

Mostly sunny 87/71 • Tomorrow: T-storm 92/68 **B6**

Democracy Dies in Darkness

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024 • **\$3**

2nd-largest U.S. faith group votes against IVF

Southern Baptists oppose the popular procedure in potential jolt to 2024 vote

BY MICHELLE BOORSTEIN

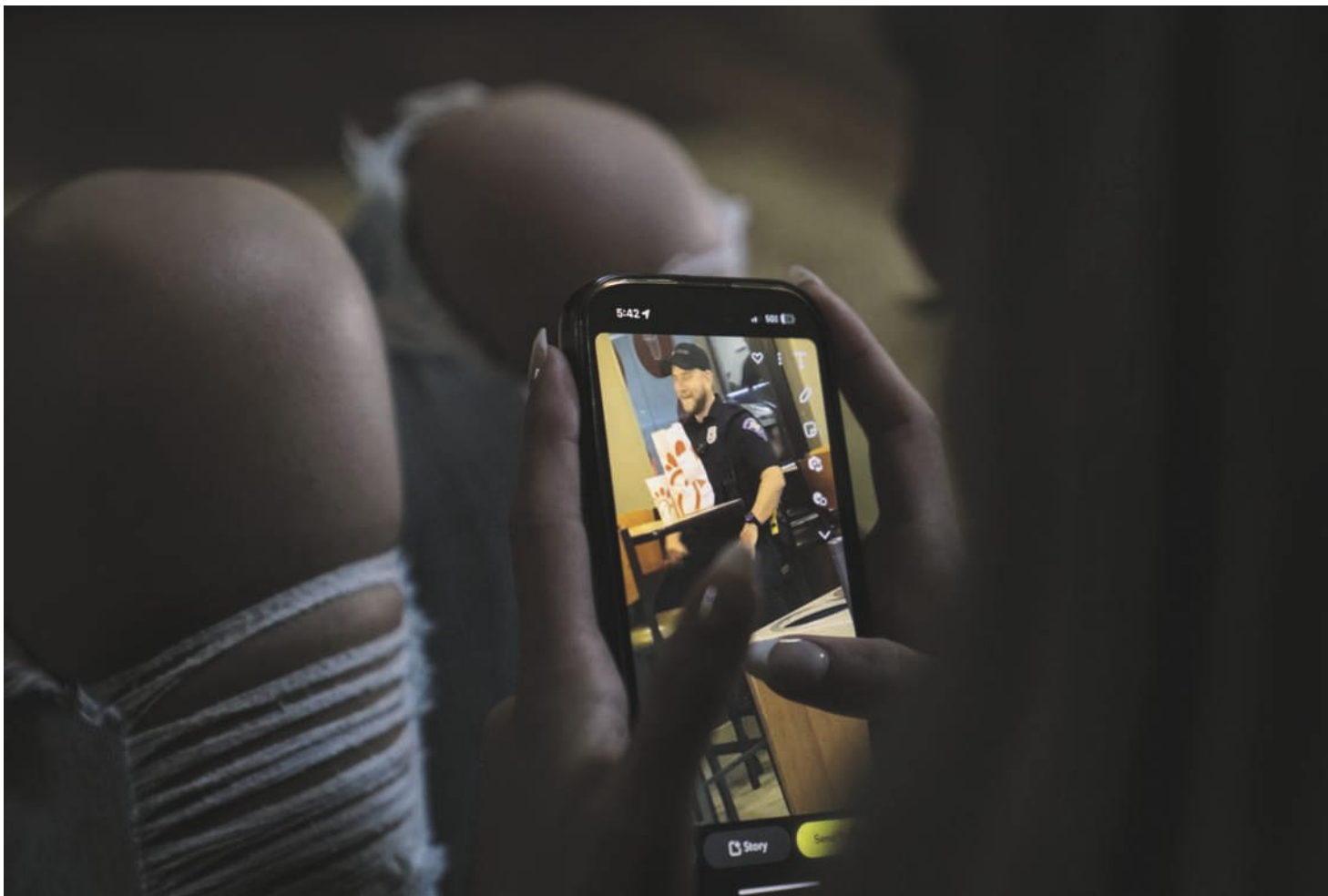
The Southern Baptist Convention on Wednesday approved a measure opposing in vitro fertilization as “dehumanizing” and asking “the government to restrain” the practice, a sign of the broadening effort by conservative evangelicals and the anti-abortion movement since the fall of *Roe v. Wade*.

The vote thrust the denomination into a national dispute over a medical procedure that is immensely popular among Americans and has already played a role in an intense election season. An Alabama court ruling earlier this year that a frozen embryo is a person afforded a full range of rights set off massive backlash, prompting widespread Democratic criticism, and driving Republicans, including presumptive presidential nominee Donald Trump, to speak in favor of protecting IVF.

Within a few weeks, the state’s Republican Gov. Kay Ivey signed a bill into law aimed at protecting IVF patients and providers from legal liability. Democrats have nonetheless cast the procedure as threatened, part of their broadside against Republicans as too extreme on reproductive issues. (Trump on Monday addressed a coalition of Southern Baptist groups in Indianapolis who oppose abortion in every case, pledging to walk “side by side” with them.)

The SBC vote came after several “messenger” — or attendees — testified emotionally about the impact of IVF in their own lives. They pushed for amendments to SEE SOUTHERN BAPTISTS ON A2

ABUSED BY THE BADGE



CAROLYN VAN HOUTEN/THE WASHINGTON POST

The teen wanted to be a cop. Instead she was abused by one in his patrol car.

She’d been told her words would make a difference, so the teenager stood before the judge and leaned toward the microphone.

She tried not to look at the man who was pleading guilty to sexually abusing her.

“You were a police officer, and you were in uniform,” she said, reading from the victim impact statement she’d spent weeks writing. “You were on duty.”

She was 16 years old when South Bend police officer Timothy Barber showed up at the Chick-fil-A where she worked in the summer of 2021. Barber, who was 20 years older, knew the girl wanted to be a police officer. He offered to give her rides home in his patrol car.

Instead, what Barber did to her in that patrol car led to him being charged with

Now a judge must decide: How should the officer be punished?

BY JENN ABELSON, JESSICA CONTRERA AND JOHN D. HARDEN IN SOUTH BEND, IND.

Anne looks at a photo of South Bend, Ind., police officer Timothy Barber.

child seduction, official misconduct, public indecency and public nudity.

“My whole life I had been taught to trust police officers. I looked up to you. I listened to you. I obeyed you,” the girl said.

With the permission of the girl and her parents, The Washington Post is identifying her by her middle name, Anne.

Anne had to miss a day of high school to be at this September 2022 hearing, where a judge would decide what punishment the police officer deserved.

The investigator and prosecutor had assured Anne and her parents that Barber would be held accountable for his actions.

Anne understood what that could look like. A week earlier, when a local softball coach was convicted of molesting one of his SEE POLICE ON A10

Trial sheds new light on Biden family’s dark moments

BY MATT VISER

WILMINGTON, DEL. — First lady Jill Biden, in a crisp blue suit and shawl, sat on a cushioned, wooden courtroom seat after returning from a quick trip to Paris with the president. She stared straight ahead as her eldest granddaughter, Naomi Biden, responded to withering questions about her father’s neglect, his drug use and even whether Naomi herself had used drugs.

The moment appeared to be brutal for the Biden family, whose members fought to hold back tears and sometimes lost that battle. Over a few raw days, Hunter Biden’s trial showcased just how dark the family’s dynamics had grown in recent years, providing new insight into the first family and its attempt to find closure after the death of the president’s son Beau, and the pain and grief that still threaten those efforts.

While the trial, whose guilty verdict was announced Tuesday, focused on the narrow question of whether Hunter Biden lied on a gun-purchase form six years ago, it was more broadly a trial SEE BIDENS ON A4

Monica Hesse: For the Bidens, “mother” goes beyond genetics. **C1**



MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Customers line up Tuesday at the Call Your Mother deli at 35th and O streets NW.

A Georgetown deli may be too popular

Some neighbors want the bagel shop gone. But it has a big ally: The city.

BY ELLIE SILVERMAN

If the crowds scarfing bagels outside got to make the call, the self-described “Jew-ish” deli in a bright pink D.C. rowhome would have no trouble winning officials’ blessing to keep selling sandwiches to the hungry masses.

