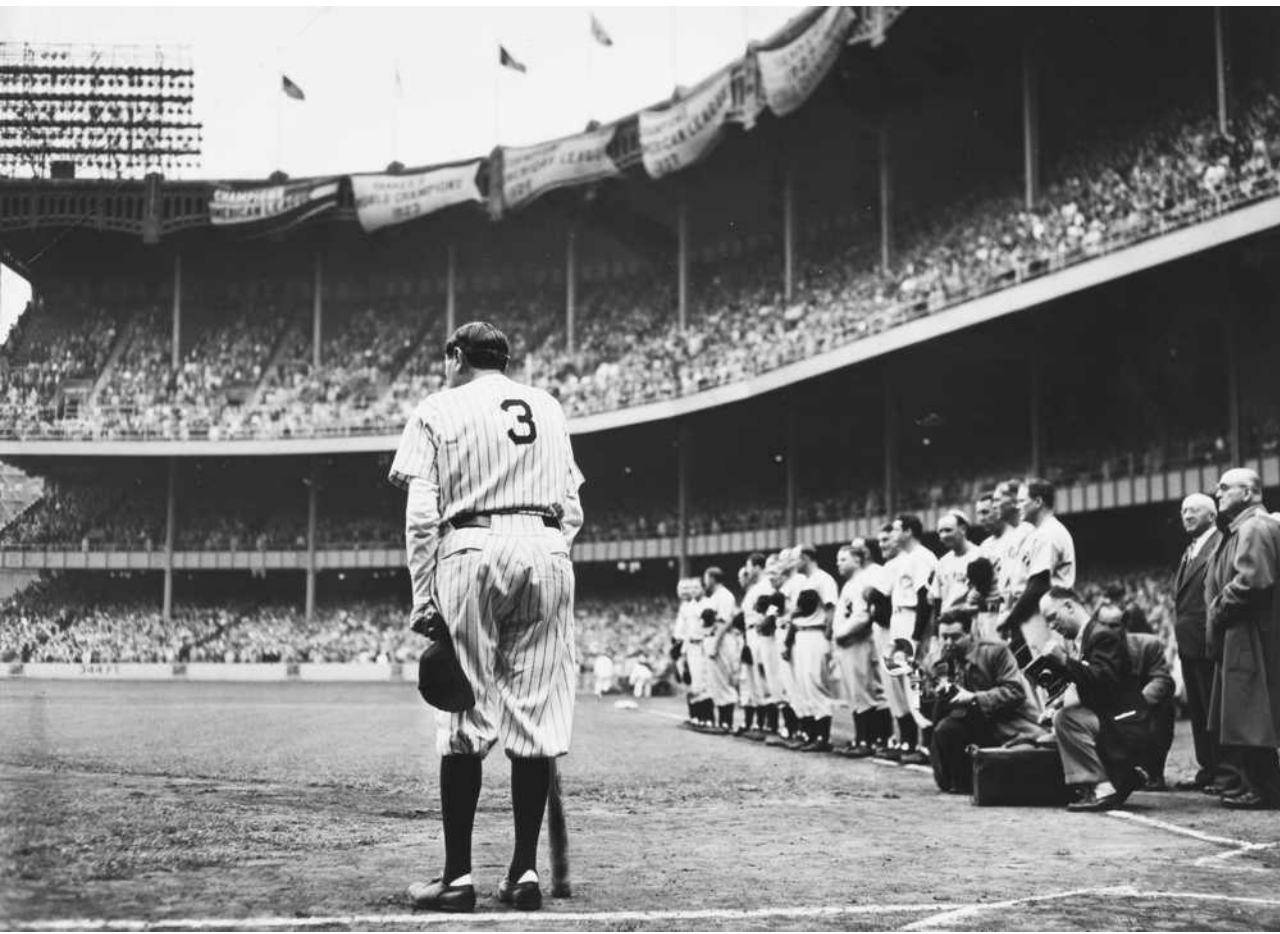
PIRATES AT CUBS, 8:05	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Ortiz (R)	1-2	4.23	2-3
Taillon (R)	1-4	7.02	1-9

PHILLIES AT DIAMONDBACKS, 9:40	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Wheeler (R)	4-4	3.91	7-6
Davies (R)	1-1	4.68	4-1

NL scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 6, at Atlanta 2
at Pittsburgh 2, N.Y. Mets 1
at Philadelphia 7, L.A. Dodgers 3
Cincinnati 4, at St. Louis 3
at Colorado 5, San Diego 4
at San Francisco 13, Chicago Cubs 3

MONDAY'S RESULTS
San Francisco 4, at St. Louis 3
Philadelphia at Arizona, late



NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY/SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Nat Fein's photo of Babe Ruth at Yankee Stadium for the retirement of his No. 3 won the Pulitzer Prize in 1948.

father, a good-fielding, light-hitting player who batted right and threw left. He finished with a career .983 fielding percentage and .224 batting average, according to the Society for American Baseball Research.

Ruth had retired 13 years earlier, in 1935. In the interim, the United States fought and won World War II, helping to pull the country out of the Great Depression. President Franklin D. Roosevelt died in 1945, replaced by Harry S. Truman, who would win an upset reelection a few months after Ruth's farewell appearances. In 1947, Jackie Robinson had broken the color barrier, although the Yankees still hadn't signed a Black player and wouldn't for several more years.

Even though Ruth had been out of baseball for more than a dozen years, his presence still loomed large in American society, said John Thorn, the official historian for Major League Baseball.

"He gave the manuscript to Bush, who would become a president. Well, Ruth was bigger than any president, except maybe FDR," Thorn said, adding, "Ruth was a god."

Ruth wore a double-breasted tan suit and white-and-tan shoes and held a cigar in his hand. He referenced the many exhibition games he had played at Yale over the years, starting when he was a dominant Boston Red Sox pitcher.

"I have been to New Haven many, many times over the years, but this is one of the best," he said to raucous cheers from the crowd. When the game started, Ruth put on a cream-colored cap and watched five innings before heading home to New York. Yale thrashed Princeton, 14-2. Bush finished 1 for 4 with a double.

The following Sunday, June 13, was also a rainy day, when the Yankees re-

tired Ruth's No. 3 and commemorated the 25th anniversary of Yankee Stadium. In addition to Ruth, the other living members of the 1923 team were there, along with stars from other Yankees squads such as Bill Dickey, Lefty Gomez and Joe Gordon. Mel Allen announced the players.

"The fans nearly raised the stadium roof with a tremendous cheer when the Babe was introduced," the AP reported. Banners for the Yankees' 15 pennants and 11 World Series titles were draped around the ballpark.

A newsreel shows Ruth walking from the dugout to home plate, surrounded by cameramen and photographers, where he takes a swing in the batter's box.

Using a bat as a cane, with tears in his eyes, Ruth briefly addressed the 50,000 fans.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I just want to say one thing. I am proud I hit the first home run here against Boston in 1923," he said, referring to the ballpark's inaugural home run on Opening Day of that season. "It is marvelous to see these 13 or 14 players who were my teammates going back 25 years. I'm telling you, it makes me proud and happy to be here. Thank you."

Ruth's goodbye to Yankee Stadium came about nine years after his Murderers' Row teammate, Lou Gehrig, suffering from a terminal disease that would bear his name, had given his July 4, 1939, speech at the ballpark, famously declaring,

First Black high-schooler to run sub-four-minute mile always keeps pushing

St. Andrew’s Episcopal’s Matsatsa posts 3:58.70 to enter elite company

BY IAN DECKER

When Emilie Taderera told her son to try track and field to stay in shape, his answer was simple: “I don’t want to go. I’m a soccer player.”

Tinoda Matsatsa has always loved soccer — most nights, he’s dribbling the ball around the house. A senior at St. Andrew’s Episcopal, he was a striker on the varsity team.

But though he initially didn’t want to run — he hid from the track coach in middle school to avoid signing up, only to be informed that Taderera had registered him anyway — Matsatsa has become one of the top middle-distance runners in the country.

At the HOKA Festival of Miles in St. Louis in early June, the 18-year-old became the first Black high school athlete to run a sub-four-minute mile. His time of 3 minutes 58.70 seconds put him in elite company as one of only 20 American high-schoolers to beat four minutes.

Despite early-season doubts — Matsatsa finished in 4:15.25 at an event in New York in December and in 4:10.87 at the Virginia

Showcase in Virginia Beach in January — his accomplishment was no accident.

“It doesn’t matter if he has a coach or he doesn’t have a coach,” Taderera said. “He trains himself. If it’s raining, snowing, it’s scorching hot, he doesn’t stop training. He will train independently without being told by the coach to do it.”

To prepare for the 1,600-meter mile, Matsatsa split 1,000 meters into various segments. After warming up, he would start with a 500, which helped him train for a goal lap pace of about 59 seconds. The additional 100 meters helped him practice holding his speed going into the next lap. Next was a 300, which simulated running a

little faster than the goal pace, between 42 and 44 seconds. The last part of the split 1K was a 200 to work on form during the final part of the actual race.

“Our goal in his senior year is to enable him to race at the highest level possible to prepare him for the future,” St. Andrew’s Coach Ben Zastrow said. “And he’s very dedicated to that preparation.”

During the Festival of Miles, after Matsatsa came through the first 800 meters at two minutes flat, he knew he could run a faster time (a negative split) in the second leg to break four minutes.

“When I first saw [the time] when I first crossed the line,” Matsatsa said, “I was like, ‘Oh, my gosh, that’s not real.’ But the more

time passed, the more I was like, ‘That 3:58 is actually true.’”

Matsatsa, a Georgetown commit, holds 12 school records (the 400, 500, 800, 1,000, 1,500, 1,600 and the mile indoor, and the 800, 1,500, 1,600, mile and 3,200 outdoor) and four state records (800 indoor, 1,500, 1,600 and mile outdoor), and he has the third-fastest result all-time nationally in the 800 indoor.

Though he has had tremendous success in individual events, Matsatsa’s unbridled positivity also makes him the consummate teammate.

“By far the best part about [Matsatsa] is his positive and supportive attitude,” St. Andrew’s senior Cameron Jones said.

“Whether it was waking me up to warm up for our [4x400] relays or cheering up teammates after a disappointing performance, he’s always a source of positivity on our team.”

Matsatsa will run the 800 at the Brooks PR Invitational on Wednesday in Seattle and the New Balance Nationals on Sunday in Philadelphia — meets for elite runners where he will again try to prove his mother’s presence.

“Results don’t come from luck,” he said. “It comes from how hard you train. People can be naturally talented, but you still have to work and perfect everything for you to actually be at the top of your sport.”

BASEBALL FINAL TOP 10

St. John’s stays dominant as ‘success begets success’ again

BY SPENCER NUSBAUM

As the high school baseball season trudged along, it appeared no team would get the upper hand on juggernaut St. John’s. Roughly three times per week, an opponent would come along, hoping a sport known for its parity would reward it rather than the nationally ranked Cadets.

On May 9, in Game 2 of the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference semifinal series, that day finally came when Paul VI bested St. John’s, 4-3. The Cadets shrugged, then rattled off wins by 11, eight and five runs to win the WCAC and reaffirm what has long held true in the D.C. area: It’s St. John’s baseball, and then it’s everyone else.

“Success begets success,” Coach Mark Gibbs said.

The Cadets’ pitching staff finished with 13 shutouts and eight one-run outings; the offense scored at least 10 runs 13 times. In the aggregate, the Cadets outscored their opponents 282-44.

Filling in behind them in The Washington Post’s final rankings, Archbishop Spalding (the Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association’s Conference A champion) and Georgetown Prep (the Interstate Athletic Conference champion) rattled off impressive postseason runs, battling against tough private schools before peaking when it mattered most.

Sherwood and Madison lead the public schools, with both featuring senior-laden rosters with stars who became great.

1. St. John’s (30-1-1) | Last ranked: 1 | The class of the area and one of the top teams in the country, the talented, disciplined Cadets cruised to the WCAC title.

2. Archbishop Spalding

(22-6-1) | LR: 2 | A dominant pitching staff with five Division I commits carried the Cavaliers to back-to-back MIAA A titles.

3. Georgetown Prep (25-7) | LR: 4 | The Little Hoyas won their fourth consecutive IAC title behind a crop of Division I-bound seniors.

4. Sherwood (23-3) | LR: 5 | The Warriors became the first team since 1992 to three-peat as Maryland state champions. They rolled past Urbana in the 4A championship game.

5. Madison (23-5) | LR: 9 | Behind mighty Bryce Eldridge and a cast of clutch teammates, the Warhawks won their second Virginia Class 6 state championship in the past three seasons.

6. River Hill (21-4) | LR: Not ranked | The Hawks were unstoppable down the stretch, riding the hot hand of Henry Zatkowski to the Maryland 3A state title.

7. Independence (25-2) | LR: NR | With a talented senior class headed by Tyler Fetterman, Jack McDonald and David Mendez, the Tigers reached the Virginia Class 5 state title game.

8. St. Albans (25-9) | LR: 6 | The Bulldogs rebounded from an IAC semifinal loss and roared to the D.C. State Athletic Association title with gutsy pitching and defense.

9. Westfield (20-8) | LR: NR | With Jonny Farnelo, Joey Mitchell and a whole bunch of depth behind them, the Bulldogs beat No. 5 Madison in the region championship game before falling to the Warhawks in the state championship matchup.

10. Freedom (South Riding) (23-4) | LR: NR | The Eagles, state champions in 2022, won the Virginia Class 6 Region B title and reached the state semifinals while outscoring opponents 243-51.

SOFTBALL FINAL TOP 10

Following dogpiles aplenty, undefeated O’Connell reigns

BY NOAH FERGUSON

The dogpile is a staple in softball. It’s a celebration that culminates months of competition and signifies the successful end of a season.

A number of high school teams across the D.C. area got the chance to toss their equipment into the sky and pounce on one another in bliss before being handed a championship trophy.

Virginia champions McLean and Woodgrove each converged on the infield after clinching title victories, while St. John’s ambushed sophomore Cameran Corbett along the third base line after she hit a walk-off triple to win the D.C. State Athletic Association championship for the Cadets.

Senior ace Katie Kutz and her Bishop O’Connell teammates had dogpiled before, but that didn’t make the Knights’ Washington Catholic Athletic Conference and Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association championship victories any less special.

With the dust settled, here are The Washington Post’s final rankings for the spring.

1. Bishop O’Connell (21-0) | Last ranked: 2 | The Knights successfully defended their WCAC and VISAA titles, extending their perennial dominance with another undefeated year. O’Connell is 53-1 over the past three seasons.

2. Damascus (27-1) | LR: 1 | With ace Isabella DiGiandomenico at the mound, the Hornets got over the hump with a 2-0 win against Reservoir in the Maryland 3A state championship game.