But on the street in Georgetown

where Call Your Mother sits amid million-plus-dollar rowhouses, some neighbors are not thrilled with strangers downing pastrami and candied salmon on their stoops, then leaving the trash behind. Citing decades-old zoning laws and a D.C. Appeals Court ruling, they want the business operating in a residential area to stop

serving prepared food.

“Everybody loves the restaurant, right? And that’s probably one of the detriments,” said Paul Maysak, an advisory neighborhood commissioner, at a contentious hearing Wednesday before the Board of Zoning Adjustment hearing that will help determine SEE BAGELS ON A5

JERRY WEST 1938-2024

Tormented ‘Mr. Clutch’ shaped Lakers on, off court

BY JOHN OTIS

Jerry West, who made the Los Angeles Lakers a dominant force in pro basketball for three decades, first as a high-scoring guard whose graceful dribbling silhouette inspired the NBA logo, then as the team’s astute general manager, died June 12 at 86.

The Los Angeles Clippers announced his death. Other details were not immediately available.

Mr. West forged one of the most successful overall careers in National Basketball Association history. He was widely regarded as one of the league’s greatest players, and his late-game heroics for the Lakers earned him the nickname “Mr. Clutch.”

His most famous shot came against the New York Knicks in Game 3 of the 1970 NBA Finals. With three seconds remaining and the Lakers trailing by two points, Mr. West took an inbound pass, dribbled three times, then from well behind the half-court line shot a 60-foot rainbow that dropped through the hoop. (It forced the game into overtime, in which the Lakers lost.)

“The crowd was in a frenzy, everybody was going crazy, and there we were looking up at the scoreboard wondering what happened? What the hell happened?” the Knicks’ Walt Frazier, who



PICTORIAL PARADE/GETTY IMAGES

Jerry West, among the NBA’s best scorers, left a permanent mark: His dribbling silhouette inspired the league’s logo.

guarded Mr. West for most of the game, later told the Los Angeles Times.

After hanging up his No. 44 uniform in 1974, Mr. West engineered an even more triumphant second act as the league’s preeminent executive. His prescient draft picks, timely trades and knack for massaging talent SEE WEST ON A6

Jerry Brewer: On court or in front office, an all-time influencer. **D1**

IN THE NEWS

A significant decline Researchers detected a dip in levels of hydrochlorofluorocarbons, gases that deplete Earth’s ozone layer. **A8**

A moment of triumph Federal and Maryland officials announced the reopening of the Port of Baltimore’s shipping channel two days after it was fully restored. **B1**

THE NATION **The House** weighs a defense policy bill, putting the Pentagon at the center of culture wars. **A3** **The Republican-led** House voted to hold Attorney General Merrick Garland in contempt. **A4**

THE WORLD **Britain’s** Nigel Farage hopes a hard-up Brexit stronghold will send him to Parliament. **A14** **Hezbollah** fired rockets at Israel, while the U.S. accused Hamas of prolonging the war. **A15**

THE ECONOMY **Artists** are fleeing Instagram for new app Cara in protest of Meta using their work to train its technology on artificial intelligence. **A17** **Tesla** investors are voting on whether CEO Elon Musk should have his \$50 billion pay package restored. **A19**

THE REGION **The D.C. Council** approved the city’s \$21 billion budget and declined to include an amendment on mobile sports betting. **B1** **At least 20 cases** of E. coli, including seven hospitalizations, have been reported after visits to Lake Anna. **B1**

SPORTS **The WNBA** is about to get a windfall from a new media deal. The catch? The NBA is still pulling the strings. **D1**

LOCAL LIVING **America has soured** on matching bedroom sets. Try mixing furniture finishes instead.

BUSINESS NEWS.....**A17**
COMICS.....**C6**
OBITUARIES.....**B4**
OPINION PAGES.....**A21**
TELEVISION.....**C3**
WORLD NEWS.....**A14**

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The Washington Post
Year 147, No. 53881



Measure barring women from all pastoral positions fails

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS FROM A1

narrow the measure and make its condemnation more specific, but those efforts failed.

“I have a son because of IVF. I have another son, 20 weeks in my wife’s womb because of IVF and I have 10 embryos I love and with every bit of my being hope we will see born into a Christian family,” Zach Sahadak, a church member from Ohio, said into the microphone as his voice broke.

“I am for the sanctity of life and the sanctity of embryos. I am against the idea that this technology is so wicked that it cannot be employed.” He cited Christian couples who use IVF “to grow their family, to grow the church and all of it trusting in God’s sovereignty to give or take away life.”

Earlier Wednesday, representatives of the 14 million-member network narrowly rejected a constitutional amendment barring women from all pastoral positions, though a majority supported it. The move would have affected hundreds of churches where women serve in positions such as women’s pastor or children’s pastor, especially minority congregations where having women in official leadership positions is more common.

Constitutional amendments require two-thirds approval to pass, and the motion saying the SBC cooperates only with “churches that do not affirm, appoint, or employ a woman as a pastor of any kind” garnered 61 percent of votes, to 38 percent who rejected it.

The IVF resolution was believed to be the first-ever stand-alone measure on the topic, one that historian of U.S. religion Daniel Williams called a “testing of the waters” not unlike discussions in the 1970s and 1980s as the denomination started to become more and more strictly opposed to abortion.

“Republicans would prefer not to talk about this at all. But any resolution that receives a majority vote of 13 million people is something people will notice,” Williams said.

Williams, of Ashland University, said the votes this week reflect a continuation toward “a firm conservatism but not something that would necessarily appease the far-right wing of the



DOUG MCSCHOOLER/AP

“Messengers,” or representatives, raise their ballots in support of a motion put up for vote during a Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting on Tuesday in Indianapolis. The convention has been shifting to the right since a conservative insurgency in the 1980s.

convention.”

The voice vote on “On the Ethical Realities of Reproductive Technologies and the Dignity of the Human Embryo” was one of a raft of resolutions, which are understood as statements of Southern Baptist belief; they are not rules that come with enforcement mandates.

“This isn’t a bottom-up change,” said Mary Ziegler, a law professor and historian of the antiabortion movement. “It aligns with the Southern Baptist Convention trying to figure out how ultraconservative it’s going to be on personhood,” she said of the Christian movement that sees embryos and fertilized eggs as human beings with legal rights.

Ziegler said many leaders in the SBC and in the broader antiabortion movement have long opposed IVF, seeing it as a process that separates conception from the act of heterosexual sex and is disrespectful of human

life. Church leaders have in the past downplayed that view in public, however, given IVF’s broad popularity. Seventy percent of Americans in April told Pew Research they think IVF is a “good thing,” including 63 percent of White evangelicals, who line up ideologically in general with Southern Baptists.

The SBC resolution cited the “searing pain” of infertility for some, and emphasized its long-standing policies about “the sanctity of human life.” It also noted IVF “routinely creates more embryos than can be implanted” — which has led opponents to argue that discarding those embryos is akin to murder.

R. Albert Mohler Jr., co-author of the IVF resolution and president of the flagship Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, said the measure is “a starting point for future discussion.” The Alabama ruling and the end of *Roe v. Wade* opened

the door to deeper discussions about IVF, he said.

“This is an awakening,” he said. “I find IVF morally problematic in any form, but it’s also clear there are more and less destructive and dangerous forms of IVF.”

Opponents of the amendment on women’s roles noted that there are only a few hundred SBC churches with women in any type of pastoral position — typically assistant pastors or pastors to women or children — out of 47,000 SBC churches, and that the issue should be handled on a case-by-case basis. They pointed to an overwhelming Tuesday vote that ruled an Alexandria, Va., church out of “cooperation” after the staff said they would be comfortable hiring a woman as lead pastor.

The convention, the country’s second-largest faith group, has been shifting to the right since a conservative insurgency in the 1980s. Until the 1960s, there

were as many women in Southern Baptist seminaries as there were in liberal seminaries.

Rev. Mike Law, the Arlington, Va., pastor who proposed the amendment, told representatives Wednesday that the issue is about following scripture. He said the number of women serving as some kind of pastor is small but has ticked up in recent decades.

“Let’s be exceptionally clear — we gladly celebrate the myriad of women who serve the church in many ways, and we are so grateful,” he said. “This is not about women in ministry. It’s about women in the pastoral office.”

The results felt like a sharp rebuke to the outspoken hard-right in the SBC.