3. Woodgrove (27-1) | LR: 5 | The Wolverines didn’t cede a run during state tournament play en route to a 3-0 victory over Hickory

in the Virginia Class 5 championship game.

4. McLean (16-6) | LR: Not ranked | Sophomore Hailey Simpson pitched three complete games in a little over 24 hours as the Highlanders completed an expedited run by ousting defending champion Madison, 2-1, in the Virginia Class 6 title game.

5. Potomac School (17-2) | LR: 6 | The Panthers comfortably won another Independent School League title over Flint Hill, 10-0, by mercy rule. Coach Wayne Loving’s team then gave top-ranked O’Connell a tough test in the VISAA state championship game before falling to the Knights, 4-2.

6. St. John’s (15-8) | LR: NR | The Cadets took home the DCSAA crown over Maret after falling short in the title game the previous two seasons. Corbett’s walk-off triple with two outs in the seventh inning clinched the victory.

7. Sherwood (15-2) | LR: 3 | The Warriors lost in the Maryland 4A state semifinals but still had another impressive season highlighted by another region championship.

8. Madison (25-3) | LR: 4 | The Warhawks again proved to be one of the premier programs in Virginia with another Class 6 state championship game appearance and a region title.

9. Archbishop Spalding (12-4) | LR: NR | Spalding continued its reign in the Interscholastic Athletic Association of Maryland with its fourth straight league title and second straight championship game win over John Carroll, 6-3.

10. Reservoir (23-1) | LR: NR | The Gators’ only loss came against Damascus in the Maryland 3A state title game.

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA playoffs

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
Best of seven.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
HEAT ELIMINATED KNICKS, 4-2
Game 1: Miami 108, at New York 101
Game 2: at New York 111, Miami 105
Game 3: at Miami 105, New York 86
Game 4: at Miami 109, New York 101
Game 5: at New York 112, Miami 103
Game 6: at Miami 96, New York 92

CELTICS ELIMINATED 76ERS, 4-3
Game 1: Philadelphia 119, at Boston 115
Game 2: at Boston 121, Philadelphia 87
Game 3: Boston 114, at Philadelphia 102
Game 4: at Philadelphia 116, Boston 105 (OT)
Game 5: Philadelphia 115, at Boston 113
Game 6: Boston 95, at Philadelphia 86
Game 7: at Boston 112, Philadelphia 88

WESTERN CONFERENCE
NUGGETS ELIMINATED SUNS, 4-2
Game 1: at Denver 127, Phoenix 107
Game 2: at Denver 97, Phoenix 87
Game 3: at Phoenix 121, Denver 114
Game 4: at Phoenix 129, Denver 124
Game 5: at Denver 118, Phoenix 102
Game 6: Denver 125, at Phoenix 100

LAKERS ELIMINATED WARRIORS, 4-2
Game 1: L.A. Lakers 117, at Golden State 112
Game 2: at Golden State 124, L.A. Lakers 100
Game 3: at L.A. Lakers 127, Golden State 97
Game 4: at L.A. Lakers 104, Golden State 101
Game 5: at Golden State 121, L.A. Lakers 106
Game 6: at L.A. Lakers 122, Golden State 101

CONFERENCE FINALS
Best of seven.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
HEAT ELIMINATED CELTICS, 4-3
Game 1: Miami 123, at Boston 116
Game 2: Miami 111, at Boston 105
Game 3: at Miami 128, Boston 102
Game 4: Boston 116, at Miami 99
Game 5: at Boston 110, Miami 97
Game 6: Boston 104, at Miami 103
Game 7: Miami 103, at Boston 84

WESTERN CONFERENCE
NUGGETS ELIMINATED LAKERS, 4-0
Game 1: at Denver 132, L.A. Lakers 126
Game 2: at Denver 108, L.A. Lakers 103
Game 3: Denver 119, at L.A. Lakers 108
Game 4: Denver 113, at L.A. Lakers 111

NBA FINALS
Best of seven.

NUGGETS ELIMINATED HEAT, 4-1
Game 1: at Denver 104, Miami 93
Game 2: Miami 111, at Denver 108
Game 3: Denver 109, at Miami 94
Game 4: Denver 108, at Miami 95
Game 5: at Denver 94, Miami 89

NBA FINALS GAME 5
Nuggets 94, Heat 89

Miami	22	27	20	18	—	89
Denver	22	22	26	24	—	94

MIAMI

	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Butler	41:18	5-18	9-11	1-3	5	2	21
Love	14:10	1-4	0-0	0-2	0	1	3
Adebayo	44:08	9-20	2-2	5-12	1	2	20
Strus	31:36	5-12	1-1	1-8	1	3	12
Vincent	21:43	3-13	0-4	0-3	2	6	6
Lowry	34:20	4-13	0-0	2-9	4	5	12
Martin	32:02	4-9	2-2	1-5	1	4	10
Robinson	16:48	2-6	0-0	0-3	3	1	5
Highsmith	2:54	0-4	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
Zeller	1:01	0-1	0-0	1-1	0	0	0
TOTALS	240	33-96	14-16	11-44	18	21	89

Percentages: FG .344, FT .875, 3-Point Goals: 9-35, .257 (Lowry 4-9, Butler 2-5, Robinson 1-3, Love 1-4, Strus 1-6, Martin 0-4, Vincent 0-4). **Team Rebounds:** 6. **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 7 (Love 2, Robinson 2, Lowry, Martin, Strus). **Turnovers:** 8 (Martin 2, Robinson 2, Adebayo, Butler, Lowry, Strus). **Steals:** 9 (Butler 3, Lowry 2, Adebayo, Love, Martin, Vincent). **Technical Fouls:** None.

WNBA

	W	L	Pct	GB
Connecticut	6	2	.750	1
New York	6	3	.625	2
Washington	5	5	.500	3
Chicago	5	5	.500	3
Atlanta	2	5	.286	4½
Indiana	2	6	.250	5

WEST

	W	L	Pct	GB
Las Vegas	1	.889	—	
Dallas	5	4	.556	3
Los Angeles	4	4	.500	3½
Phoenix	2	5	.286	5
Minnesota	2	7	.222	6
Seattle	1	6	.143	6

SUNDAY’S RESULTS
Washington 71, at Seattle 65
at New York 102, Dallas 93
at Las Vegas 93, Chicago 80
Connecticut 89, at Atlanta 77
Phoenix 85, at Indiana 82
at Minnesota 91, Los Angeles 86

MONDAY’S RESULTS
No games scheduled.

TUESDAY’S GAMES
Washington at Indiana, 7
Atlanta at New York, 8
Seattle at Phoenix, 10

WEDNESDAY’S GAME
Los Angeles at Dallas, 1

THURSDAY’S GAMES
Atlanta at Connecticut, 7
Indiana at Chicago, 8
Seattle at Las Vegas, 10

FRIDAY’S GAMES
Phoenix at Washington, 8
Minnesota at Los Angeles, 10

SATURDAY’S GAME
Seattle at Dallas, 2

SUNDAY’S GAMES
Chicago at Washington, 3
Phoenix at New York, noon
Atlanta at Indiana, 4
Connecticut at Los Angeles, 7:30
Minnesota at Las Vegas, 9

HOCKEY

Stanley Cup playoffs

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
Best of seven.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
PANTHERS ELIMINATED MAPLE LEAFS, 4-1
Game 1: Florida 4, at Toronto 2
Game 2: Florida 3, at Toronto 2
Game 3: at Florida 3, Toronto 2 (OT)
Game 4: Toronto 2, at Florida 1
Game 5: Florida 3, at Toronto 2 (OT)

HURRICANES ELIMINATED DEVILS, 4-1
Game 1: at Carolina 5, New Jersey 1
Game 2: at Carolina 6, New Jersey 1
Game 3: New Jersey 8, Carolina 4
Game 4: Carolina 6, at New Jersey 1
Game 5: at Carolina 3, New Jersey 2 (OT)

WESTERN CONFERENCE
GOLDEN KNIGHTS ELIMINATED OILERS, 4-2
Game 1: Vegas 6, Edmonton 4
Game 2: Edmonton 5, at Vegas 1
Game 3: Vegas 5, at Edmonton 1
Game 4: at Edmonton 4, Vegas 1
Game 5: at Vegas 4, Edmonton 3
Game 6: Vegas 5, at Edmonton 2

STARS ELIMINATED KRANKEN, 4-3
Game 1: Seattle 5, at Dallas 4 (OT)
Game 2: at Dallas 4, Seattle 2
Game 3: at Seattle 7, Dallas 2
Game 4: Dallas 6, at Seattle 3
Game 5: at Dallas 5, Seattle 2
Game 6: at Seattle 6, Dallas 3
Game 7: Dallas 2, Seattle 1

CONFERENCE FINALS
Best of seven.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
PANTHERS ELIMINATED HURRICANES, 4-0
Game 1: Florida 3, at Carolina 2 (4OT)
Game 2: Florida 2, at Carolina 1 (OT)
Game 3: at Florida 1, Carolina 0
Game 4: at Florida 4, Carolina 3

WESTERN CONFERENCE
GOLDEN KNIGHTS ELIMINATED STARS, 4-2
Game 1: at Vegas 4, Dallas 3 (OT)
Game 2: at Vegas 3, Dallas 2 (OT)
Game 3: Vegas 4, at Dallas 5
Game 4: at Dallas 3, Vegas 2 (OT)
Game 5: Dallas 4, at Vegas 2
Game 6: Vegas 6, at Dallas 0

STANLEY CUP FINALS
Best of seven; x-If necessary.

GOLDEN KNIGHTS LEAD PANTHERS, 3-1
Game 1: at Vegas 5, Florida 2
Game 2: at Vegas 7, Florida 2
Game 3: at Florida 3, Vegas 2 (OT)
Game 4: Vegas 3, at Florida 2
Tuesday’s game: Florida at Vegas, 8, TNT
x-Friday’s game: Vegas at Florida, 8, TNT
x-Monday’s game: Florida at Vegas, 8, TNT

COLLEGE BASEBALL

NCAA super regionals

Host school is Game 1 home time; visiting school is Game 2 home time; coin flip determines Game 3 home team.

Best of three.

VIRGINIA ELIMINATED DUKE, 2-1
At Davenport Field at Disharoon Park; In Charlottesville
Game 1: Duke 5, Virginia 4
Game 2: Virginia 14, Duke 4
Game 3: Virginia 12, Duke 2, Virginia advances

FLORIDA ELIMINATED SOUTH CAROLINA, 2-0
At Condon Family Ballpark; In Gainesville, Fla.
Game 1: Florida 5, South Carolina 4
Game 2: Florida 4, South Carolina 0, Florida advances

TCU ELIMINATED INDIANA STATE, 2-0
At Amon Carter Stadium; In Fort Worth
Game 1: TCU 4, Indiana State 4, TCU advances
Game 2: TCU 6, Indiana State 4, TCU advances

ORAL ROBERTS ELIMINATED OREGON, 2-1
At PK Park; In Eugene, Ore.
Game 1: Oregon 9, Oral Roberts 8
Game 2: Oral Roberts 8, Oregon 7
Game 3: Oral Roberts 11, Oregon 6, Oral Roberts advances

LSU ELIMINATED KENTUCKY, 2-0
At Alex Box Stadium; In Baton Rouge
Game 1: LSU 14, Kentucky 0
Game 2: LSU 8, Kentucky 3, LSU advances

WAKE FOREST ELIMINATED ALABAMA, 2-0
At David F. Couch Ballpark; In Winston-Salem, N.C.
Game 1: Wake Forest 5, Alabama 4
Game 2: Wake Forest 22, Alabama 5, Wake Forest advances

STANFORD ELIMINATED TEXAS, 2-1
At Klein Field at Sunken Diamond; In Stanford, Calif.
Game 1: Texas 7, Stanford 5
Game 2: Stanford 8, Texas 3
Game 3: Stanford 7, Texas 6, Stanford advances

SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI AND TENNESSEE TIED, 1-1
At Pete Taylor Park in Hattiesburg, Miss.
Game 1: Southern Mississippi 5, Tennessee 3
Game 2: Tennessee 8, Southern Mississippi 4
Game 3: Tennessee vs. Southern Mississippi, late

Men’s College World Series
Double elimination followed by best-of-three final

VIRGINIA VS. FLORIDA
TBA

WAKE FOREST VS. STANFORD
TBA

LSU VS. SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI-TENNESSEE
WINNER
TBA

TCU VS. ORAL ROBERTS
TBA

TRANSACTIONS

MLB
Detroit Tigers: Optioned INF/OF Nik Solak to Toledo (IL).
Reinstated OF Matt Vierling from the 10-day IL.
Kansas City Royals: Selected the contract of OF Dairon Blanco from Omaha (IL).
Los Angeles Angels: Acquired INF Danny Murphy from Long Island (Atlantic League) and assigned him to Salt Lake (PCL).
Tampa Bay Rays: Sent RHP Pete Fairbanks to the Florida complex League (FCL) on a rehab assignment.
Arizona Diamondbacks: Reinstated C Carson Kelly from the 60-day IL. LHP Joe Mantiply from the 15-day IL, and OF Kyle Lewis from the 10-day IL and optioned him to Reno (PCL).
Optioned RHP Kevin Ginkel and C Jose Herrera to Reno. Designated LHP Anthony Misiewicz for assignment.
New York Mets: Agreed to terms with 1B Luke Voit on a minor league contract and assigned him to Syracuse (IL).
St. Louis Cardinals: Placed RHP Ryan Helsley on the 15-day IL, retroactive to June 10. Recalled RHP Jake Woodford from Memphis (IL).
San Francisco Giants: Recalled RHP Keaton Winn from Sacramento (PCL). Optioned RHP Tristan Beck to Sacramento.

NFL
Arizona Cardinals: Signed WR Brandon Smith. Released WR Auden Tate.
Milwaukee Brewers: Reinstated RHP J.B. Bukauskas from the 15-day IL and optioned him to Nashville (IL).
New England Patriots: Re-signed DT Justus Tavel. Waived RB James Robinson and CB Tae Hymas.

NHL
Florida Panthers: Signed G Ludovic Waeber to a one-year, entry-level contract.

COLLEGES
Maryland: Named Matt Swope baseball coach.