“Devastating,” tweeted the William Wolfe, a former Trump official who leads a group aimed at reforming the SBC. “This issue is not over. Not by a long shot.”

Last year the representatives

voted overwhelmingly to expel churches that had women in top leadership pastoral roles — including the Rev. Rick Warren’s massive Saddleback Church, one of the biggest in the SBC. Supporters of this year’s amendment said it was needed for clarity.

The vote Tuesday about the First Baptist Church of Alexandria said it was “not in friendly cooperation” with the SBC because it has a “pastor for women and children.”

First Baptist Pastor for Children and Women Kim Eskridge told The Post on Wednesday that her church was reported to the SBC by nearby pastor Law, of Arlington Baptist Church.

“My contention has always been that this is something we can agree to disagree on and keep the main thing the main thing, which is sharing the message with the Lord,” said Eskridge, whose church predates the existence of the SBC and has typical Sunday attendance of around 800.

J.D. Greear, a North Carolina pastor and former SBC president, called the measure “tragic — in a time when I feel we ought to be celebrating women as leaders and seeing better pathways for them, we just keep tightening this thing.”

Southern Baptists have been debating the role of women leaders since the late 1800s. But in the 1980s the topic became a focus as conservatives took charge of the convention and began to pass various measures to limit the formal roles of women.

In 2000, it amended the Faith and Message statement to say “the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.”

Baptist Women in Ministry, an advocacy group, in a statement Wednesday said they were grateful that the amendment failed but still “grieved” that so many voted for it.

“In the conflict surrounding this action for a stricter enforcement of oppressive theology, women have been further harmed. Millions of women have heard as the incorrect message that they do not have equal value to God and the church,” said a statement by Meredith Stone, the executive director. Stone said women in ministry were being “used as props for the display of extreme conservatism in order to advance the power of a faction within the SBC.”

U.S. attorney says Menendez asked him to review wealthy donor’s case

BY SALVADOR RIZZO

NEW YORK — U.S. Attorney Philip Sellinger of New Jersey testified Wednesday that he had an unusual conversation with Sen. Bob Menendez as he was being vetted for the prosecutor’s job in late 2020, months after he was among the dozens of guests at the senator’s intimate wedding ceremony.

Sellinger, a prosecution witness in Menendez’s corruption trial in Manhattan federal court, described himself as a longtime friend and fundraiser for the New Jersey Democrat. He and the lawmaker would golf with their sons and do dinner outings with their wives, he said.

That all changed after Sellinger took office in December 2021 and was recused from a fraud case against real estate developer Fred Daibes, he testified. Daibes is now

a co-defendant in the trial, accused of bribing Menendez and his wife with gold bars and cash.

When Sellinger called Menendez to invite him to his investiture ceremony, the senator flatly turned him down, he testified. They haven’t spoken since.

Wednesday’s testimony capped a series of witnessess who are key to the prosecution’s case. Sellinger took the stand shortly after Jose Uribe, a New Jersey trucking and insurance executive who said he bribed the senator through his then-girlfriend with a Mercedes-Benz convertible.

Menendez, 70, was indicted on 16 felony counts including bribery, extortion, wire fraud, acting as a foreign agent for Egypt and obstruction of justice. He could spend the rest of his life in prison if convicted on all charges. Daibes and the other co-defendant at the

trial, businessman Wael “Will” Hana, also could be sentenced to decades in prison if convicted.

The senator’s now-wife, Nadine Menendez, was charged alongside them but is scheduled to be tried later.

Under questioning from Menendez attorney Avi Weitzman, Sellinger said he and the senator had been in discussions about the U.S. attorney position for years. Menendez had told him he would recommend him to the White House in the event Hillary Clinton won the 2016 presidential election.

“I never believed him to be asking me to do anything unethical or improper,” Sellinger testified.

Daibes had been indicted on 14 counts in a bank fraud case from 2018 and faced the possibility of significant prison time. New Jersey federal prosecutors reached a

plea deal requiring him to plead guilty to one felony count in exchange for no prison time. A judge threw out that agreement in October.

The December 2020 meeting in Menendez’s office in Washington began with the usual fare, Sellinger recalled. The two men discussed his priorities and vision for the top prosecutor’s job, as well as civil rights, violent crime and candidates for Sellinger’s leadership team. Then Menendez said Daibes “was being treated unfairly” by the federal prosecutors and asked Sellinger to “look at it carefully” if he were confirmed.

In a phone call the next day, Sellinger testified, he told Menendez he would look at all cases carefully, before adding that he might have to recuse himself from the Daibes prosecution. Sellinger said that while in private practice,

he had represented a client whose interests were “adverse” to Daibes’s in a civil case.

Though Menendez indicated that he understood, it was only days later that Sellinger got another call from the senator: The White House would not be nominating him, so Menendez would not be recommending him.

Sellinger testified that he’d told Menendez the recusal decision would be made by other officials in the Justice Department. “The process is very clear. ... I do not make any decision as to whether or not I should be recused — and I communicated that to Senator Menendez.”

But the candidate endorsed by Menendez and New Jersey’s junior senator, Cory Booker (D), ultimately fell through. In the spring of 2021, Sellinger again expressed interest in the prosecutor’s job. He

was nominated and confirmed late that year.

The following March, Sellinger met Menendez’s top political adviser, Mike Soliman, at a Spanish restaurant in Newark.

“At one point in the conversation he says, ‘Let me ask you a question,’” Sellinger testified. “And I said, ‘Let me stop you there.’”

He said he told Soliman, who is expected to take the witness stand later this week: “I want you to know that, as U.S. attorney, I’m not allowed to have any conversations about the business of the office with any federal elected officials or their representatives. ... He indicated that he understood.”

Weeks later, Menendez turned down the invitation to speak at the prosecutor’s inauguration ceremony. Sellinger’s cross-examination is set to continue Thursday.

The Washington Post

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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.

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OKLAHOMA

Court rejects lawsuit by massacre survivors

The Oklahoma Supreme Court on Wednesday dismissed a lawsuit by survivors of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, dampening the hope of racial justice advocates that the city would make financial amends for one of the worst single acts of violence against Black people in U.S. history. The massacre left as many as 300 people dead and a once-thriving district in smoldering ruins.

The nine-member court upheld the decision made by a district court judge in Tulsa last year, ruling that the plaintiffs’ grievances about the destruction of the Greenwood district, although legitimate, did not fall within the scope of the state’s public nuisance statute.

“Plaintiffs do not point to any physical injury to property in Greenwood rendering it uninhabitable that could be resolved by way of injunction or other civil remedy,” the court wrote in its decision. “Today we hold that relief is not possible

under any set of facts that could be established consistent with plaintiff’s allegations.”

The suit was an attempt to force the city and others to make recompense for the destruction of the once-thriving Black district by a White mob. In 1921 — on May 31 and June 1 — the mob, including some people hastily deputized by authorities, looted and burned the district, which was referred to as Black Wall Street.

As many as 300 Black Tulsans were killed, and thousands of survivors were forced for a time into internment camps overseen by the National Guard. Burned bricks and a fragment of a church basement are about all that survive today of the more than 30-block district.

Two survivors of the attack, Lessie Benningfield Randle and Viola Fletcher, sued in 2020 with the hope of seeing what their attorney called “justice in their lifetime.” A third plaintiff, Hughes Van Ellis, died last year at age 102.

The lawsuit was brought under Oklahoma’s public nuisance law, arguing that the actions of the White mob

continue to affect the city. It contended that Tulsa’s long history of racial division and tension stemmed from the massacre. The city and insurance companies never compensated victims for their losses, and the massacre ultimately resulted in racial and economic disparities that still exist, the suit argued.

— Associated Press

ILLINOIS

3 deputies shot while responding to home

Three sheriff’s deputies were shot Wednesday while responding to a northern Illinois home, and the suspect was also wounded, authorities said.

Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle said the deputies were responding to a report that someone inside the home in the Lost Lake community near Dixon was threatening to kill themselves or others. He said the suspect also was shot. He did not provide any information about the suspect, including name, age or where the person lives.

VanVickle said a family member called police shortly

after 8:30 a.m. to report the threats from someone at the home. He said negotiators tried to reach the person by phone and decided to go inside shortly before noon. They were immediately fired upon from inside the house, he said.

A spokesperson at Katherine Shaw Bethae Hospital in Dixon said three people were taken to the hospital’s emergency department, two of whom were treated and released. The spokesperson did not release the condition of the third person.

— Associated Press

Man convicted of training with the Islamic State: A Kentucky man has been convicted in federal court of leaving the United States to train and fight with the Islamic State in Syria a decade ago. A jury in Bowling Green on Tuesday convicted Mirsad Hariz Adem Ramic, 34, on multiple counts of supporting and receiving military-type training from the group. Ramic, a dual U.S.-Bosnian citizen, traveled to Syria with two other men in 2014, according to the Justice Department.

— Associated Press

POLITICS & THE NATION

GOP-led House reignites culture wars with defense bill

Far-right provisions aim to restrict health care, diversity protections

BY ABIGAIL HAUSLOHNER

The Pentagon this week is once again at the center of America's culture wars, as the Republican-led House considers adding divisive provisions from its far-right members to its version of the annual defense policy bill.

Far-right lawmakers have proposed amendments to the \$895.3 billion legislation that would restrict service members' access to reproductive health care and certain diversity protections. They also are seeking to block future U.S. assistance to Ukraine and Palestinian civilians, expand the military's presence along the Mexico border, and roll back environmental protections sought by the Biden administration.

The House approved some of those proposals Wednesday, despite opposition from Democrats. More debate is expected Thursday, and the most partisan measures will face tremendous hurdles to final passage as the House will have to reconcile its legislation with whatever version of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) passes the Democratic-led Senate this summer.

House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) commands only a slim majority — 218 Republicans to Democrats' 213 — and had to rely on Democrats this year to pass an emergency \$95 billion funding package to aid Ukraine, Israel and other allies over objections from the GOP's far-right flank. But Johnson has given no indication he will aim for a similar bipartisanship on the NDAA, leaving vulnerable Republicans from swing districts

with tough decisions to make on whether to support the most hard-line proposals — on issues like abortion — ahead of this year's elections.

If any of this drama sounds familiar, that's because it is. The House voted along partisan lines a year ago, narrowly passing an NDAA saddled with ideological provisions and shattering a decades-long tradition of bipartisanship around the annual bill, which sets Pentagon policy and guides spending for the year ahead. Most were later stripped from the bill when the House and Senate versions were merged.

"Last year, House Republicans loaded up the NDAA like it was a MAGA wish list," Rep. Jim McGovern (D-Mass.) said this week. "The NDAA should represent a good-faith attempt to keep America safe. If what happened last year happens again ... Republicans will be looking at a very steep uphill battle to get this bill across the finish line."

Rep. Mike D. Rogers (R-Ala.), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, which drafted the defense policy bill, implored colleagues to "focus on amendments to advance the security of our nation and the needs of our service members."

House lawmakers on Wednesday began debating some 350 proposed amendments to the bill — a list narrowed by the Rules Committee from more than 1,350 that were submitted. The process is expected to stretch into Thursday, with a vote on the defense bill likely to occur Friday.

Already, Republicans managed to secure the addition of several contentious amendments, including a measure introduced by Rep. Chip Roy (R-Tex.), a member of the far-right House Freedom Caucus, to prohibit funds from being used in support of President Biden's climate agenda. Others, led by Reps. Brian Mast (R-Fla.) and Jodey Arrington (R-Tex.), would



LUKE SHARRETT FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

U.S. Army soldiers in Normandy, France, on June 2 during events for the 80th anniversary of D-Day. Far-right lawmakers have proposed amendments to the \$895.3 billion annual defense policy bill.

bar U.S. defense funding for building or rebuilding in the war-ravaged Gaza Strip when the war between Israel and Hamas ends, and for transporting Palestinian refugees to the United States.

Liberal Democrats have been deeply critical of the Biden administration's ongoing provision of billions of dollars in weapons to Israel amid a crippling eight-month war that has so far destroyed most of Gaza's infrastructure and killed more than 37,000 people, according to the Gaza Health Ministry. The administration is pushing for a cease-fire, appealing to regional partners to lay the groundwork for postwar governance in Gaza, and it has sought ways to move humanitarian aid to starving Palestinians amid the fighting.

The top Democrat on the

House Armed Services Committee, Rep. Adam Smith (Wash.), characterized Mast and Arrington's amendments as counterproductive to U.S. and Israeli interests, and called the effort to block Palestinian refugees "biased and somewhat bigoted."

A proposal to curtail U.S. funding for NATO, put forward by Rep. Andy Biggs (R-Ariz.), and an effort by Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.) to prohibit government spending on electric vehicles and related infrastructure were voted down Wednesday.

Republicans and Democrats on the Armed Services Committee said the legislation approved by their panel authorizes broad — and badly needed — improvements to service members' pay and benefits, including a 19.5 percent raise for junior enlisted

personnel, and expanded child-care access, plus improvements to dilapidated military housing and other infrastructure around the world.

"No service members should have to live in squalid conditions. No military family should have to rely on food stamps to feed their children ... [or] have to wait weeks to see a doctor or mental health specialist. But that's exactly what many of our service members are experiencing," Rogers said Wednesday on the House floor. "This bill goes a long way toward fixing these things."

The NDAA remains one of the few pieces of legislation routinely passed by an otherwise deeply partisan and chronically deadlocked Congress.

In keeping with previous years, this bill authorizes ex-

panded development and procurement of weapons and technology to maintain the United States' decisive edge in an increasingly tense strategic competition with China. It also approves continued — and in some cases, expanded — support for key American partners such as Israel, Ukraine and Taiwan, and seeks to bolster the Pentagon's role in U.S. border security.

Members of the Armed Services Committee from both parties acknowledged Wednesday that the 1,022-page bill "isn't perfect," but they stressed that it was the product of months of bipartisan work.

The radically different House and Senate bills that emerged following the amendments process last year made for a tense, lengthy negotiation — and ultimately delivered an embarrassing defeat to House Republicans when they were forced to accept a final bill largely stripped of the most contentious provisions.

Members of the Armed Services Committee urged their colleagues to avoid such a production this year, but that appears unlikely in a deeply divisive election year.

"I am confident that by the time we get to the end of the process, as we always do, we will have once again a bipartisan product," Smith said earlier in the week. "Let's just get there earlier this time, save ourselves the aggravation. It's where we're going to wind up anyways, so why don't we just go ahead and do it?"

Smith said, "Any effort to go after reproductive health care, any effort to go after the rights of the LGBTQ community, are going to be problems, as is any effort to block the efforts of DOD to have a truly inclusive military." Lawmakers are expected to debate such far-right proposals Thursday.

Marianna Sotomayor contributed to this report.

U.S. will send Ukraine an additional Patriot air system

BY MISSY RYAN, MICHAEL BIRNBAUM, SIOBHÁN O'GRADY AND DAN LAMOTHE

The Biden administration is planning to provide Ukraine an additional Patriot air defense system as Kyiv struggles to shield key cities and infrastructure from ongoing Russian assaults, three U.S. and a senior European official said Wednesday.

According to the European official, who like others spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe plans that had not been made public, the United States

has informed some allies of its decision to send Ukraine the additional battery.

One of the U.S. officials said the system will be sent to Ukraine from an airfield in southeastern Poland that the Pentagon has used as a staging base to send weapons and supplies to Ukrainian forces. Multiple Patriot batteries have been based there since Russian's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

U.S. military officials plan to backfill the system in Poland with another Patriot from elsewhere, this person said.

The move follows months of

pressure from the government of President Volodymyr Zelensky, facing regular bombardment more than two years into the war, for additional military aid from the West, especially air defense systems that could help provide some normalcy to Ukraine's citizens and its economy.

The Patriot, a marquee U.S. system, is especially coveted because, in addition to effectively protecting troops, urban areas and vital assets such as power facilities, it is the only system that has proven able to shoot down hypersonic missiles that Russia has lobbed at Ukraine. The weapons are maneuverable and fly at low trajectories, making them difficult to detect and defend against.

News of the decision to provide Ukraine the additional Patriot

system, which cost more than \$1 billion each, was first reported by the New York Times.

The stakes were apparent early Wednesday when the Kremlin launched a massive attack, sending six cruise missiles and more than 20 drones over Ukraine. In the capital, Kyiv, air-raid alerts blared, and explosions rang out throughout the night.

Ukraine's air force said air defense units successfully downed 29 of 30 incoming targets, which included four cruise missiles, one ballistic missile, one aeroballistic missile and 24 attack drones.