SOCCER

MLS

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
East						
Cincinnati	12	1	4	40	27	16
Nashville	9	3	5	32	25	12
Philadelphia	9	5	3	30	28	17
New England	8	3	6	30	28	21
Atlanta	7	4	7	28	35	29
Columbus	6	3	7	27	35	25
Orlando City	7	4	5	26	22	17
D.C. United	6	7	5	23	25	24
CF Montreal	7	9	1	22	19	27
Charlotte FC	6	8	4	22	25	33
New York	4	6	7	19	11	16
Toronto FC	3	5	10	19	17	21
New York City FC	4	7	6	18	17	22
Chicago	3	6	8	17	22	27
Inter Miami CF	5	12	0	15	16	24

WEST

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis City SC	9	5	2	29	33	17
Seattle	8	6	4	28	24	17
Los Angeles FC	7	5	26	23	14	
FC Dallas	7	6	5	26	21	
San Jose	7	5	5	26	21	
Vancouver	5	5	7	22	27	
Houston	6	7	3	21	19	
Portland	5	7	5	20	24	
Sporting KC	5	8	5	20	25	
Minnesota United	5	7	5	20	15	
Real Salt Lake	5	7	5	20	18	
Austin FC	5	8	4	19	18	
LA Galaxy	4	9	4	13	14	
Colorado	2	9	7	13	14	

WEDNESDAY’S RESULT
Atlanta 0, at Los Angeles FC 0

SATURDAY’S RESULTS
at Atlanta 3, D.C. United 1
Seattle 3, at Charlotte FC 3
at CF Montreal 4, Minnesota 0
at New England 3, Miami 1
Nashville 1, at Toronto FC 1
at Orlando City 2, Colorado 0
Columbus 2, at Chicago 1
at Houston 4, Los Angeles FC 0
at Sporting KC 4, Austin FC 1
New York City FC 0, at Real Salt Lake 0
at San Jose 2, Philadelphia 1
Cincinnati 1, at Vancouver 1

SUNDAY’S RESULTS
LA Galaxy 1, at St. Louis City SC 1
at Portland 1, FC Dallas 0

WEDNESDAY’S MATCH
Houston at Los Angeles FC, 10:30

Saturday’s MATCHES
Real Salt Lake at D.C. United, 7:30
Columbus at New York City FC, 3:30
Orlando City at New England, 7:30
Los Angeles FC at Sporting KC, 8:30
St. Louis City SC at Nashville, 8:30
Portland at San Jose, 10:30

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21
New York City FC at Atlanta, 7:30
Toronto FC at Cincinnati, 7:30
Nashville at CF Montreal, 7:30
Charlotte FC at New York, 7:30
Philadelphia at Orlando City, 7:30
FC Dallas at Austin FC, 8:30
San Jose at Houston, 8:30
New England at Minnesota, 8:30
Real Salt Lake at St. Louis City SC, 8:30
Vancouver at Colorado, 9:30
Sporting KC at LA Galaxy, 10:30
Seattle at Los Angeles FC, 10:30
Chicago at Portland, 10:30

Timbers 1, FC Dallas 0

Late Sunday

DALLAS	0	0	0
PORTLAND	1	0	1

First Half: 1. Portland, Boli, 4 (Evander), 35th minute.

Goalies: Dallas, Maarten Paes; James Maurer; Portland, David Matthew Bingham, Hunter Sulte.

Yellow Cards: Evander, Portland, 16th; Obrian, Dallas, 45th; Cerrillo, Dallas, 46th; Jesus, Dallas, 71st; Chara, Portland, 71st; Paredes, Portland, 90th+6; Loria, Portland, 90th+8.

Dallas, Maarten Paes; Marco Farfan, Sebastian Ibeagha, Geovane Jesus (Herbert Endeley, 82nd), Nkosi Tafari; Edwin Cerrillo (Jose Daniel Mulato, 82nd), Facundo Quignonez, Jesus Ferreira, Jesus Jimenez (Sam Junqua, 46th), Jader Obrian, Alan Velasco.

Portland, David Matthew Bingham; Zac McGraw, Eric Miller, Juan David Mosquera, Dario Zuparic; Diego Chara, Evander (Sebastian Blanco, 90th), Santiago Moreno (Lorian Loria, 72nd), Cristhian Paredes; Dairon Asprilla (Larrys Mabiala, 90th+5), Frank Boli (Jaroslav Niezgodza, 72nd).

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
San Diego	6	3	2	20	17	11
Washington	5	1	5	20	15	10
Portland	5	2	4	19	26	14
OL Reign	6	4	1	19	19	14
Chicago	5	3	3	18	13	10
North Carolina	5	4	2	17	15	11

C JOBS

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C JOBS

Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, MARYLAND
CARRIE M. WARD, et al. 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101 Rockville, MD 20852 Substitue Trustees/Plaintiffs, vs. TONYA C. FADIS (DECEASED) 14609 London Lane Bowie, MD 20715 Defendants)
Case No. CAEF22-02193
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this 24 day of May, 2023, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as 14609 London Lane, Bowie, MD 20715, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 26 day of June, 2023, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the 26 day of June, 2023.
The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be \$266,350.00.
Mahasin El Amin #769 Clerk, Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland
BWW#MD-354633
May 30, 2023 12424324
June 6, 13, 2023

C JOBS

Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, MARYLAND
CARRIE M. WARD, et al. 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101 Rockville, MD 20852 Substitue Trustees/Plaintiffs, vs. MERIEL C. HAREWOOD (DECEASED) 821 Ray Road Hyattsville, MD 20783 Defendants)
Case No. CAEF22-07969
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this 25 day of May, 2023, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as 821 Ray Road, Hyattsville, MD 20783, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 26 day of June, 2023, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the 26 day of June, 2023.
The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be \$370,000.00.
Mahasin El Amin #769 Clerk, Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland
BWW#MD-353588
May 30, 2023 12424329
June 6, 13, 2023

C JOBS

Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, MARYLAND
CARRIE M. WARD, et al. 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101 Rockville, MD 20852 Substitue Trustees/Plaintiffs, vs. THOMAS T. CALDWELL, JR. (DECEASED) 3721 Lumbar Drive Fort Washington, MD 20744 Defendants)
Case No. C-16-CV-23-00089
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this 25 day of May, 2023, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as 3721 Lumbar Drive, Fort Washington, MD 20744, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 26 day of June, 2023, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the 26 day of June, 2023.
The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be \$220,000.00.
Mahasin El Amin #769 Clerk, Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland
BWW#MD-149458
May 30, 2023 12424328
June 6, 13, 2023

C JOBS

Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, MARYLAND
CARRIE M. WARD, et al. 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101 Rockville, MD 20852 Substitue Trustees/Plaintiffs, vs. JOAN TONKINS 1910 Allendale Court Hyattsville, MD 20785 Defendants)
Case No. C-16-CV-22-000494
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this 24 day of May, 2023, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as 1910 Allendale Court, Hyattsville, MD 20785, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 26 day of June, 2023, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the 26 day of June, 2023.
The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be \$206,287.68.
Mahasin El Amin #769 Clerk, Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland
BWW#MD-359129
May 30, 2023 12424139
June 6, 13, 2023

Official Notices

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS ONE COUNTY COMPLEX COURT PRINCE WILLIAM, VIRGINIA 22192

June 27, 2023
Public Hearings
7:30 p.m.

1. Rezoning, #REZ2022-00021, Interstate Drive Rezoning: To rezone 2.45 acres from A-1, Agricultural, to R-2, Light Industrial, for the development of a light industrial use with a +/- 0.3 FAR. The subject property is located approximately +/-0.8 miles north of the intersection of Interstate Dr. Dumfries Road, and is zoned A-1, Agricultural, on County maps as GPIN 8290-10-4824; is zoned A-1, Agricultural; is designated I-3, Industrial, which recommends a range of 0.23 to 0.51 FAR and is within the ERPO, Environmental Resource Protection Overlay District in the Comprehensive Plan. Potomac Magisterial District
2. Proffer Amendment #REZ2022-00028, Regency at Catharlin Creek: To amend the proffers associated with PLN2013-00080 to shift the maintenance responsibility of all of the Regency at Catharlin Creek HOA to the County. The property is located on the west side of Catharlin Rd., +/-0.54 miles north of its intersection with Fieldstone Rd., is addressed as 5530 Catharlin Rd., and is identified on County Maps as GPIN 7398-97-7129. The property is zoned A-1, Agriculture, is A-1, Agriculture and Forestry, and is within the ERPO, Environmental Resource Protection Overlay District in the Comprehensive Plan, and is located the Airport Safety Overlay District. Gainesville Magisterial District
For additional information regarding the Board meeting, please contact the Clerk to the Board at (703) 792-6600. All meeting materials are posted online when the agenda is published, and a copy of all staff reports, proposed resolutions and ordinances, and other documentation will be available for review by the public in the office of the Clerk of the Board at One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, 22192.
Members of the public may appear at the Board of County Supervisors' Chamber in the McCoart Building, One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, at the designated time to express their views.
ACCESSIBILITY TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: The hearings are being held at a public facility believed to be accessible to persons with disabilities. Any persons with questions on the accessibility of the facility should contact the Clerk to the Board at One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, or by telephone at (703) 792-6600 or (703) 792-6295. Persons needing special services should contact the Clerk to the Board at One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, at the designated time to express their views.
TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023 AT 11:00 AM

Official Notices

Fairfax County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 5930 TELEGRAPH RD, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22310
In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$192,024.00, with an annual interest rate of 6.600000% dated April 24, 2007, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the County of Fairfax as Deed Book 18617, Page 1014, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Fairfax, on the courthouse steps at the front of the Circuit Court building for the County of Fairfax located at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia on July 11, 2023 at 11:00 AM, the property with improvements to wit:
MARJORIE HOWARD LT 3
Tax Map No. 0824 09 0003
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: Conventional. Reference Number 23-29383.
PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP, LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.
June 13, 2023 12425363
June 6, 13, 2023

Official Notices

Fairfax County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 7107 LATOUR CT, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22315
In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$544,185.00, with an annual interest rate of 6.140000% dated July 7, 2006, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the County of Fairfax as Deed Book 18617, Page 1043, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Fairfax, on the courthouse steps at the front of the Circuit Court building for the County of Fairfax located at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia on July 11, 2023 at 11:00 AM, the property with improvements to wit:
D EVEREUX WEST LT 381 SEC 7
Tax Map No. 0912-09-0381
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: FHA. Reference Number 23-29383.
PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP, LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.
May 1, 2023 June 6, 13, 2023 12420997

Official Notices

Prince William County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 6901 DUKE DRIVE, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22307
In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$705,000.00, with an annual interest rate of 6.5000% dated March 19, 2013, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the County of Fairfax as Deed Book 23012, Page 1037, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Fairfax, on the courthouse steps at the front of the Circuit Court building for the County of Fairfax located at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia on July 11, 2023 at 11:00 AM, the property with improvements to wit:
BUCKNELL MANOR LT 37 BLK 9 SEC 4
Tax Map No. 0931-23090037
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: FHA. Reference Number 19-284393.
PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP, LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.
May 30, 2023 12422132
June 6, 13, 2023

Official Notices

Spotsylvania County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 5400 Hogan Ct, Fredericksburg, VA 22407 Spotsylvania County, Virginia
In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$332,240.00, dated July 30, 2021 at the home of the Note, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Spotsylvania, on the courthouse steps at the front of the Circuit Court building for the County of Spotsylvania, on July 19, 2023 at 11:00 AM, the property described in said deed, located at the above address and briefly described as: Lot 328, Section 4-8, Maple Grove, with any improvements thereon. Subject to any all covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust, if any, affecting the aforesaid property.
TERMS OF SALE: CASH: A deposit of \$20,000.00 or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, cash or certified check, to be received at the time of sale, but no more than \$10,000.00 of cash will be accepted, with settlement within fifteen (15) days from the date of sale. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation that the borrower did not file for protection under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code prior to the sale which affects the validity of the sale, as well as to post sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the time of sale. If the sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Pursuant to the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, we advise you that this firm a debt collector attempting to collect the indebtedness referred to herein and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.
SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C., Substitute Trustee
This is a communication from a debt collector.
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C. (845)10 448 Viking Drive Suite 310 Virginia Beach, VA 23452 757-457-1460 - Call Between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or visit our website at www.swpnc.net
June 13, 15, 20, 22, 26, 2023 12425109

Trustees Sale - DC

DLA PIPER LLP (US) 500 EIGHTH STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004 202-799-4101

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE MIXED-USE BUILDING 2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037

By virtue of a certain Purchase Money Deed of Trust, Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing from 2401 Penn Avenue, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, dated December 18, 2014 and duly recorded December 19, 2014 as Instrument No. 2014117179 (the "Deed of Trust") among the Land Records of the District of Columbia (the "Land Records"), which Deed of Trust also constitutes a security agreement and creates a security interest in all fixtures described in the Deed of Trust, a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), and in accordance with Public Law 90-566 notice recorded among the Land Records and following mailing of a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit and Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure, both of which were recorded among the Land Records on May 4, 2023 as Instrument Nos. 2023037554 and 2023037555 and the recordation of a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee among the Land Records as Instrument No. 2023036042, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell, at public auction, within the office of ALEX COOPER AUCTIONEERS, INC., 4910 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 100, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016 on

Trustees Sale - DC

DLA PIPER LLP (US) 500 EIGHTH STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004 202-799-4101

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE MIXED-USE BUILDING 2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037

By virtue of a certain Purchase Money Deed of Trust, Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing from 2401 Penn Avenue, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, dated December 18, 2014 and duly recorded December 19, 2014 as Instrument No. 2014117179 (the "Deed of Trust") among the Land Records of the District of Columbia (the "Land Records"), which Deed of Trust also constitutes a security agreement and creates a security interest in all fixtures described in the Deed of Trust, a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), and in accordance with Public Law 90-566 notice recorded among the Land Records and following mailing of a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit and Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure, both of which were recorded among the Land Records on May 4, 2023 as Instrument Nos. 2023037554 and 2023037555 and the recordation of a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee among the Land Records as Instrument No. 2023036042, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell, at public auction, within the office of ALEX COOPER AUCTIONEERS, INC., 4910 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 100, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016 on

Trustees Sale - DC

DLA PIPER LLP (US) 500 EIGHTH STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004 202-799-4101

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE MIXED-USE BUILDING 2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037

By virtue of a certain Purchase Money Deed of Trust, Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing from 2401 Penn Avenue, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, dated December 18, 2014 and duly recorded December 19, 2014 as Instrument No. 2014117179 (the "Deed of Trust") among the Land Records of the District of Columbia (the "Land Records"), which Deed of Trust also constitutes a security agreement and creates a security interest in all fixtures described in the Deed of Trust, a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), and in accordance with Public Law 90-566 notice recorded among the Land Records and following mailing of a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit and Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure, both of which were recorded among the Land Records on May 4, 2023 as Instrument Nos. 2023037554 and 2023037555 and the recordation of a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee among the Land Records as Instrument No. 2023036042, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell, at public auction, within the office of ALEX COOPER AUCTIONEERS, INC., 4910 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 100, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016 on

Montgomery County

Ballard Spahr LLP 1909 K Street, NW, 12th Floor Washington, DC 20006-1157 202-661-2200

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

By virtue of a certain Purchase Money Deed of Trust from Kent D. Burstein (the "Borrower"), dated January 23, 2013 and recorded February 14, 2013 in Liber 46101, Folio 446 among the Land Records of the Montgomery County (the "Land Records") and subsequently modified by Modification of Deed of Trust dated September 1, 2015 and recorded November 10, 2015 in Liber 51242, Folio 398, (collectively, the "Deed of Trust"), a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell, at public auction, at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County at the Court House Door 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

Montgomery County

Ballard Spahr LLP 1909 K Street, NW, 12th Floor Washington, DC 20006-1157 202-661-2200

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

By virtue of a certain Purchase Money Deed of Trust from Kent D. Burstein (the "Borrower"), dated January 23, 2013 and recorded February 14, 2013 in Liber 46101, Folio 446 among the Land Records of the Montgomery County (the "Land Records") and subsequently modified by Modification of Deed of Trust dated September 1, 2015 and recorded November 10, 2015 in Liber 51242, Folio 398, (collectively, the "Deed of Trust"), a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell, at public auction, at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County at the Court House Door 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

Montgomery County

Ballard Spahr LLP 1909 K Street, NW, 12th Floor Washington, DC 20006-1157 202-661-2200

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

By virtue of a certain Purchase Money Deed of Trust from Kent D. Burstein (the "Borrower"), dated January 23, 2013 and recorded February 14, 2013 in Liber 46101, Folio 446 among the Land Records of the Montgomery County (the "Land Records") and subsequently modified by Modification of Deed of Trust dated September 1, 2015 and recorded November 10, 2015 in Liber 51242, Folio 398, (collectively, the "Deed of Trust"), a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell, at public auction, at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County at the Court House Door 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

Montgomery County

Ballard Spahr LLP 1909 K Street, NW, 12th Floor Washington, DC 20006-1157 202-661-2200

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

By virtue of a certain Purchase Money Deed of Trust from Kent D. Burstein (the "Borrower"), dated January 23, 2013 and recorded February 14, 2013 in Liber 46101, Folio 446 among the Land Records of the Montgomery County (the "Land Records") and subsequently modified by Modification of Deed of Trust dated September 1, 2015 and recorded November 10, 2015 in Liber 51242, Folio 398, (collectively, the "Deed of Trust"), a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell, at public auction, at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County at the Court House Door 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

Montgomery County

Ballard Spahr LLP 1909 K Street, NW, 12th Floor Washington, DC 20006-1157 202-661-2200

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

By virtue of a certain Purchase Money Deed of Trust from Kent D. Burstein (the "Borrower"), dated January 23, 2013 and recorded February 14, 2013 in Liber 46101, Folio 446 among the Land Records of the Montgomery County (the "Land Records") and subsequently modified by Modification of Deed of Trust dated September 1, 2015 and recorded November 10, 2015 in Liber 51242, Folio 398, (collectively, the "Deed of Trust"), a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell, at public auction, at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County at the Court House Door 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

Montgomery County

Ballard Spahr LLP 1909 K Street, NW, 12th Floor Washington, DC 20006-1157 202-661-2200

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

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Montgomery County

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

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Montgomery County

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE VALUABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME 14000 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC (ROCKVILLE), MD 20854

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC

6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101

Rockville, MD 20852

(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE

OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

9315 WEAVER ST.

SILVER SPRING, MD 20901

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated April 13, 2009, recorded in Liber 37230, Folio 101 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of \$525,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 16, 2023 AT 3:32 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$22,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 356120-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al., Substitute Trustees



908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838

www.alexcooper.com

May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

12423833

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Prince Georges County

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Prince Georges County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC

11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302

Hunt Valley, MD 21031

470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

3033 MIA LANE

UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20774

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated August 27, 2019, and recorded in Liber 42596, folio 38, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, with an original principal balance of \$402,573.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 29, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 13-5591386

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article §§ 11-110 and §§ 11B-117.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$38,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 4.75% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-031461)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson, Bryson Stephen, Substitute Trustees



300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-768-9797

www.hwestauctions.com

June 13, 20, 27, 2023

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Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC

11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302

Hunt Valley, MD 21031

470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

8300 20TH AVENUE

HYATTSVILLE, MD 20783

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated August 16, 2007, and recorded in Liber 28570, folio 682, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, with an original principal balance of \$544,185.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 15, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 17-1954429

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article §§ 11-110 and §§ 11B-117.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$33,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.78% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (21-136182)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson, Bryson Stephen, Substitute Trustees



300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-768-9797

www.hwestauctions.com

May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

12418187

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Prince Georges County

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Prince Georges County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC

11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302

Hunt Valley, MD 21031

470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

1927 DUTCH VILLAGE DR UNIT I-243

HYATTSVILLE, MD 20785

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated February 1, 2008, and recorded in Liber 29536, folio 303, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, with an original principal balance of \$205,500.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 22, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 13-1458074

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article §§ 11-110 and §§ 11B-117.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$8,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 3.81% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (21-013369)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson, Bryson Stephen, Thomas Gartner, Substitute Trustees



300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-768-9797

www.hwestauctions.com

June 6, 13, 20, 2023

12421987

GREENSPOON MARDER, LLP

201 International Circle, Suite 230

Hunt Valley, MD 21030

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

9200 EDWARDS WAY, APT 712

Hyattsville, MD 20783

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from JOYCE M. HICKMAN NKA JOYCE M. HICKMAN-WRIGHT, dated October 6, 2008 and recorded in book 30142, page 037 among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. CAEF22-28423; Tax ID No. 17-1962331) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY courthouse located at FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772.

JUNE 22, 2023 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$ 20,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 68612.0155)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON, MARC MEDEL, Substitute Trustee (s)



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Hunt Valley, MD 21031

470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

14705 S SPRINGFIELD ROAD

BRANDYWINE, MD 20613

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated June 12, 2006, and recorded in Liber 25516, folio 187, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, with an original principal balance of \$525,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 22, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 11-177302

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article §§ 11-110 and §§ 11B-117.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$22,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 6.53% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (21-012383)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson, Bryson Stephen, Thomas Gartner, Substitute Trustees



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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

419 BENTWOOD DRIVE

Fort Washington, MD 20744

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from IRWIN ELMO ST. HOLDER AND BARBARA S. ST. HOLDER, dated June 26, 2008 and recorded in book 29839, page 207 among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-16-CV-22-000701; Tax ID No. 12-1244698) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY courthouse located at FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772.

JUNE 22, 2023 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$ 42,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 68612.0147)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON, NICOLE LIPINSKI, MARC MEDEL, Substitute Trustee (s)



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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

10405 FARRAR AVENUE

Cheltenham, MD 20623

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from BARBARA JORDON BETHUNE AND NATHANIEL BETHUNE, dated January 28, 2008 and recorded in book 29312, page 535 among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. CAEF22-22249; Tax ID No. 11-1157445) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY courthouse located at FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772.

JUNE 22, 2023 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$ 36,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 68612.0153)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON, NICOLE LIPINSKI, MARC MEDEL, Substitute Trustee (s)



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TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

4323 APPLE ORCHARD LANE UNIT 1

SUITLAND, MD 20746

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated April 24, 2009, and recorded in Liber 30601, folio 562, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, with an original principal balance of \$306,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 22, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 06-3138641

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article §§ 11-110 and §§ 11B-117.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$21,000.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 2.698% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (20-078554)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson, Bryson Stephen, Thomas Gartner, Substitute Trustees

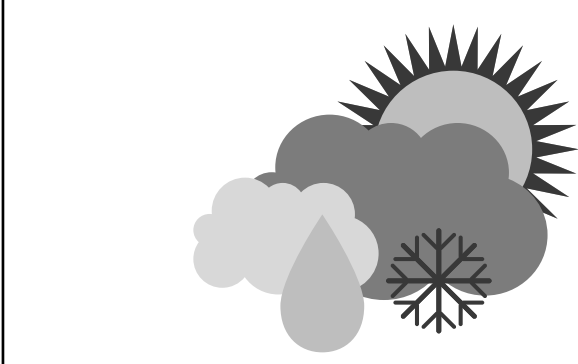


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TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

10206 PRINCE PLACE #201 LARGO, MD 20774

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated May 10, 2007, and recorded in Liber 27936, folio 86, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of \$310,500.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 15, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 13-1444462

The property and improvements will be sold in an 'AS IS' physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article    11-110 and    11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$13,000.00 by cashier/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.9% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (21-012355)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson,
Bryson Stephen, Thomas Gartner,
Substitute Trustees

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

12623 HEMING LANE Bowie, MD 20716

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from ADAM WILLIAM KROLL, dated March 6, 2008 and recorded in book 29475 , page 384 among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. CAEF22-26670; Tax ID No. 07-0693218) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY courthouse located at FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 .

JUNE 15, 2023 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an 'as is' condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$ 40,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 58342.0244)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON, NICOLE LIPINSKI, MARC MEDEL, Substitute Trustee (s)

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470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

2809 COLEBROOKE DRIVE TEMPLE HILLS, MD 20748

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated May 12, 2006, and recorded in Liber 25288, folio 024, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of \$412,500.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 15, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 06-0653055

The property and improvements will be sold in an 'AS IS' physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article    11-110 and    11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$15,000.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 6.48% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (21-068094)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson,
Bryson Stephen, Substitute Trustees

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

2009 WOODBERRY STREET Hyattsville, MD 20782

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from CHARLES LOUIS GOODALL AKA CHARLES L. GOODALL AND TREAVOS SIMMONS GOODALL AKA TREAVOUS S. GOODALL, dated June 18, 2008 and recorded in book 29898 , page 208 among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. CAEF22-17007; Tax ID No. 17-1917707) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY courthouse located at FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 .

JUNE 15, 2023 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an 'as is' condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$ 36,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 58342.0305)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON, NICOLE LIPINSKI, MARC MEDEL, Substitute Trustee (s)

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May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

12421379

851

Prince Georges County

851

Prince Georges County

GREENSPOON MARDER, LLP

201 International Circle, Suite 230
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

905 KARLSON AVENUE Hyattsville, MD 20783

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from FREDERICK WARREN COLEMAN AND VICTORIA J. COLEMAN, dated June 28, 2017 and recorded in book 40004 , page 238 among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. CAEF22-28427; Tax ID No. 17-1858166) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY courthouse located at FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 .

JUNE 15, 2023 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an 'as is' condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$ 21,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 58342.0332)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON, MARCL MEDEL, NICOLE LIPINSKI, Substitute Trustee (s)

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May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

12421537

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC

11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

3909 DONNELL DRIVE DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MD 20747

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated October 11, 2007, and recorded in Liber 28946, folio 498, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of \$544,185.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 15, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 06-0542134

The property and improvements will be sold in an 'AS IS' physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article    11-110 and    11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$25,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.12% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (21-013365)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson,
Bryson Stephen, Substitute Trustees

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May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

12417477

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC

11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

9608 CALTOR LANE FORT WASHINGTON, MD 20744

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated September 11, 2006, and recorded in Liber 27305, folio 466, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of \$544,185.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 15, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 05-0360594

The property and improvements will be sold in an 'AS IS' physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article    11-110 and    11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$31,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 6.53% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-012226)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson,
Bryson Stephen, Substitute Trustees

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May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

12421309

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC

11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

6203 LARWIN DRIVE TEMPLE HILLS, MD 20748

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated September 20, 2007, and recorded in Liber 28899, folio 001, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of \$525,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 15, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 06-0453100

The property and improvements will be sold in an 'AS IS' physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article    11-110 and    11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$29,000.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.65% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-033407)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson,
Bryson Stephen, Thomas Gartner,
Substitute Trustees

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May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

12421308

Samuel I. White, P.C.

596 Linnhaven Parkway, Suite 200
Virginia Beach, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

5225 Cochran Road Beltsville, MD 20705

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to STEWART TITLE GUARANTY, Trustee(s), dated July 26, 2013, and recorded among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND** in Liber 35107, folio 297, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 22, 2023 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED EIGHT (8) IN A SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "PINEHAVEN", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AMONG THE PLAT RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND, IN PLAT BOOK B88 AT FOLIO 21.

The property will be sold in an 'AS IS WHERE IS' condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 5% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.

The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sol remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. (76103)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUE TRUSTEES

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June 6, 13, 20, 2023

12422411

Pardo & Drazin, LLC

Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

3781 Red Berry Drive Port Republic (Calvert County), MD 20676

Account ID No. 01-223704

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust ("Deed of Trust") from Monster Investments, Inc., as grantor, to Daniel Huertas, as trustee, dated May 24, 2019 and recorded on June 26, 2019 in Book 5384 at Page 131 in the principal amount of \$269,500.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and pursuant to a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee appointing Russell S. Drazin ("Trustee") as substitute trustee under the Deed of Trust, Trustee will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for Calvert County, located at 175 Main Street, Prince Frederick, Maryland, on

JUNE 15, 2023 AT 1:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in **Calvert County**, Maryland, commonly known as 3781 Red Berry Drive, Port Republic (Calvert County), MD 20676, and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust, as well as ALL PERSONAL PROPERTY encumbered by the Deed of Trust (collectively, 'Property').

The Property will be sold in an 'AS IS' condition and subject to recorded covenants, conditions, restrictions, agreements, and senior liens, if any, and with no warranty of any kind (except as required by the Deed of Trust).

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$50,000.00 by cashier's check will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds within ten (10) days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Calvert County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate in effect under the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust from the date of sale to the date of settlement. Secured Party, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

Purchaser shall settle within ten (10) days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Calvert County. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER. Cost of all documentary stamps (recording taxes), transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by purchaser. Taxes, ground rent, water, and sewer, if applicable, are to be adjusted for the current year to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by purchaser.

In the event purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, Trustee may file a motion to resell the Property at the risk and expense of defaulting purchaser. Purchaser hereby consents to entry of such resale Order without further notice. Defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the Property, and the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including attorneys' fees and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Purchaser shall pay all attorneys' fees and costs, and all other damages of any kind or nature, incurred by Trustee and the secured party, and their respective agents, employees, successors and assigns, in connection with any such default.

If Trustee is unable to convey title, purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect.

Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the Property from the date of sale forward.

Trustee reserves the right, in his sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the Property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.

Additional terms may be announced at the sale. Purchaser will be required to execute and deliver to Trustee a contract of the sale at the conclusion of the bidding.