The attack underscored the threat Ukraine's cities face daily, and the successful downing of almost all the weapons supported Kyiv's insistence that modern air defense is necessary to repel constant Russian attacks.

Hours after the overnight barrage, another missile attack targeted Zelensky's hometown of Kryvyi Rih, killing at least nine people, wounding dozens of others and damaging an administrative and residential building, officials said.

"Every day and every hour, Russian terror proves that Ukraine must strengthen its air defense with the support of our partners," Zelensky wrote on social media after the attack. "Modern air defense systems can ensure maximum protection for our people, cities, and positions. We need them urgently."

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba, who has lobbied countries that operate the system to donate spares, has said Ukraine needs 26 batteries to fully protect the country from

ongoing Russian air attacks, or at a minimum seven to protect key sites.

Germany has delivered two Patriot systems to Ukraine, and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz has announced plans to deliver a third one soon. The Netherlands also said last month that it will soon assemble a Patriot system with its own components and those of European allies, repeating an effort it made last year that gave Ukraine one full system.

Ukraine's challenge in protecting civilians has intensified as antiaircraft munitions dwindled over the winter and early spring — the result of a funding impasse inside the U.S. Congress that held up U.S. aid for seven months.

O'Grady reported from Kyiv. Alex Horton contributed to this report.



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Bidens, frequently torn apart, again try to come together

BIDENS FROM A1

for the sprawling Biden clan, testing the relationships in a family that had splintered almost to the breaking point not long before their patriarch ascended to the White House.

The trial's ruthless choreography meant that a daughter testified as the star witness for the defense, while her mother was a key witness for the prosecution. It meant that the widow of the family's great hope — Beau, who died of cancer in 2015 — looked out from the witness box for reassurance not from anyone in the Biden family she'd been part of for years, but from her new husband, who sat on the opposite side of the room from the Bidens.

The family has repeatedly found itself torn apart by tragedy and dissension, then attempted to piece itself back together. Often that pattern has reflected love and resilience. But the picture that emerged over the past week-and-a-half was also one of ongoing damage. The guilty verdict showcased some of the challenges ahead as family members hugged him and held hands, even as Hunter awaits sentencing that could include jail time.

The trial highlighted that Joe Biden now oversees not just a fractured family but a divided nation. When he began his Senate career in 1972, Republicans and Democrats rallied to his side after the unspeakable loss of his wife and baby daughter in a car crash. Decades later, Biden's adversaries have been quick to seize on Hunter's struggles to bombard him with hard-hitting political attacks that depict his whole family as corrupt.

After that 1972 car crash, Joe Biden's siblings — particularly sister Valerie and brother Jimmy — rushed to help raise young Hunter and Beau, at times moving into Joe Biden's home to look after them. A woman named Jill Tracy soon entered their lives to become a new mother to the boys, and the rebuilt family created new traditions like spending Thanksgiving on Nantucket in Massachusetts.

Its equilibrium was shattered again when Beau Biden died of brain cancer, sending Hunter, who'd struggled with drug abuse, into a deep pit of addiction. He started an ill-fated romance with Beau's widow, Hallie, which may have provided a temporary salve for their grief but irrevocably ruptured Hunter's long marriage to Kathleen Buhle and caused angry divisions throughout the family.

Recent years have brought greater stability, even as Kathleen and Hallie have largely faded from public view. Hunter has remarried to Melissa Cohen-Biden, who attended the trial



President Biden hugs his son Hunter on Tuesday near Wilmington, Del. The president, who was occupied with a high-profile trip to France, did not attend his son's trial but stayed in close touch with Hunter, according to people close to the family.

each day, kissing her husband and bringing family members coffee during breaks. She shook her head when prosecutors mentioned the embarrassing texts from Hunter they had introduced as evidence, and she vociferously confronted conservative activist Garrett Ziegler, who has repeatedly targeted Hunter online, when she ran into him in the hallway.

"I am more grateful today for the love and support I experienced this last week from Melissa, my family, my friends, and my community than I am disappointed by the outcome," Hunter said after the guilty verdict. "Recovery is possible by the grace of God, and I am blessed to experience that gift one day at a time."

The trial unfolded in a wood-paneled courtroom with portraits of judges on the walls, where the air was cold enough to trigger remarks from family members who started bringing jackets and shawls — an echo of Donald Trump's complaints about the cold temperature at his own recent trial.

The unity among much of the family was evident, as relatives whom Hunter had fled, abandoned or ignored during his addiction showed up to support him. They sat in the first two

rows, where Hunter would kiss and hug each one before joining a defense table crowded with binders of exhibits, including his text messages and photos of his drugs. During the proceedings, he would at times swivel his chair to smile at his relatives. At one point he noticed that his wife was missing and mouthed to his mother, "Is she in the bathroom?" The first lady gave a nod to reassure him Melissa would be back.

Jill Biden showed up almost every day, flying across the Atlantic Ocean four times as she shuttled to and from President Biden's official visit to France to commemorate D-Day. Hunter Biden's uncle Jack Owens, who has long been close to the president and married his sister, Valerie, was there every day.

"That's how we roll," Cuffe Owens, one of Hunter's cousins, said of the family's unity as he walked into the courtroom.

But the trauma was inescapable. Ashley Biden, Hunter's sister, wept quietly as prosecutors played an audiobook of his memoir, specifically a portion recounting how he would cook cocaine and neglect his family. Kathleen Buhle spoke about the strain Hunter's addiction put on their daughters and their marriage; Jill Biden was not there for

her testimony.

"He moved out really after I found the crack pipe," Buhle said. "But I didn't consider us separated until I found out about the infidelity."

Some of that infidelity occurred with her former sister-in-law Hallie Biden, who said that she and Hunter both began using drugs in the aftermath of Beau's death. "It was a terrible experience that I went through," she told the jurors, speaking softly and haltingly. "I'm embarrassed and ashamed, and I regret that part of my life."

An exotic dancer testified that she, too, became involved with Hunter during this stretch, describing a long period when they would move from one hotel room to another, withdrawing cash and buying drugs. Hunter at one point gave her \$800 to buy designer clothes that he planned to give to his daughters, she said. On another occasion they traveled to Providence, R.I., so Hunter could buy more drugs — and also to tour her alma mater, the Rhode Island School of Design, where Hunter said one of his daughters might want to go.

Naomi Biden, Hunter Biden's 30-year-old daughter, took the stand Friday, the final day of testimony, to help a father who by his own account often had not

been there for her. When Naomi first took the stand, defense lawyer Abbe Lowell asked how many siblings she had.

"Two sisters," she said, before quickly adding, "and a brother. Who I love." That was a reference to her father's 4-year-old son with his current wife, who is named after his brother, Beau. Naomi did not mention another child, a 5-year-old daughter named Navy, whom Hunter had with an Arkansas woman and who he denied was his until a paternity test showed otherwise in 2020.

Naomi told jurors how she and her then-boyfriend, Peter Neal, drove from his parents' house in Wyoming to Los Angeles in 2018. Naomi wanted her future husband to meet her father, who had been in rehab and had recently reached out. They met at a coffee shop, ate lunch, went shopping and met his sobriety coach.

The testimony appeared difficult for her — "Sorry. I'm nervous," she said early on — but the defense team viewed her as a key witness who could show that Hunter was attempting to stabilize his life around the time of the gun purchase.

"He seemed like the clearest that I had seen him since my uncle died," Naomi recounted.

"And he just seemed really great."

But on cross-examination, prosecutors introduced 20 pages of text messages to devastating effect, portraying an unresponsive father who had other priorities, was not always interested in seeing her and pestered her about errands in the middle of the night.

"Are you up?" he wrote one night at 11:40 p.m. Later, at about 2 a.m., he asked whether Neal could meet him at 57th Street and Fifth Avenue in New York to return Hunter's truck, which Naomi and Neal had borrowed, in exchange for another car.

"Right now?" she wrote. Hunter did not respond.

The next day she tried again to connect, asking if they could see each other. Hunter declined.

That triggered a sad emoji from his daughter. "I'm really sorry, dad, I can't take this," she wrote, adding later, "I don't know what to say, I just miss you so much, I just want to hang out with you."

Later, Hunter responded: "I'm sorry I have been so unreachable. It's not fair to you."