Russell S. Drazin, Substitute Trustee

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May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

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June 6, 13, 20, 2023

12422411

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Frederick County

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Frederick County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON**

**3836 SUGARLOAF PKWY.
FREDERICK, MD 21704**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated May 10, 2006, recorded in Liber 6178, Folio 262 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of \$457,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JUNE 16, 2023 AT 12:25 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$69,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 321024-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al., Substitute Trustees



908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

12423830

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY**
KNOWN AS
**4504 VALLEY VIEW RD
Middletown, MD 21769**

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to LESLIE J. KEIDEL, Trustee(s), dated September 1, 2016, and recorded among the Land Records of **FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND** in Liber 11465, folio 350, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE FREDERICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE located AT 100 W. PATRICK ST, FREDERICK, MD 21701 ON,

JUNE 14, 2023 at 9:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in FREDERICK COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED SEVEN (7) IN BLOCK LETTERED "AT AS SHOWN ON A PLAT ENTITLED "PLAT 1, VALLEYVIEW ESTATES" AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, AT PLAT NUMBER 130, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$26,500.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 3.25% on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A. of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020 . File No. (22-00019)

John Ansell, Jeremy B. Wilkins, Robert A. Oliveri, Amanda Driscole, Paul Heinmuller, John C. Hanrahan, Kristopher Hawkins, Substitute Trustees



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May 30, June 6, 13, 2023

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(301) 961-6555

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON**

**2220 REGINA DR.
CLARKSBURG, MD 20871**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated January 25, 2012, recorded in Liber 8725, Folio 405 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of \$349,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JUNE 23, 2023 AT 10:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$34,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 355913-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al., Substitute Trustees



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June 6, 13, 20, 2023

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**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON**

**337 S. MARKET ST.
FREDERICK, MD 21701**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated May 21, 2007, recorded in Liber 6700, Folio 216 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of \$25,500.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JUNE 23, 2023 AT 10:47 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$5,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 201614-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al., Substitute Trustees



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June 6, 13, 20, 2023

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**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**

**9400 F DUBLIN RD.
WALKERSVILLE, MD 21793**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Mark W. Frantz and Vicki A. Frantz a/k/a Vicki S. Frantz dated March 27, 1998 and recorded in Liber 2398, folio 460 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JUNE 30, 2023 AT 11:05 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #26-437113.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$13,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Frederick County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.

If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-001253-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Substitute Trustees



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June 13, 20, 27, 2023

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**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON**

**6941 FISH HATCHERY RD.
FREDERICK, MD 21702**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated April 21, 2006, recorded in Liber 5995, Folio 702 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of \$291,500.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JUNE 30, 2023 AT 11:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #20-405597 and #20-405600.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$19,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 357189-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al., Substitute Trustees



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June 13, 20, 27, 2023

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Laurel, MD 21077
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**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**

**702 FRAILY RD.
EMMITSBURG, MD 21727**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Rodney Springer, dated October 13, 2000 and recorded in Liber 2777, folio 502 and re-recorded in Liber 11937, Folio 135 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof and at the request of the parties secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JUNE 23, 2023 AT 11:02 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Frederick County, Maryland and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.

The property, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, encumbrances and agreements of record affecting the subject property, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit in the form of cashier's or certified check, or in such other form as the Substitute Trustees may determine, at their sole discretion, for \$5,000 at the time of sale. If the noteholder and/or servicer is the successful bidder, the deposit requirement is waived. Balance of the purchase price is to be paid within fifteen (15) days of the final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Frederick County, Maryland. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase price at the rate of 6% per annum from date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees, if the property is purchased by an entity other than the noteholder and/or servicer. If payment of the balance does not occur within fifteen days of ratification, the deposit will be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event settlement is delayed for any reason. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, and all other public charges and assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, and front foot benefit charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to the date of sale, and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes (including agricultural transfer taxes, if applicable), and all settlement charges shall be borne by the purchaser. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the deposit to the purchaser. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. The purchaser at the foreclosure sale shall assume the risk of loss for the property immediately after the sale. (Matter #22-600852).

Laura H. G. O'Sullivan, et al., Substitute Trustees



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June 6, 13, 20, 2023

12424387

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**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**

**9551 WOODBLOCK ROW
COLUMBIA, MD 21045**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Jesse Ardon and Sandra J. Ardon dated October 12, 2006 and recorded in Liber 10336, folio 8 among the Land Records of Howard County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Howard County, at the Court House Door, 9250 Judicial Way, Ellicott City, MD 21043, on

JUNE 30, 2023 AT 9:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Howard County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #16-102563.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$34,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Howard County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.

If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-001274-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Substitute Trustees



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June 13, 20, 27, 2023

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Howard County

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Howard County

GREENSPOON MARDER, LLP
201 International Circle, Suite 230
Hunt Valley, MD 21100

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**
KNOWN AS
**7771 Sharewood Drive
Jessup, MD 20794**

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from DORSEY F. MORGAN, dated October 24, 2007 and recorded in book 10958 , page 564 among the Land Records of **HOWARD COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-13-CV-22-000079; Tax ID No. 06-437605) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction HOWARD COUNTY courthouse located at 9250 JUDICIAL WAY, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043 .

JUNE 14, 2023 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in HOWARD COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$ 30,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for HOWARD COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 68612.0137)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON, NICOLE LIPINSKI,
MARC MEDEL, Substitute Trustee (s)

MEDICAL MYSTERIES



CAM COTTRILL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Her sleep was horribly out of whack

A frightening incident sparked this lawyer’s search for a long-delayed answer

BY SANDRA G. BOODMAN

Beginning in her early 20s, Julie Faenza’s doctors attributed her significant sleep problems — suddenly nodding off during the day and an inability to stay asleep at night — to long-standing anxiety and depression. ¶ Over the years, Faenza took several drugs to treat both conditions, but her sleep problems persisted. A packed schedule and boredom were later added as additional probable causes of her fractured sleep. ¶ The episode that convinced the North Carolina health-care lawyer something else was wrong occurred in 2013, when she fell asleep at the wheel early one morning on her way to work. Badly shaken but uninjured, Faenza, who lives in Raleigh, began a year-long search — punctuated by missteps and erroneous conclusions — that culminated in the discovery of a long-overlooked disorder. SEE MEDICAL MYSTERY ON E4

PERSPECTIVE

It felt like indigestion. I was having a heart attack.

BY KEN BUDD

My symptoms started at least a day before I felt any chest pain. I’d become winded and sweaty after carrying some boxes up and down steps. That evening, I felt pain in my shoulder, neck and back that made it hard to sleep. Twice during the night I woke up sweating. I assumed my ailments were remnants of a stomach bug — I’d thrown up twice two days before — but when pressure began building in my chest, I thought, Whoa, is this my heart? My dad had died of a sudden massive heart attack years before, so even though I didn’t feel terrible, I went to an emergency room. “I’m sure it’s nothing,” I said sheepishly to the triage nurse, feeling a bit like a hypochondriac. Less than an hour later, I was rushed by helicopter to a hospital with a cardiac catheterization lab, where doctors can identify potential blockages and possibly reopen a clogged artery. “Most people will say, ‘You know, a couple days ago, I wasn’t feeling good, I had indigestion’ — there’s usually something that’s not right,” said Alan Schnei- SEE HEART ATTACK ON E6

Rise and shine



KEVIN AMBROSE

The sun appears as a starburst in this early, clear-sky morning at the Tidal Basin in D.C. on March 21. The photo was taken at f/20 to help produce the starburst effect. An expert offers tips for forecasting and photographing the perfect sunrise. E2

ANIMALS

Trainers lead elephants in yoga to monitor their health. E2

MENTAL HEALTH

How to identify gaslighting and protect yourself from it. E5

MENOPAUSE

Why is it so hard to lose weight during this time in life? E5

WELL+BEING

Dementia’s signs, risks: What to know

BY MARLENE CIMONS

More than 55 million people globally live with dementia, and the number is expected to increase to an estimated 153 million by 2050, according to the World Health Organization. With the number of people living with dementia rising, individuals need to take steps to reduce the risk of developing it, experts say. These include sustained physical activity, making healthier lifestyle choices and staying socially connected, a 2020 article published in the Lancet recommended. “Although behavior change is difficult and some associations might not be purely causal, individuals have a huge potential to reduce their dementia risk,” the researchers said. After the recent announcement that former first lady Rosalynn Carter, 95, had been diagnosed with dementia, we asked experts some common questions about dementia. Here are their answers. Can dementia be prevented? Dementia cannot be prevented, but there are ways to reduce the risk of getting it. The Lancet review article recommended: SEE DEMENTIA ON E6

HIDDEN PLANET

A new theory for quiet San Andreas fault

BY KASHA PATEL

The southern San Andreas fault in California is in a seismic drought, going more than 300 years without a major earthquake. New research shows the lack of seismic activity may be due to the drying of the nearby Salton Sea and provides clues on future potential earthquake triggers, including projects aimed to refill the body of water. One of the largest faults in the world, the 800-mile-long San Andreas marks the meeting of the North American and Pacific plates in western California. The fault has three sections, but the southern section from the Salton Sea to Parkfield, Calif., has been historically the quietest — and that’s not a positive. The pent-up energy, when released, could be catastrophic to nearby populated cities. “This fault poses the largest seismic hazard in all of California,” said Ryley Hill, lead author and PhD candidate at San Diego State University. “The southern San Andreas fault is a locked section, and when this fault ruptures . . . it would cause significant damage to the Los Angeles metropolitan area.” Earthquakes generally form when two tectonic plates are essentially stuck SEE SAN ANDREAS ON E4

CAPITAL WEATHER GANG



The sun rises behind the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington on Feb. 25.

KEVIN AMBROSE

Predicting perfect sunrises

Love to photograph them? Learning how to forecast can help you capture some beautiful images.

BY KEVIN AMBROSE

“Red sky in morning, sailor’s warning.” There’s some truth to the adage for predicting a storm. We can revel in the awe of a beautiful scarlet sunrise — and even capture it — before the lashing to come.

Sunrises are most colorful when storm clouds arrive from the west while skies are clear to the east. The light passing through clear skies from the rising sun illuminates the underside of the incoming clouds.

As dust particles and moisture in the atmosphere scatter the sunlight, clouds glow with colorful lights — red, yellow and magenta hues — for 20 to 40 minutes until the sun rises higher.

Still, many sunrises are far from such stellar scenes. When storm clouds blanket the view at sunrise, without a gap of clearing, the sky will transition through shades of gray.

Below, I’ll walk you through how to forecast and photograph the perfect sunrise.

Forecasting a colorful sunrise

If you want to watch or photograph colorful sunrises but would rather skip the gray and drab ones, tools are available to help predict when color will appear in the morning sky. Infrared (IR) satellite imagery shows the location of clouds and clear sky needed to produce the color, and computer weather models can forecast future cloud cover and visibility.

When planning a sunrise photo shoot, I check IR satellite imagery the evening before the shoot and again in the morning before sunrise. If the satellite imagery shows cloud cover overhead with clear skies nearby to the east, there is an excellent chance the sunrise will be colorful. Only a small opening in the clouds to the east is needed to produce beautiful shades.

But when the satellite imagery shows widespread cloud cover extending hundreds of miles east of the area, direct sunlight will be blocked, and the sunrise will be gray.

To increase my odds of success, I usually target approaching storms for my sunrise photo shoots because there will be plenty of clouds in the sky to glow with color, provided there is a gap of clear sky to the east. My rule of thumb is that this gap needs to be 100 miles away or less.

Of course, colorful sunrises can occur without approaching storms. Patches of mid- to high-level clouds can produce picturesque dawns. Cirrus and altocumulus clouds display wispy and speckled cloud patterns.

We can also check satellite imagery to find scattered clouds for predicting sunrise color. Patches of clouds can be fleeting, however, so there is often an element of luck involved with the timing and position of patchy clouds at dawn. If I make an effort to wake up early and drive to the District for a sunrise shoot, I usually target approaching storms and not patchy clouds to increase my odds of success.

Forecasting a clear-sky one

I photograph clear-sky sunrises when cherry blossoms bloom or when the sun aligns with a memorial or monument. These sunrises are less colorful than cloud-filled ones, but the scene is striking when the sun is positioned with blossoms or a recognized landmark.

Clear-sky sunrises are easy to predict by checking IR satellite imagery. If there are no clouds for 100 miles or more in all directions, the sunrise will be clear and bright.

And, with a clear sky, you might be able to create starburst effects in photos with the sun by using a high f/stop (f/16 to f/22) on your camera’s aperture setting. The starburst is created by sunlight diffracting into uniform rays on the camera’s sensor. It helps if an object such as a building, tree or blossom partially blocks the sunlight to reduce brightness. See an example below.

Sunrise spoilers

Common spoilers of a good sunrise are low clouds and fog.

Low clouds typically don’t show up on IR satellite imagery because their tops are often close to the same temperature as the ground. So I check Windy.com to look out for low clouds. I don’t photograph sunrises under low cloud cover because it will block out direct sunlight.

For fog, it’s best to simply look out the window and check weather reports from nearby weather stations. I avoid photographing sunrises when visibility is low because of fog.

Another spoiler of a good sunrise is undesirable objects in the foreground. For example, when the Reflecting Pool by the Washington Monument is drained, sunrise reflections on water are replaced with an unattractive view of an empty concrete basin. It’s the same when cranes and construction equipment are parked next to a memorial or monument — the scene’s beauty is diminished. It’s good to have a backup plan when shooting a sunrise.

Sunrise and sunset prediction apps

If you don’t want to use IR satellite imagery to track clouds, apps are available to help predict colorful sunrises and sunsets. Popular ones include Alpenglow, Skyfire, SkyCandy and MySunset. The app reviews are generally good, but the results vary.

During a recent sunrise photo shoot of the cherry blossoms, a photographer next to me complained that their sunrise app predicted a colorful scene, but that the sky was clear and blue. I mentioned that the IR satellite imagery showed no clouds within 100 miles of our location, so I knew we would have a clear-sky sunrise without much color.

There is also an app for IR satellite imagery so clouds can be tracked on a smartphone.

Tips to photograph a sunrise

- Check the time of the sunrise. Plan to be in position 45 minutes beforehand because the best sky color often precedes sunrise by 20 to 30 minutes.

- Always use a tripod and a remote shutter release, wired or wireless, to avoid camera movement.

- Get apps that can be used to plan where the sun will rise on a particular day. Popular ones are PhotoPills and Photo Ephemeris.

- Include a famous landmark in a sunrise photo to make the scene more interesting. D.C. is full of them, of course.