Prosecutors asked whether Naomi was aware that her father during that period was meeting with "someone named Frankie" in his hotel room and that he had provided access codes so that Frankie could get money from his bank account.

"No," she said softly.

When Naomi's testimony concluded, she walked out of the courtroom, giving Hunter a hug and wiping her eyes. The family members' faces looked ashen as they crowded into a side room, tearful and angry.

Later that afternoon, the defense decided not to call James Biden, Hunter's uncle whom he has described as his best friend.

President Biden was notably absent from the trial, occupied with a high-profile trip to France and determined to show that, unlike Trump, he would not seek to influence the workings of the justice system. But he stayed in close touch with Hunter, as he has throughout his presidency, according to people close to the family.

"I will accept the outcome of this case and will continue to respect the judicial process as Hunter considers an appeal," President Biden said after the verdict. "Jill and I will always be there for Hunter and the rest of our family with our love and support. Nothing will ever change that."

Now that the family is trying to move forward after the verdict — reprising its familiar pattern of unifying after a painful experience — more turmoil lies ahead: Hunter Biden faces another criminal trial, this one on tax evasion charges, in September.

House holds Garland in contempt in connection to Biden documents case

BY DEVLIN BARRETT
AND MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR

The Republican-controlled House voted Wednesday to hold Attorney General Merrick Garland in contempt of Congress — a politically charged broadside against the Biden administration that comes a day after Garland's Justice Department won a conviction against Biden's son Hunter on felony gun charges.

The vote, which passed with an initial tally of 216-207, marks the third time in a dozen years that a sitting attorney general was found in contempt by a majority of House members — an indicator of the rising partisanship in Washington, and how that partisanship has increasingly been aimed at the nation's top law enforcement officials.

Wednesday's vote is largely symbolic, in that it urges federal prosecutors to investigate and file criminal charges against the attorney general, but that is extremely unlikely to happen, given the Justice Department's past practice and legal analysis.

In the run-up to the vote, Garland had vowed not to be intimidated by the threat of contempt.

"It is deeply disappointing that this House of Representatives has turned a serious congressional authority into a partisan weapon," the attorney general said in a written statement after the vote, which he said "disregards the constitutional separation of powers, the Justice Department's need to protect its investigations, and the substantial amount of information we have provided to

the Committees. I will always stand up for this Department, its employees, and its vital mission to defend our democracy."

Until 2012, a sitting member of the president's Cabinet had never faced such a sanction. Since then, it's happened a handful of times, mostly to attorneys general who came under fire for the department's handling of politically charged cases.

Republicans said Garland was in contempt of Congress for not turning over audiotapes of an interview with President Biden conducted last year by special counsel Robert K. Hur. The Justice Department had previously provided lawmakers with a transcript of that interview but refused to turn over the audiotapes, invoking executive privilege and saying it would set a bad precedent to share such audio for future high-profile cases that do not lead to criminal charges.

House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) called the contempt vote "essential to ensure transparency and accountability within the special counsel's office. It is up to Congress — not the executive branch — to determine what materials it needs to conduct its own investigations, and there are consequences for refusing to comply with lawful congressional subpoenas."

Rep. Dave Joyce (Ohio) was the only Republican to vote against the measure. "As a former prosecutor, I cannot in good conscience support a resolution that would further politicize our judicial system to score political points," he said in a written statement. "The American people ex-



House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) finishes speaking at a news conference Wednesday. His committee recommended Attorney General Merrick Garland be held in contempt.

"It is deeply disappointing that this House of Representatives has turned a serious congressional authority into a partisan weapon."

Attorney General Merrick Garland

pect Congress to work for them, solve policy problems, and prioritize good governance. Enough is enough."

Biden was interviewed as part of an investigation into classified documents found at his home and former office space. Hur ultimately concluded that there was not enough evidence to file criminal charges.

Republicans have argued that Garland's Justice Department has failed to aggressively investigate Biden and his family. A day before the contempt vote, the Justice Department won a jury verdict against Hunter Biden, who was convicted on three felony counts for lying on a gun form and illegally possessing a gun in

2018 as a drug addict. Garland appointed the special counsel that brought the case, and is prosecuting another set of tax charges against Hunter Biden that is scheduled for trial in September.

A contempt of Congress vote means that lawmakers are recommending that the Justice Department file criminal charges against Garland. In the previous two instances of a sitting attorney general being voted by House members to be in contempt, the U.S. attorney in Washington declined to pursue the case.

Rep. Jerry Nadler (D-N.Y.) said on the House floor that the vote is a baldly political attack on the administration of justice and that

historically, disputes about executive privilege were settled by litigation in federal court.

Republicans are "on a single-minded quest to follow every right-wing conspiracy theory in the vain hope that it might lead to some evidence of wrongdoing," Nadler said. "And what exactly have they delivered to the American people on their investment? Nothing."

Across Republican and Democratic administrations, government lawyers have long maintained that the invocation of executive privilege cannot lead to charges of contempt of Congress.

The Garland vote is the latest salvo by congressional Republicans against senior leaders of the Biden administration. Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas was impeached by the House this year by a one-vote margin, after three Republicans voted against the party's push.

Though House Republicans have launched an impeachment inquiry into President Biden, committees investigating the matter have been unable to muster support for a vote on removing the Democratic president.

The House Oversight and Judiciary committees both approved a report on party lines that recommended Garland be held in contempt of Congress for failing to turn over audio recordings demanded in congressional subpoenas.

Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) said at a news conference Wednesday that Republicans are "entitled to all the evidence" and that the audio recording was the best evidence.

"That's why we sent the subpoena. The attorney general has been clear he's not going to give that information to us. So that's why we have the contempt resolution," he said. "We've assumed this is going to wind up in court, but we think our case is strong, and we think that we will prevail."

D.C. deli’s popularity could be its undoing

BAGELS FROM AI

Call Your Mother’s fate. “They basically outsource the dining room to the sidewalk for the large part. So, I’d love to see it work. I wouldn’t want it across the street from me.”

Call Your Mother, an instant hit at area farmers markets, where their 400 bagels usually sold out in an hour, opened its first store in Park View in 2018. Since then, it has rapidly expanded across the region to 10 stores, half of which opened in the last four years, said Andrew Dana, the co-owner of the restaurant. Locals consider it a staple. Tourists seek out the shop for the food and snap Instagram-worthy photos with the bright pink backdrop. Even President Biden visited days after his inauguration.

But the Georgetown location at 35th and O Streets NW, which opened in 2020, has been a source of consternation. Sixteen residents upset about its operation, among them a law professor, tax lawyer and a dentist, took their complaints to court. More recently, the takeout shop with limited seating deputized an employee to be on stoop patrol, in charge of asking customers to move if they are on private property.

The hearing Wednesday was meant to address the latest dispute in the lengthy legal and zoning board battle. To continue to sell sandwiches in the 1,188-square-foot rowhouse where it sits, the shop needs the zoning board to approve its application.

“Having to shoo people off our stoop every single time going in and out was more than annoying,” said Caroline Emad, who, along with her husband, owns the house next to Call Your Mother. While the Emads do not live in the house full-time, they said they worry about their tenants. “It’s fantastic to have them next to us. It’s a thriving business. But I think they overgrew and the place is too small for them.”



MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Call Your Mother deli in Georgetown, which has limited seating, posted signs asking customers to not eat on neighbors’ stoops. A group of sixteen neighbors, annoyed by the traffic resulting from the shop’s popularity, took their complaints to the D.C. Court of Appeals.

The shop has the support of some residents and an important ally: the city. Crystal Myers of the D.C. Office of Planning said during the hearing that the office is recommending the zoning board approve Call Your Mother’s application for an exception, citing the building’s long history of operating as a store. If the board disagrees, Dana said, the store could close, risking the jobs of the 20 to 25 people employed at the Georgetown location. A decision is expected at a later date.

“Mr. Dana, I think you had more hair when you started,” Frederick L. Hill, the zoning board chairperson, joked during his presentation.

“Maybe just a touch,” said Dana, who is also the co-owner of the District’s Timber Pizza along with his wife, Daniela Moreira. “And I have glasses now. It’s been a tough four years, man.”

The throngs of satisfied customers have done little to change

some residents’ minds. Melinda Roth, who lives nearby and was among the 16 people who took an earlier dispute over Call Your Mother to court, wrote in a PowerPoint presentation to the zoning board that the matter was “Not a Popularity Contest” and asked if it would be possible for a less “objectionable” tenant to move in to the corner location, floating the possibility of “some quiet sleepy business that isn’t super successful.”