- Plan a shoot with a large body of water in the foreground to reflect colors. Nearby options include the Tidal Basin, Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool, Capitol Reflecting Pool, and the Potomac and Anacostia rivers.

- Turn off autofocus and lock the focus on objects on the horizon. Otherwise, the autofocus may jump around during the photo shoot.

Final thoughts

- I find that forecasting sunrise color makes watching the sunrise more fascinating because my skills are being tested. It’s fun to see if my prediction holds.

- Sunrises on the edge of storms make for colorful scenes, but the closer the storm, the higher the risk for gray skies because of the abundance of clouds and moisture.

- In the D.C. area, sunrises are generally more colorful in winter than summer. Less pollution allows better visibility in winter, which is needed for crisp, vibrant colors. During summer, however, haze and humidity can reduce visibility and make for subdued colors.

- When watching sunrises, don’t stare at the sun after it rises above the horizon to avoid eye damage. It seems like common sense, but it’s a recurring problem for photographers. Instead, I focus my gaze on my camera’s LCD.

The tools and tips I’ve mentioned should increase your chances of watching and photographing colorful, brilliant sunrises. And I hope the challenge of forecasting color in the sky makes your quest to capture an awesome sunrise more interesting and enjoyable.

Archaeologists find ‘countless’ pottery offerings, ornate artifacts at ancient Greek island temple

Archaeologists excavating a hilltop sanctuary on the Aegean Sea island of Kythnos have discovered “countless” pottery offerings left by ancient worshippers over the centuries, Greece’s Culture Ministry said last Wednesday.

A ministry statement said the finds from work this year included more than 2,000 intact or almost complete clay figurines, mostly of women and children but also some of male actors, as well as of tortoises, lions, pigs and birds.

Several ceremonial pottery vessels that were unearthed are linked with the worship of Demeter, the ancient Greek goddess of agriculture, and her daughter Persephone, to whom the excavated sanctuary complex was dedicated.

The seaside site of Vryokastro on Kythnos was the ancient capital of the island, inhabited without break between the 12th century B.C. and the A.D. 7th century, when it was abandoned for a stronger position during a period of pirate raids.

The artifacts came from the scant ruins of the two small temples, a long building close by that may have served as a temple

storeroom and a nearby pit where older offerings were buried to make space for new ones.

The sanctuary was in use for about a thousand years, starting from the 7th century B.C.

The excavation by Greece’s University of Thessaly and the Culture Ministry also found luxury pottery imported from other parts of Greece, ornate lamps and fragments of ritual vases used in the worship of Demeter and Persephone at Eleusis, an ancient Athens suburb.

It is unclear to what extent the site on Kythnos was associated with Eleusis — one of the most important religious centers in ancient Greece, where the goddesses were worshiped during secret rites that were only open to initiates forbidden to speak of what they saw.

The sanctuary at Eleusis is known to have owned land on the island.

Kythnos, in the Cyclades island group, was first inhabited about 10,000 years ago.

Its copper deposits were mined from the 3rd millennium B.C.

In Roman times, it was a place of political exile.

— Associated Press



GREEK CULTURE MINISTRY/AP

Clay figurines found during an excavation at an ancient sanctuary on the Aegean Sea island of Kythnos.

SCIENCE SCAN



ISTOCK

A hummingbird hawk-moth feeds on nectar from a flower.

ENTOMOLOGY

All the buzz is usually about bees. But moths also appear to be vital pollinators, study says

BY ERIN BLAKEMORE

Modern gardeners often plant bee-friendly flowers in a bid to attract the pollinators and ensure their long-term survival. But recent research on moths’ role in plant pollination suggests the less-heralded insects are just as important as bees — and hints it might be time to give them the respect they deserve.

Published in the journal Ecology Letters, the study looked at moths and bees in community gardens in Leeds, England, during the 2019 growing season. Bees and moths were collected during May, June and September. Researchers removed pollen from the insects using DNA sequencing to determine what kinds of pollen stuck to the moths and bees during their flights.

Their analysis revealed that the creatures visit different types of plants. While bees were most drawn to brassica crops like cabbage, maple trees and brambbling plants, moths visited most often nightshade plants like tomatoes and potatoes, butterfly bushes and linden trees.

They also play a larger role in pollination than once thought: The researchers discovered that moths are involved in the pollination of reductants, strawberries and stone fruit, preferences they say were not previously known to be moth-pollinated. The moths carried more diverse pollen than the bees during the midsummer, accounting for a third of all plant-

Negative effects of urbanisation on diurnal and nocturnal pollen-transport networks

Ecology Letters

pollinator visits studied.

“People don’t generally appreciate moths so they can often be overlooked compared to bees when talking about protection and conservation,” said Emilie Ellis, a University of Helsinki doctoral researcher who was a co-author on the paper while working at the University of Sheffield’s Grantham Centre for Sustainable Futures, in a news release.

“It’s becoming apparent that there needs to be a much more focused effort to raise awareness of the important role moths play in establishing healthy environments, especially as we know moth populations have drastically declined over the past 50 years,” Ellis said.

That population loss could present a “significant and previously unacknowledged threat” to pollination of both wild and crop plants, the researchers noted. They said conservation efforts should target both bees and moths and take into consideration that moths seem to prefer wild plants.

These “important, but overlooked” insects may be more sensitive to urbanization than bees, the researchers said — all the more reason to include them in conservation plans.

HEALTH & SCIENCE

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Another species is doing yoga to stay healthy: Elephants

BY KYLE MELNICK

Teddy practiced his balance before stretching his body in a downward-dog pose during recent a yoga session. Afterward, he rewarded himself with a tasty treat.

The yoga session didn’t feature mats, relaxing music or meditation, though. Instead, Teddy completed his exercises at the Houston Zoo, where trainers guide the 2-year-old elephant in daily yoga exercises to monitor his health.

Kristin Windle, the zoo’s elephants supervisor, said the exercises are just as effective as they were nearly a century ago, when employees started them. She evaluates her 12 Asian elephants’ flexibility, energy and skin condition during their regimens.

“It’s something that we’ve done from Day One of having all these elephants,” Windle told The Washington Post. “They learn these behaviors so that we can monitor their overall health.”

The elephants’ workout routine, first reported by the Houston Chronicle, is similar to those at zoos across the country and

abroad. Some experts say a lack of exercise has caused zoo elephants to live shorter lives than those in the wild. Yoga can increase longevity in older adults, and Windle said she believes it can assist elephants.

Zoo staff start teaching elephants introductory exercises when the pachyderms turn 4 months old. First, they attach a tennis ball to a broom handle and let the elephants play with it. Later, Windle and other trainers encourage elephants to move the body parts they touch with the stick. After the elephants perform the moves, such as stretching to one side while raising their leg, trainers hand them a treat. The bananas, whole wheat bread, raisins, sweet potatoes and cantaloupe are a break from their normal diet of hay and bark.

“As soon as they make the connection that, ‘Oh, I touch this and I get food’ . . . they react pretty well to it,” said Windle, 33.

Over the next few months, the elephants progress to more advanced movements, such as lying down and moving into a down-



JACKELIN REYNA/HOUSTON ZOO

Elephants supervisor Kristin Windle guides Tess, a 39-year-old pachyderm, in yoga exercises at the Houston Zoo.

ward-dog-like pose with their four feet on the ground and their backs arched. The elephants eventually become accustomed to voice cues and pointing, so trainers stop using the stick.

One 39-year-old elephant, Tess, can even do a handstand.

Windle said the yoga sessions last anywhere from 30 seconds to five minutes, and they are done at least three times per day. Methai, a 54-year-old elephant with arthritis, gets extra exercises to improve her walking and sleeping. On the rare occasions that elephants don’t want to exercise, they are

allowed to walk away.

The elephants’ regimes are especially notable given the weight they carry. Thailand and Methai weigh about 11,000 pounds and 7,000 pounds, respectively. The zoo’s youngest elephant, Teddy, surpassed 2,000 pounds last week.

While elephants perform exercises, Windle watches their movements and checks for troubling spots or rashes on their bodies. Asian elephants live about 47 years, Windle said, and she wants to keep them with their families for as long as possible.

BIG NUMBER

10 years

National Hockey League “enforcers,” those players who engage in frequent fights on the ice, tend to die about 10 years earlier than their teammates, according to a study published in the journal JAMA Network Open. It describes enforcers as hockey players who “engage in fights to intimidate opponents and gain momentum for their team.” Using NHL data on 6,039 men who played in the league from 1967 to 2022, the researchers compared enforcers — 331 players who had been in 50 or more fights, and 183 who had averaged three or more penalty minutes per game — with the same number of players (514) who were not enforcers but were similar in terms of age, height, weight, position on the team and number of games played. The researchers used fighting and penalty time as proxies for players’ exposure to repetitive head trauma. In the groups being compared, 45 died in the years covered by the study, with no significant difference in the mortality rate between enforcers and other players. But the researchers found that enforcers had died at a younger age than the others — in their mid to late 40s rather than mid to late 50s. The researchers wrote that “fighting exposes players to repetitive head trauma and may be associated with increased risk of developing CTE,” or chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a degenerative brain disorder linked to repeated head injuries, such as those sustained by football players. For the 21 hockey enforcers who died, the study found that 11 died of causes often related to CTE, such as neurodegenerative disorders, drug overdoses, suicides and motor vehicle crashes. None of the other players died of these causes, except for one death from a vehicle crash. “It is time that the NHL aligns with other professional sports and eliminates fighting,” the researchers wrote.

— Linda Searing

HEALTH SCAN

PEDIATRICS

Physicians should also examine the siblings of suspected child abuse victims, group says

BY ERIN BLAKEMORE

When children are brought to a doctor with suspected injuries related to abuse or neglect, they often undergo MRIs and other screenings designed to find internal injuries. Now, an international group is calling for pediatricians to examine siblings and other children who may have been exposed to abuse.

In a consensus statement in JAMA Pediatrics, a group of 26 pediatricians and radiologists with experience working with cases of suspected child abuse calls for the routine examination of “contact children” — siblings, children who live with a suspected victim and those cared for by suspected perpetrators.

Physicians should examine these children’s skin, ears, throat, genitalia and growth, the statement says, and children under age 2 should also have their bones examined for potential fractures or other injuries.

These examinations should occur even if the contact children appear to be asymptomatic, the statement says, because injuries such as hemorrhages and torn ligaments may be only visible with imaging.

Current guidelines on contact children are variable or nonexistent, the committee writes, with up to 40 percent of contact children going unscreened.

Yet children living in the same home or in contact with the same caretaker often undergo the same maltreatment: In one

International Consensus Statement on the Radiological Screening of Contact Children in the Context of Suspected Child Physical Abuse

JAMA Pediatrics

2005 study of the siblings of suspected abuse victims, for example, researchers found that in 37 percent of cases, all of the siblings were maltreated, and in 20 percent some, but not all, of the siblings were abused.

The researchers in the current study note that multiple-birth siblings are at particular risk.

Old injuries are often discovered while examining a child with injuries that potentially show new maltreatment. In one 2018 study, for example, researchers found that 19.7 percent of children under 2 who showed suspected abuse symptoms had older head injuries, too. Other studies have shown that children ages 3 to 5 are less likely to need skeletal examinations in suspected abuse situations.

The consensus statement also suggests standard protocols for MRIs, CT scans and follow-up imaging.

“It is our hope that this international consensus statement will provoke a shift in clinical practice such that the routine screening of contact children is incorporated as a standard of care reflective of society’s obligation to the young and vulnerable,” the group writes.

FROM CONSUMER REPORTS

Keeping your teeth clean and healthy

BY CATHERINE ROBERTS

The advice from dental experts for keeping your teeth clean sounds simple enough: Brush twice a day and floss. But choosing among the many products available to help you do this can be daunting. Electric toothbrush or manual? Soft or hard bristles? String floss or water flosser?

The right answers depend partly on your preferences. “Hopefully what you experience with any toothbrush is that you’re getting your teeth clean, and then you’re going to want to use it again,” says Edmond R. Hewlett, a professor at the UCLA School of Dentistry in Los Angeles and a consumer adviser for the American Dental Association (ADA).

But there are tooth-care products with clear advantages. We explain which dental hygiene strategies work best and what to consider when picking products.

Q: Are electric toothbrushes better for your teeth?

A: Most evidence suggests that they are, at least a little. A 2014 analysis of previously published studies by Cochrane, an independent, London-based panel of experts, found that over several months, powered brushes removed 21 percent more plaque and reduced gum inflammation by 11 percent more than manual brushes. Two more recent studies, by scientists who had funding from companies that make toothbrushes, found similar results.

But the real-life significance of that research might not mean much for your overall oral health. Electric brushes might be better for some people, says Olivia Sheridan, a professor of clinical restorative dentistry at the University of Pennsylvania, because they can be easier to use for those who lack manual dexterity or have braces or permanent retainers, or those who care for someone who needs help brushing their teeth. But your technique may matter more than whether you use a manual or electric brush. Both types of brushes can be “completely effective in plaque removal” and in helping to prevent gum disease, says Sheridan.

What features should you look for? Cleaning ability is key, and it’s the most significant factor in Consumer Reports’ electric toothbrush scores. You should also seek out brushes with features such as a two-minute timer and a pressure sensor. The ADA says that most people brush their teeth for less than a minute, so a built-in timer can help. A pressure sensor can warn you if you’re pressing too hard with your brush, which can damage gums and enamel.



ISTOCK

Sheridan also recommends looking for brushes that pause when it’s time to move from one section of your mouth to the next.

Q: What kind of bristles are ideal?

A: Although you’ll find manual toothbrushes with bristles ranging from extra-soft to hard, medium- or hard-bristle brushes are best reserved for tasks such as cleaning the grout in your kitchen or bathroom tile. For your teeth, dental experts say you should use a soft- or extra-soft-bristle brush.

That’s because harder bristles can injure your delicate gum tissue. They can also potentially damage your teeth, says Clifton Carey, a professor at the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine at Anschutz Medical Campus.

Q: Which is better, a rotating or a sonic electric toothbrush?

A: Both kinds can do a great job of cleaning your teeth. Rotating toothbrushes have a round head that rotates or oscillates. Sonic brushes have a more typical elongated head shape resembling a manual brush, with bristles that move side to side so quickly they produce an audible hum.

Some research suggests that rotating toothbrushes may have a slight edge over sonic types.

But a 2021 analysis in the Journal of the American Dental Association designed to assess real-world effectiveness concluded there wasn’t enough evidence to pick a winner. And testing by Consumer Reports concurs: We found models of both types that performed well.

If you’re not sure which type of electric brush you’ll like, check to make sure that you can return it if you decide it’s not right for you.

Q: Do you really need to floss?