The building that Call Your Mother is renting has a history of business use dating back to pre-Civil War times, according to Topher Matthews, an advisory neighborhood commissioner in the area. It began as a grocery store, which was replaced by a shop selling antiques and later, flowers. Even as zoning laws changed, the rotating shops were able to apply for exceptions and keep their doors open.

The antique shop, for example, was approved in the 1970s, chang-

ing the allowed use of the property from the previous grocery store to retail sales, Matthews wrote. But Call Your Mother doesn’t do classic retail sales; it’s a bagel shop. So before it opened in 2020, it successfully applied to the zoning board for an exception. And then, things went sideways.

A group of 16 neighbors disagreed with the zoning board’s decision to allow Call Your Mother to operate and took their complaints all the way to the D.C. Court of Appeals, winning a partial victory in August 2022 when the court said the zoning board needed to authorize additional levels of approval for the store to sell prepared food. Dana said that again put him before the zoning board so he could keep selling bagel sandwiches.

At least one competitor, too, says Call Your Mother isn’t playing by the rules. Sean Flynn, a co-owner of Coffee Republic, just 80 feet from the bagel shop, wrote to the

zoning board that since the deli’s opening, his shop has seen a decline in customers and a significant revenue loss. At the same time, Flynn wrote, Call Your Mother customers have used Coffee Republic’s tables and restrooms without buying anything.

“It’s been an absolute nightmare,” Flynn said at the meeting.

Roth’s PowerPoint depicted a chaotic scene. She included photos of customers sitting on the sidewalk and stoops while eating bagels, overflowing public trash and recycling bins, litter, and photos of what she described as “humongous rats.” (An exterminator testified on Wednesday that Call Your Mother has not worsened the rat problem.)

“One man even uses a garbage can as a table to eat his bagels,” Roth, a George Washington University law professor, wrote on a slide above a photo of a customer in a backward baseball cap next to food on top of a trash can. She

complained of customers who drove to the store and took “rare residential parking spaces,” and of noisy delivery trucks filling already clogged roadways.

Michael Savage, a tax lawyer and a former resident who was also among the 16 involved in the court case, long opposed Call Your Mother opening at this location because he had seen the crowds at the Georgia Avenue shop. He was ready for a change anyway, he said, so he sold his home across the street before the new store opened.

Others, though, say the restaurant is a welcome addition to the neighborhood — including Chris Itteilag, the man who bought Savage’s home.

Itteilag, a residential realtor, said those opposed to the restaurant are offering a “gross misrepresentation” of what it’s like to live on the block.

In his presentation to the zoning board, he alleged that the landlords opposed to Call Your Mother have tenants who are themselves leaving trash behind. He also included photos of cars with parking tickets, alleging that they belonged to residents, rather than customers, who are “illegally parking.”

Josh Randle said he bought his O Street home just over a year ago, and going to Call Your Mother has become his daughter’s favorite part of the day. When mornings are too hectic for him or his wife to cook breakfast, “Call your Mother saves the day, every time,” he said.

On Tuesday, Judith Fedo and her husband, Joseph Dains, sat on a public bench near Call Your Mother as their 3-year-old son, Alva, yelled for them to watch just how fast he could run down the sidewalk. The family had come for lunch as a show of support after seeing news about the zoning dispute on Facebook and NextDoor. Dains, a 33-year-old PhD student studying political theory at Georgetown, said he comes to the shop almost daily and would hate to see it go.

“It was not rowdy,” Fedo, 40, said as she ate a turkey and jalapeño bagel sandwich with melted cheese. “I want to know what idyllic community these neighbors who are complaining are envisioning in their heads, because when you look around you can sense this kind of, you know, European vibe, this old world vibe. And when you go to the U.K. or Europe, it’s not stagnant and super quiet.”

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JERRY WEST, 1938-2024

As Lakers executive, NBA great built up ‘Showtime’ squad

WEST FROM A1

helped the Lakers dominate the NBA in the 1980s, then again in the early 2000s, a run that included eight trips to the Finals and four championships.

Yet for all his accolades, Mr. West was his own fiercest critic and one of the sport’s most anguished figures.

Playing in the 1960s and early ’70s, he led the Lakers to the NBA Finals nine times, only to lose eight times. Six of those Finals defeats came at the hands of the Bill Russell-led Boston Celtics, leaving Mr. West repelled by the color green and unwilling to visit Boston for the rest of his life.

“Those losses scarred me, scars that remain embedded in my soul to this day,” he wrote in “West by West,” his 2011 memoir co-authored by Jonathan Coleman. Even his miracle shot against the Knicks was all for naught as the Lakers lost the championship in seven games.

Later, his accomplishments as the Lakers’ general manager and executive vice president seemed to produce more distress than elation and at one point landed him in the hospital with nervous exhaustion.

He once called his perfectionism “a horrible burden because you’re never really satisfied with anything.”

In his memoir, Mr. West revealed that he suffered from life-long depression after growing up in rural West Virginia with a reclusive mother and a father who beat him. After one especially violent thrashing, Mr. West threatened to kill his father with a shotgun he kept hidden under his bed.

This brutal upbringing, he wrote, “almost certainly made me into the determined person and sick competitor that I became. A tormented, defiant figure who carries an angry, emotional chip on his shoulder and has a hole in his heart that nothing can ultimately fulfill.”

Hunting, fishing and basketball provided refuge from his home life. As a youngster he began shooting at a wire basket attached to the side of a bridge. Accuracy was key because if the ball didn’t go in, it would roll down the riverbank. He practiced constantly, even in the rain, mud and snow, and sometimes shot the ball so much that his fingers bled. In doing so, he developed what would become his trademark: a technically flawless jump shot.

Though the NBA had yet to adopt the three-point shot, the 6-foot-3 Mr. West still averaged 27 points per game, which remains among the highest in league history, and he made the all-star team in each of the 14 seasons he played for the Lakers. He also was a defensive stopper and played with such ferocity — crashing the boards, lunging for steals, taking charges — that he broke his nose nine times.

“Watching him forty-plus years later is like watching a human basketball camp,” sports journalist Bill Simmons wrote in “The Book of Basketball.” “His jumper is perfect. His defensive technique is perfect. His dribbling is right out of an infomercial.”

Mr. West was at his best when the stakes were highest: His play-off average of 29.1 points per game has been surpassed only by Michael Jordan and Allen Iverson — both of whom played decades after Mr. West and took advantage of the three-point shot. Chick Hearn, the late Lakers play-by-play announcer who coined the “Mr. Clutch” moniker, said Mr. West always wanted the ball when the game was on the line.

“He figured he could make any shot in the last five seconds,” Hearn told the Press-Enterprise. “So many times, I saw him pull up, take a 20-foot jumper and keep running, right toward the locker room, because he knew it



HARVEY GEORGES/AP

West Virginia University’s Jerry West, No. 44, shoots a jumper against George Washington University during a Southern Conference game on March 1, 1958. Mr. West’s trademark was a technically flawless jump shot, which he honed as a youngster practicing basketball to escape a brutal home life.

was going in.”

During his second season with the Lakers, he single-handedly saved his team in Game 3 of the 1962 NBA Finals against the Celtics. Mr. West, who had hit the two previous baskets to tie the score, stole an inbounds pass and made a buzzer-beating layup for the victory.

“Jerry West will rip your heart out,” Celtics Coach Red Auerbach said in 1965. Referring to Mr. West’s boyish, clean-cut appearance, he added: “And who would expect it from such an innocent-looking guy?”

Still, Mr. West’s talent-laden teams always seemed to come up just short. In 1969, Mr. West became the first — and still only — member of a losing team to win the Finals’ most valuable player award.

Though he averaged nearly 38 points per game, his heavily favored Lakers squad, featuring future Hall-of-Famers Wilt Chamberlain and Elgin Baylor, fell to the Celtics in seven games.

The defeat left Mr. West so depressed that he considered quitting the sport and using a

stick of dynamite to destroy the green Dodge Charger he received as MVP. Even a few of the Celtics felt some cosmic injustice had been done. After the final buzzer sounded, Celtics forward John Havlicek told him: “I love you, Jerry. I just hope you get a championship. You deserve it as much as anyone who has ever played this game.”