A: Yes. You may have rejoiced over headlines a few years back that claimed there’s not much evidence supporting flossing. And in 2019, even the Cochrane panel characterized the evidence showing that flossing helps reduce gum disease as “low certainty,” with inconsistent results.

But don’t toss out your dental floss yet. Although the evidence might not be especially rigorous, regular flossing is supported by basic biology, experts say. When done correctly, flossing removes bacteria in parts of your mouth that brushing can’t get to. Good flossing technique generally involves gently rubbing the floss strand in a C-shape against both sides of each tooth and at the gumline.

Q: Which toothpaste should you use?

A: Any toothpaste that has fluoride should do the trick. That’s the most important ingredient because it prevents cavities and helps you avoid tooth decay by strengthening the enamel. Fluoride is so important that the ADA doesn’t provide its Seal of Acceptance to fluoride-free toothpastes.

There are other ingredients in some toothpastes that you may want to stay away from. For example, research has found that people who frequently get canker sores may get fewer ones when they avoid toothpastes that contain sodium lauryl sulfate.

Q: How often do you need a teeth cleaning?

A: You’ve probably heard you should get cleanings every six months. But a 2020 Cochrane review found that adults who timed their visits based on their risk factors (which you can discuss with your dentist) did no worse than people who followed the six-months rule.

The ADA says tailoring your visits to your individual health risks is a good one.

If you’re not at high risk for cavities — your teeth are otherwise healthy and you don’t eat a lot of sweets, for example — seeing a dentist once a year may be sufficient for you, Carey says.

On the other hand, people at higher risk may need to go in more often. If you struggle with a dry mouth, for instance, a common occurrence for people who are taking multiple medications, Carey says you may need to see your dentist more frequently, because saliva is one of the biggest protectors of teeth.



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For years she dozed off at work and woke often at night

MEDICAL MYSTERY FROM E1

“It was a game changer almost immediately,” Faenza, now 42, said of the treatment she received for the ailment that took eight years to diagnose. “At the time I wasn’t someone who did a lot of medical research. I hadn’t needed to.” Her experience changed that.

Mental health explanation

Faenza’s sleep problems surfaced around 2006. Since adolescence the medication she had taken for depression and anxiety had been reasonably effective.

But no matter how much rest Faenza had gotten the previous night, she began feeling unusually sleepy during the day. She routinely ducked out to her car for a 30-minute nap during her lunch break at work.

“I always felt better after a nap,” she said.

At night she fell asleep quickly but had trouble staying asleep. She often woke up after an hour or two and had difficulty going back to sleep. Her psychiatrist prescribed a popular sleep drug that seemed to help for a while.

In 2008, Faenza, who was working full-time, enrolled in night law school, which involved classes from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. That year she decided to undergo gastric bypass weight loss surgery after a long battle with severe obesity.

Preoperative testing included a polysomnogram (PSG), an overnight test performed at a sleep center in which a person is hooked up to electrodes that monitor brain activity and breathing patterns during sleep. A PSG is the primary test for sleep apnea, a common and potentially serious condition in which breathing stops briefly and repeatedly. Apnea is a particular risk for severely obese patients who can experience serious complications while under anesthesia.

Faenza was relieved to learn she didn’t have sleep apnea. Her December surgery went well.

But losing weight did not improve her sleep, which by 2010 had worsened dramatically. Faenza frequently dozed off during night classes; getting through a full day of work without falling asleep became nearly impossible. She was prescribed Adderall, a widely used stimulant that she took during the day to help her stay awake, and Xanax, a potentially addictive sedative used for anxiety, to help her stay asleep at night. Neither seemed to help much.

Her therapist and psychiatrist, noting that Faenza was engaged and planning a wedding scheduled the day after her 2011 law school graduation, decided she was overloaded.

“They said, ‘Of course you’re

tired, you have so much going on,” Faenza remembered being told. The expectation was that after the twin events, her sleep would improve.

When it didn’t, the explanation shifted.

“You’re bored,” she remembered her therapist telling her. Once she had an engaging legal job, the therapist predicted, her sleep problems would resolve.

By October 2012, Faenza who had married, passed the bar and gotten a job as a legal analyst, began lowering her dose of Adderall under a doctor’s supervision in the hope that might improve her sleep. She also began going to a gym regularly before work; exercise reduced her daytime sleepiness.

One morning in early spring 2013, after seven hours sleep, Faenza hit the gym at 5:30 a.m., returned home for a shower and breakfast and then drove to work.

As she was turning into her office complex shortly before 7:30 she suddenly fell asleep, only to be awakened by a violent jolt as her car rolled onto a curb. She was uninjured — and greatly relieved that no other cars or pedestrians were in the vicinity.

“I was terrified,” Faenza said. “I hadn’t even realized I was sleepy.” She had often fallen asleep without warning at home while reading or listening to music, but never while driving.

Faenza called her internist who referred her to a sleep disorders clinic.

A ‘visual barricade’

In April Faenza saw a physician assistant at a sleep clinic. The PA ordered a second PSG, followed by a multiple sleep latency test consisting of a series of naps that assess daytime sleepiness.

Faenza said she was told she had to discontinue stimulants a week before the test but could take other medication. No stimulants posed a problem: She doubted she could stay awake at work.

To minimize the chance of being caught sleeping, Faenza had erected what she called a “visual barricade” on her desk. She sat strategically positioned behind two large computer monitors that faced her office door, which shielded her from view if she nodded off. Faenza decided to take the week off before the sleep study.

To her surprise, the PSG showed that she did have sleep apnea — a result that contradicted the finding five years earlier. And the sleep latency test showed that she fell asleep in 2.6 minutes on average; a reading under five minutes is regarded as indicative of a disorder.

But the latency test did not detect periods of sleep character-



AMARIS HAMES

“It was a game changer almost immediately,” Julie Faenza says of the treatment she received after years of false leads.

“I wish I had started doing research earlier.”

Julie Faenza

ized by rapid eye movements (REM). The presence of REM episodes so early in the sleep cycle can indicate narcolepsy, a chronic neurological disorder that impairs the brain’s sleep/wake cycles and causes excessive daytime sleepiness.

The PA concluded that Faenza’s problems were the result of apnea. She prescribed an additional stimulant, replaced the Xanax with a different medicine at bedtime and recommended that Faenza be fitted for a CPAP machine, a device that uses mild air pressure to keep breathing airways open during sleep.

But after six months on the new drug regimen, and despite nightly use of her CPAP, Faenza continued to conk out without warning during the day. In January 2014 the PA ordered another PSG and a maintenance of wakefulness test, which assesses daytime alertness in a dark room specially designed to induce sleep. The test can help determine the severity of sleep apnea symptoms. Although Faenza

learned later that the wakefulness test was performed incorrectly, she still fell asleep much more quickly than expected. She was advised to adjust the settings on her CPAP.

In late January 2014 Faenza met with a neurologist specializing in sleep disorders — the first time she had seen a doctor during her treatment for a sleep disorder. He told her that she had undergone all possible tests and that he didn’t know why treatment wasn’t working or what was wrong; she didn’t fit the criteria for narcolepsy or other sleep disorders. Other than adding additional stimulants, he had nothing to suggest, Faenza recalled.

“It was really upsetting and frustrating,” she said. “This was affecting so many things in my world. I wasn’t doing well at work, and I couldn’t do much of anything else. It felt like I was going to be in a perpetual state of exhaustion.”

Faenza decided her only choice was to start searching for

answers on her own. “I started Googling,” she recalled.

She was struck by the description of a condition called cataplexy that occurs in Type 1 narcolepsy. “It clicked,” Faenza said.

Cataplexy is the sudden loss of voluntary muscle control and weakness while awake that is triggered by strong emotions including anger, fear or excitement. Episodes, which last seconds to a few minutes, can be occasional or frequent and resolve on their own. Cataplexy is not present in Type 2 narcolepsy, which tends to be less severe.

For years Faenza had noticed that when she got angry or excited her legs felt briefly “tingly and weird” and weak. She also noted that in some cases people with narcolepsy can fall asleep without warning during activities including eating, talking or driving.

The cause of narcolepsy, which can range from mild to debilitating, is unknown. The disorder is estimated to affect 1 in 2,000 Americans. It often develops in adolescence and is believed to result from genetic factors coupled with an environmental trigger. Excessive daytime sleepiness is its hallmark symptom.

If untreated, the lifelong disorder can greatly impair social, cognitive and psychological functioning. Treatment typically consists of medication and lifestyle changes.

Faenza emailed the neurologist to ask if she might have cataplexy. He dismissed the possibility; cataplexy, he replied, affects the head or neck, not the legs. He offered to repeat the sleep latency test but said he doubted it would yield a different result — unless Faenza had not stopped taking her antidepressant before the test. (Antidepressants can skew the results.)

That stopped Faenza cold. She told him she had continued taking the drug because no one had told her not to.

“I was angry,” Faenza recalled. She decided she needed to start over, this time with a new doctor. “If they didn’t tell me to stop [the drug] the first time, I couldn’t trust them to do the test right.”

Her internist referred her to a new sleep specialist.

Yet another sleep study

The second neurologist told her he suspected she might have Type 1 narcolepsy. He ordered a test for genetic markers associated with cataplexy, which can reveal low levels of a brain hormone called hypocretin, which helps control sleep cycles. If Faenza did not have one of these markers, he said, narcolepsy was unlikely.

After one marker was found, Faenza repeated the polysomnogram and the sleep latency test — this time without stimulants or

antidepressants. The prospect of not taking the antidepressant that had worked well was scary, said Faenza, whose doctors helped wean her off the drug over a six-week period.

The repeat PSG found no sign of sleep apnea, while the sleep latency test was abnormal and detected REM episodes. Faenza was diagnosed with Type 1 narcolepsy.

“When I got the results I cried with joy,” she recalled. After eight years, her problem had a name and could be treated.

Such a delay is not uncommon, said Charles Bae, a sleep specialist who is an associate professor of medicine and neurology at the University of Pennsylvania. It can take five to 10 years for patients to receive a narcolepsy diagnosis, he noted, although awareness of the disorder is increasing.

“There are any number of things more common than narcolepsy,” he said. Depression and anxiety can cause excessive sleepiness and insomnia.

But cataplexy can be a tip-off. And contrary to what the neurologist told Faenza, it can affect any part of the body, not just the head, Bae noted.

The lack of education about sleep disorders in medical school remains a barrier to timely diagnosis, he added. “Sometimes even sleep doctors just focus on the test results.”

Soon after her diagnosis Faenza began taking sodium oxybate or xyrem, better known as GHB or the “date rape drug.” Xyrem is approved to treat narcolepsy, although it is not clear how it works. The drug may slow brain activity, improving the quality and duration of sleep. Access is tightly controlled by the Food and Drug Administration. Faenza also takes daytime stimulants and has adjusted her sleep schedule.

The results were dramatic. “I wasn’t falling asleep all the time,” Faenza said. She was able to stay asleep at night and the episodes of cataplexy diminished.

Faenza, who believes her maternal grandmother had narcolepsy that was never diagnosed, wishes she had heeded advice her mother had given her years earlier. A longtime registered nurse, her mother emphasized the importance of knowledge and self-advocacy in medical matters.

“It’s not wrong to trust doctors,” Faenza said, “but I could have asked better questions and bypassed some negative consequences. I wish I had started doing research earlier.”

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Research points to Salton Sea’s possible part in activity of San Andreas fault

SAN ANDREAS FROM E1

at their edges because of friction, building stress. When the stress becomes greater than the frictional forces, the two blocks can suddenly slip past one another and release the energy in waves and cause shaking.

The U.S. Geological Survey estimates a high probability that an earthquake at a magnitude of 6.7 or greater could occur in the next 30 years in the Los Angeles area.

The study, published in Nature last week, investigated earthquake activity along the southern San Andreas fault over the past 1,000 years. Collecting field data from rocks near the fault, Hill and his colleagues found earthquakes occurred about every 180 years, give or take 40 years, and coincided with high water levels of the nearby ancient Lake Cahuilla.

“If previous earthquakes on it occurred every 180 years, plus or minus 40 years, why is it that we sit on 300 years without an earthquake?” Hill asked. “This made a lot of scientists scratch their heads for many years. Understanding the history of this fault and what may have caused ruptures in the past helps us inform our understanding of what might happen in the future.”

The team created a computer model that simulated how a full lake affected the fault. They found high water levels in Lake Cahuilla prompted activity along the fault in two aspects. First, the weight of the lake water caused the crust beneath it to bend, unlocking the plates so they don’t touch as much. The lake water also seeped into the cracks and pores in Earth’s crust beneath it, increasing the fluid pressure inside the fault and

further unclamping the plates.

Think of the scenario like playing a game of air hockey, Hill said. Without air, the puck does not slide easily across the table, much like when frictional forces hold two stuck tectonic plates together. When air (or water from the lake) is added, it helps relieve tension and makes it easier for the two to slip past one another.

“The correlation between the stressing rate from lake loading ... and the observed earthquake likelihood is astounding,” wrote Götz Bokelmann, a geophysicist at the University of Vienna who was not involved in the study, in an email. “If this holds up, then this will be quite important.”

Bokelmann said that there will probably be some debate following this study because earlier studies in the region have come to different conclusions, but he finds this mechanism “quite plausible.” The new study counters previous research that found the effects from Lake Cahuilla weren’t as significant as found here and that looked at secondary faults within the Salton Sea as additional stress contributors.

“Our study shows that the lake by itself was sufficient enough to trigger events on the southern San Andreas fault — and large events,” Hill said. “This is pretty applicable to pretty much anywhere where hydrologic loading, either natural or anthropogenic, exists.”

Hill points out other areas where added stress from water played a part in triggering an earthquake. China’s 7.9-magnitude Wenchuan earthquake in 2008 was linked to the impoundment of the Zippingpu Dam. Water level changes have also been associated with historical earth-



DAVID MCNEW/GETTY IMAGES

Steam rises from thermal vents that, until recently, were underwater on the floor of the Salton Sea.

quakes at the Dead Sea.

But could changes to the present-day Salton Sea help trigger an earthquake? Maybe.

The good news, Hill said, is that the odds of the Salton Sea refilling back to the size of ancient Lake Cahuilla “is effectively impossible, thankfully.”

Lake Cahuilla was about 32 times as big as the present-day Salton Sea and was also fed

“This fault poses the largest seismic hazard in all of California.”

Ryley Hill, lead author of the study and PhD candidate at San Diego State University

from the Colorado River. Today, because of drought and overallocation, the Colorado River is unable to deliver as much water to the Salton Sea, he said.

The bad news, however, is that Hill and his colleagues found that it’s not necessarily the volume that could add stress, but the rate at which the lake could be filled. This is problematic because of plans to restore and

potentially refill the Salton Sea, which has increasingly been affected by climate change and an area of toxic dust.

“If you suddenly rapidly increase the filling of the lake, that might actually stimulate seismicity,” Hill said. “That would be really bad for this area, because we already know that so much stress has accumulated on this fault.”

WELL+BEING

New walking tips drop the 10,000 steps goal



Your Move

GRETCHEN REYNOLDS

If you're struggling to reach 10,000 steps a day, here's some good news: The latest science suggests fewer daily steps may be the sweet spot for many of us, depending on our age, fitness and health goals.

There is nothing magical or evidence-based about 10,000 steps a day. So feel free to let go of that goal.

The notion to take 10,000 daily steps stems from a marketing ploy: As the 1964 Tokyo Summer Olympics approached, a Japanese researcher decided to nudge his nation to be more active by offering pedometers with a name that loosely translated as "10,000-step meter." (The Japanese character for the number 10,000 looks a little like a person walking.)

More recently, scientists have come up with evidence-based recommendations about step-count goals. I recently spoke with some of the world's leading experts on the science of step counting. Here's their advice.

1. Your step count goal may be lower than you think

In the past few years, multiple large-scale studies have stepped up, looking closely into how

many steps we probably need for our health and longevity. In the largest, published last year in the *Lancet Public Health*, dozens of global researchers pooled data from 15 earlier step-count studies, some unpublished, covering 47,471 adults of all ages, and compared their typical daily step counts to their longevity.

The sweet spot for step counts was not 10,000 or more. In general, the pooled data showed that for men and women younger than age 60, the greatest relative reductions in the risk of dying prematurely came with step counts of between about 8,000 and 10,000 per day.

For people older than age 60, the threshold was a little lower. For them, the sweet spot in terms of reduced mortality risk came at between 6,000 and 8,000 steps a day.

Walking more than 10,000 steps a day wasn't bad for people — it didn't increase the risk of dying — but also didn't add much, in terms of reducing mortality risks.

The benefits also weren't confined to longevity. In other studies, step counts of at least 8,000 a day for adults substantially lowered risks for heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, dementia, depression, many types of cancer and even sleep apnea, said Janet Fulton, the chief of the Physical Activity and

Health Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

2. Even a small increase in daily steps is good for you

Not managing 8,000 steps a day at the moment? Or 6,000? Or even 5,000? You're not alone. Even before the pandemic, most Americans were averaging fewer than 6,000 steps a day. And covid-19 seems to have reduced many people's daily step counts by 10 percent or more, according to some recent research, with daily activity levels only slowly returning to pre-pandemic levels.

How do you begin to increase your step counts? Even very small increases in daily steps are good for you.

"I suggest starting with an increase of about 500 to 1,000 steps per day," said Ulf Ekelund, a professor at the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences who studies physical activity and was one of the co-authors of the *Lancet* step-count study.

Other researchers agree. "We currently consider 500 steps a day as the minimum target for increased activity in inactive individuals," said Thomas Yates, a professor of physical activity, sedentary behavior and health at the University of Leicester in England.

Every week or two, try accumulating another 500 or 1,000 steps, Ekelund said, until you reach at least 8,000 a day, or 6,000 if you're past age 60.

3. You don't need an expensive step counter

"Phones or watches are

reasonably accurate," said I-Min Lee, an epidemiologist at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, who studies physical activity.

But not everyone owns a watch or similar activity tracker, Fulton said, while "almost everyone has a smartphone now." And almost every smartphone, Apple or Android, contains an accelerometer, which is a movement tracker, that can tell you how many steps you take, Fulton said.

These devices are not as accurate as the research-grade accelerometers used in scientific studies, Ekelund said, and their readings may differ enough that your step count will be different from mine at the end of our identical walk.

But these issues are relatively trivial, Yates said. Most phones and other types of trackers "are reasonably reliable," he said, and if they over- or underestimate your steps somewhat, they'll do so "consistently," so you can track your progress.

A more intractable problem may be that many of us don't carry our phones all the time, said Charles Matthews, a physical activity epidemiologist at the National Cancer Institute and another co-author of the *Lancet* study. If your phone sits on your desk, it won't count your steps.

So, for an accurate measure of total daily steps, bring your phone as you amble. Carry it in your pocket, purse or hand. The accelerometer should pick up your movements regardless, he said.

4. Learn step count math

Here's some basic step-count math: 1,000 steps is about half a mile. Want to go that extra mile? For most of us, 2,000 steps is about a mile, depending on stride length. Taking 10,000 steps would mean walking for about five miles.

5. Speed doesn't matter

In terms of time, a half-hour of walking equals around 3,000 steps for most of us, if we don't hurry.

The good news is we probably don't need to hurry. In almost all of the recent studies of step counts and mortality, the intensity of the steps, meaning how fast people walked, didn't seem to matter much. It's the overall number of steps they took throughout the day that made a difference.

Intensity is the "icing" on the cake, Matthews said. Walking faster has the potential to amplify the health benefits of walking, but only slightly, he said.

The key is to walk as frequently as you can manage, whatever your pace.

6. Step goals aren't about weight loss

Walking is not a calorie zapper. In broad terms, accumulating 2,000 steps, which is walking for about a mile, burns about 100 calories for an average adult moving at a strolling pace.

Your typical doughnut contains about 300 calories. An apple has about 100. Even 10,000 steps a day adds up to

only about 500 calories.

7. It's easier to count steps than minutes of exercise

Why count steps at all? Because, for most of us, it's a simpler, more concrete goal than accumulating "at least 150 to 300 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity" every week, which happens to be the formal advice in the U.S. government's 2018 Physical Activity Guidelines.

"I have stopped trying to explain and prescribe the physical activity guidelines to my patients," said William Kraus, a professor of medicine at Duke University, who was involved in writing the 2018 guidelines.

"They do not understand them and cannot absorb them. I have gone to prescribing steps. I tell them they need to get to a minimum of 7,000 steps per day."

Stepping goals weren't included in the 2018 guidelines, because a scientific advisory board believed the evidence then was thin, but most experts expect step counts to be included in future recommendations.

Meanwhile, the advice for most of us is the same, however we measure our movements (and assuming we are physically capable of walking). "Some is good, more is better," Lee said, and the first step is to just get up and take a few steps.

Do you have a fitness question? Email YourMove@washpost.com and we may answer your question in a future column.

How you can recognize and shut off gaslighting

On Your Mind

ROBIN STERN AND MARC BRACKETT

Gaslighting is an insidious, manipulative and reality-bending form of emotional abuse. Yet, when gaslighting is in our own relationships, many of us struggle to identify it, let alone escape it.

What are the red flags? How do you know if it's happening? What does a gaslighting relationship look like? We hear these questions often. After working with countless couples across 30 years of clinical practice, one of us wrote a book and a recovery guide to offer answers and to help people navigate the gaslight effect in modern relationships.

Here are three examples of gaslighting:

One patient had a boyfriend who told her that she was responsible for their fights. She often responded with a hello to people who greeted her on the street, including men. This bothered her boyfriend, who asked her to look at the sidewalk when they took a walk, so she wouldn't have to think about looking or not looking when men passed by. She sought therapy help because she said she "knew he was right" about this helping to reduce their fighting, but she wasn't happy looking at the sidewalk.

Another patient felt like she couldn't think clearly anymore. She loved her relationship with her girlfriend, but felt she had no personal space. Her girlfriend said if my patient really loved her, she would not need space for

anything, or anyone other than her. My patient felt confused and wondered if this was love or something else.

A colleague said his wife had been criticizing him for wanting to visit his family in Europe. For the past few years, she has been saying, "They don't take covid seriously. If they loved you, they would be more considerate. They don't care about our health. They don't really love you." He was feeling helpless and belittled. At first, he thought she was being mean with her comment that they don't love him. But, over time, listening to her certainty, he began to think that maybe she was right that his family did not love him and that he was being selfish for wanting to visit them.

Signs of gaslighting

These scenarios have one thing in common — one partner knew how they felt but was made to believe differently. One partner knew something was wrong but was told they were in the wrong. In each of these scenarios, there was a gaslightee — the victim — and the gaslighter — the perpetrator.

When it comes to gaslighting, perpetrators use jabs of shame, criticism and conversation pivots to belittle the victim and reinstate their own sense of power and quest for control.

By engaging with the perpetrator, the victim steps into a "gaslight tango," giving over their reality to the perpetrator's distortion.

This tango can be characterized by any combination of gaslighting tactics used by perpetrators, such



CELIA JACOBS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

as persistent denial, reality-spinning, shaming, contradiction and outright lying.

These techniques destabilize and undermine the reality of their targets. Consequently, people who are victims of gaslighting display any number of the following thoughts or behaviors:

- They second-guess themselves.
- They feel confused or crazy.
- They know something is wrong but can't put a name to it.
- They feel like they cannot do anything right.
- They lie to avoid put-downs or reality twists.
- They apologize even when they are not sure they have done anything wrong.

If you see red flags, can name the gaslighting and want to stop being subjected to it, consider the following strategies:

Opt out of the power struggle

When conversations become a tug of war, opt out. Write down or record conversations verbatim to parse truth from distortion.

Identify when the conversation is no longer really about you and your partner and instead veers into controlling territory so that you can avoid those triggers.

Check in with your feelings often

Emotions are vital pieces of data that guide the decisions we make or don't make. Recognize your emotions and their patterns, and be nuanced in the words you use to describe them. Guided by the research we have conducted at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, we recommend using the *How We Feel* app, which will help you build skills to work with your emotions.

Honor your emotions

Welcome all your emotions as a guide. When you're experiencing gaslighting, take a deep breath and remember that "I like the way I feel" or "I don't like the way I feel" is reason enough to stop a conversation. Pause, then act in a way that honors your emotions and reconnects you with your and not the perpetrator's reality.

Turn on your decision-making

Trust your voice in rebuilding confidence in your choices. Be mindful of everyday decisions — for instance, who you spend time with and what you do with your time. For each decision, notice if it boosts your sense of agency; if not, think about what you may do differently next time. And use that information to build your self-confidence.

Find your support system

A solid support system with an outside perspective on your relationship can help you cut through the fog of gaslighting. Get in touch with those who care about you and knew you before this relationship left you second-guessing yourself. Don't judge your need for others. Lean into the comfort of a trusted social network that can help bring the truth to light.

Be willing to leave, even if you ultimately don't have to

Remind yourself that you do not have to live like this. If you have tried to make the relationship work and still find yourself on the end of emotionally harmful or abusive behaviors, you are worthy of walking away.

Take steps toward self-agency

You have a future beyond this relationship. Walk in the direction of people and opportunities that revitalize your sense of self, peace and joy, and continue investing in them. On your journey — practice self-compassion and patience. Once freed from the constraints of an emotionally abusive relationship, you can make better choices for yourself, choices that will foster a better you.

Robin Stern is the co-founder and associate director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, a psychoanalyst in private practice, the author of "*The Gaslight Effect Recovery Guide*" and the host of the *Gaslight Effect Podcast*.

Marc Brackett is the founding director of the *Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence*, a professor in the Child Study Center at Yale and the author of "*Permission to Feel*."

We welcome your comments on this column at OnYourMind@washpost.com.

Improving health, reducing weight during menopause

Ask A Doctor

TRISHA PASRICHA

Q: Why is it harder to lose weight as you approach menopause? Is there any proven way to curtail weight gain in perimenopause and menopause?

A: Losing weight is incredibly hard for everyone. But it's especially difficult for middle-aged women, who are up against genetics, lifestyle, hormonal changes and just plain aging.

That being said, it's important to take steps to curtail weight gain during this time.

Changes in fat distribution in the body and increases in weight during perimenopause and menopause can increase your risk of serious health outcomes, including cardiovascular disease, the leading cause of death among postmenopausal women.

Focus your goals on improving your well-being. Changing the

way you eat, optimizing the way you sleep and ramping up your physical activity can all help improve your overall health.

Why is it so hard to lose weight?

Perimenopause, or the menopausal transition, usually begins in your 40s and lasts about five years. This life phase is characterized by hormonal fluctuations that can disrupt menstrual cycles, cause hot flashes and alter your metabolism. (Menopause occurs 12 months after your last period.)

Largely because estrogen drops during perimenopause, women tend to lose their lean mass, or muscle, while gaining fat mass, especially around the midsection.

These changes make your joints weaker and physical activity more difficult. And because fat is less metabolically active than muscle, they also make it even harder for



CHELSEA CONRAD/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

menopausal women to burn calories and maintain weight loss.

Women are also fighting other factors: increased insulin resistance, which can occur as a result of the gains in fat mass, and certain medications, such as antidepressants and beta-blockers, that are commonly prescribed during menopause and can promote weight gain.

Estrogen therapy — used to manage some of the symptoms of menopause — doesn't appear to

influence weight gain.

What's the best way to prevent weight gain?

Despite the real challenges, there are some scientifically backed methods to try.

Eat whole foods. Scientists have not found a one-size-fits-all diet for perimenopausal women, and calorie-restrictive diets are often not an effective long-term solution. Instead, focus on eating whole, unprocessed foods. The

Mediterranean diet is adaptable to many palates and is frequently recommended for its long-term health benefits, while a 2006 clinical trial found that a low-fat diet — high in vegetables, fruits and grains — can curtail weight gain during menopause.

Get a good night's sleep.

Easier said than done when you wake up every night drenched in sweat, right? But sleeping well is critical, since women who consistently sleep more than seven hours each night are less likely to gain weight. For obese women, though, it's something of a vicious cycle: Good sleep would help them lose weight, but they're prone to more frequent hot flashes that can disturb their rest.

Besides night sweats, it's also good to talk to your physician about other issues keeping you from sleeping well, including sleep apnea and insomnia, which are more common in perimenopausal women.

Start moving more. Exercise can help prevent weight gain, yet only a fraction of middle-aged women meet the weekly goals for moderate activity recommended by the National Institutes of

Health (at least 150 minutes per week). A study of over 3,000 U.S. women in the menopausal transition found that higher levels of physical activity — whether in sports or as part of a daily routine like walking to work — were associated with lower weight over time. The reverse was found for activities like watching television.

What I want my patients to know

It's valid to feel frustrated about losing weight. It's also important to be upfront with your doctor about your concerns. Many people wait until the end of a clinic visit to bring up the real reason they came — usually issues they feel intimidated or embarrassed to talk about, like weight gain. Don't save these concerns for last. By then, your doctor might be pressed for time and the problem may not get the attention it needs.

Meet the doctor: Trisha S. Pasricha is a physician at Massachusetts General Hospital, an instructor in medicine at Harvard Medical School and a medical journalist.