In what he described as “that one opening in the clouds,” the Lakers finally broke through in 1972. By then, Baylor had retired and Chamberlain and Mr. West were past their prime. Still, the team won 69 of its 82 regular season games and put together a 33-game winning streak, still a league record. In the NBA Finals, the Lakers crushed the Knicks in five games, and Mr. West finally had his ring.

Yet Mr. West paid little attention to his growing collection of mementos.

“Dad used to have hundreds of trophies, but he threw most of them out,” one of Mr. West’s sons, Mark, told a reporter, according to the Press-Enterprise. “The basketball he got when he scored his

20,000th point, he let us take it outside and play with it when we were kids.”

Expert collector of overlooked gems

Mr. West retired as a player in 1974, at age 36, but returned to coach the Lakers in 1976. His teams made the playoffs all three years, but he harangued his players for lacking his own work ethic and brooded over losses. In “West by West,” Pat Riley, a former Lakers player and coach, recalled Mr. West contemplating suicide.

“One time in Kansas City when he was coaching, we were out on the balcony of our hotel, 15 floors up, and he was looking over and I simply said: ‘Don’t do it,’” Riley said.

The front office proved a better fit for Mr. West, who after serving for three years as a Lakers scout was named the team’s general manager in 1982. Led by point guard Earvin “Magic” Johnson and center Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the team had developed an entertaining, run-and-gun style known as “Showtime” and had won two more NBA titles by the time Mr. West took over. His shrewd deals kept Showtime on track.

Because of the team’s success, the Lakers usually picked near the bottom of the annual NBA draft by which point most of the best prospects were gone. Nevertheless, Mr. West found ways to acquire talent, including drafting James Worthy and A.C. Green and trading for key role players such as Mychal Thompson and Byron Scott who helped bring the Lakers three more NBA titles in the 1980s.

“West saw what others didn’t. It’s his gift,” said Sports Illustrated basketball writer Jeff Pearlman, who wrote two books about the Lakers.

In the summer of 1996, in what Mr. West called his greatest front-office coup, he engineered trades for high school sensation Kobe Bryant, who had been drafted by

the Charlotte Hornets, and Shaquille O’Neal, then the league’s dominant center. That set up the Lakers for another championship run under Coach Phil Jackson, who had led the Chicago Bulls to six NBA titles and whom Mr. West hired as coach in 1999.

But the better the Lakers played and the higher the expectations of the fans, the more Mr. West appeared to suffer.

Too nervous to watch the biggest games, he would kill time by stalking arena corridors or driving down the Ventura Freeway listening to music on his car radio. Rather than drinking in the applause at the Lakers’ numerous championship parades, he skipped the events and fretted about retooling for next season.

In 2000, Mr. West developed an irregular heartbeat prompting him to resign from the Lakers just weeks after the team won its first NBA title in 12 years.

But he wasn’t done yet. Two years later, he shocked the basketball world by joining the Memphis Grizzlies as the team’s president of basketball operations. After so much success running the Lakers, he explained that he relished the challenge of turning around a struggling NBA franchise. After the Grizzlies made the playoffs in 2004, Mr. West was named NBA executive of the year for the second time. He spent his final years in the league as an executive board member for the Golden State Warriors and the Los Angeles Clippers.

‘I didn’t think I was good enough’

Jerome Alan West was born May 28, 1938, in Chelyan, W.Va., the fifth of six children. His father was a mining electrician and union activist who bounced among jobs, leaving the family on the edge of poverty. Mr. West once described eating soup for dinner six days in a row and was initially small for his age because of a vitamin deficiency.

He was deeply affected when his older brother David — whom he described as his parents’ favorite son — was killed in the Korean War. He said that one outcome of the death was Mr. West’s determination to succeed on the basketball court.

“I wasn’t jealous of him, but it was a lot to live up to,” he wrote in his memoir.

In 1956, he led his East Bank High School team to the state championship then earned a basketball scholarship to West Virginia University. He became a statewide hero in 1959 when he led the Mountaineers to the NCAA title game. Foreshadowing his frustrations in the pros, West Virginia lost by a point to the University of California at Berkeley.

In 1960, he co-captained, along with Oscar Robertson, the U.S. Olympic basketball team that won the gold medal by beating the Soviet Union. Shortly afterward, he was drafted by the Lakers, but his deep sense of self-doubt continued. “I didn’t think I was good enough to play in the NBA,” he later told Sports Illustrated. “No, really.”

Mr. West’s first marriage, to his college sweetheart Martha Jane Kane, ended in divorce. In 1978, he wed Karen Bua. A complete list of survivors was not immediately available.

By the time he retired for good, Mr. West had been involved in — as a player, consultant or team executive — 22 NBA Finals, more than fellow league icons Auerbach or Jackson. He was elected to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in 1980, was voted one of the 50 greatest players in NBA history in 1996 and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor, by President Donald Trump in 2019.

Yet he seldom dwelled on his triumphs.

“The pain of losing,” he told Sports Illustrated, “is so much stronger than the joy of winning.”

UCLA selects its first Latino leader amid antiwar protests

BY HANNAH NATANSON

UCLA named a new leader Wednesday amid continued campus turmoil over pro-Palestinian activity — two days after police arrested two dozen demonstrators who tried to erect yet another encampment protesting the war in Gaza.

The university’s new chancellor is Julio Frenk, a public health researcher serving as president of the University of Miami. Frenk, who will start his new role on Jan. 1, will be the first Latino to lead

the school in its 105-year history. He previously served as dean of Harvard’s School of Public Health and as Mexico’s national health secretary.

Frenk replaces Gene Block, 75, who served as UCLA’s chancellor for almost 20 years but who announced last year that he intended to step down at the end of July. At the tail end of his tenure this spring, Block came under fire for his handling of pro-Palestinian demonstrations on campus, with faculty narrowly failing to vote to censure him.

“I approach this designation with great excitement and also with humility,” Frenk said at a news conference Wednesday.

UCLA leaders said Wednesday that Frenk will work to reunify the school.

The selection of Frenk comes after a turbulent period for the university, which became a hotbed of violence this spring as pro-Palestinian protests spread across college campuses nationwide. At UCLA, counterprotesters in late April attacked a student encampment with fireworks and irritant gases, as well as fists, metal poles and wooden planks — but police failed to intervene for more than three hours, a Washington Post investigation found. The next night, police in riot gear

cleared the encampment and arrested more than 200 people.

In the aftermath, UCLA announced its school police chief had been reassigned and that officials had created an Office of Campus Safety to examine security concerns. School leadership also commissioned an external investigation of the university’s response that night, as well as a separate investigation into the violent acts committed by perpetrators. The school has asked the FBI for help.

Frenk said Wednesday he was aware of the two ongoing investigations, adding that he looks forward to reviewing investigators’ findings and recommendations.

On Monday afternoon, about 100 protesters attempted to rees-

tablish protest encampments at UCLA in the final days of the spring quarter. The demonstrators tried to set up two encampments and dispersed both under orders from UCLA police, according to a statement from the school’s police force. At one point, demonstrators entered a campus building where students were taking final exams, police said.

The demonstrators then marched to a courtyard and set up a third encampment, ultimately leading UCLA police to arrest and charge about 25 people with disrupting university operations, according to the police statement. Police released the 25 people and ordered them to stay away from UCLA property for two weeks.

Asked how he would handle pro-Palestinian student protests, Frenk did not answer. Instead the president of the University of California system, Michael Drake, interceded, saying: “Our job is to try and make those safe. ... That’s a daily activity for us.”

Frenk gave no specifics in response to a question about how he would ensure students feel safe on campus. He said his goal is to protect the right to freedom of expression while also making clear UCLA will not tolerate harassment or discrimination.

The announcement of the new chancellor comes shortly before UCLA’s graduation ceremonies, which are taking place this weekend and are expected to draw more protests.

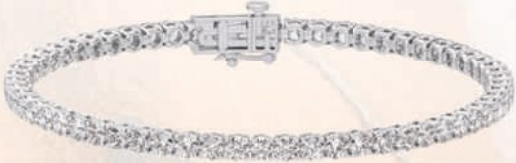


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CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Geologists rejected the term ‘Anthropocene.’ But it’s taken over the world.

The ‘Age of Humans’ is used to describe species’ environmental impact

BY DINO GRANDONI

What do you call the current time period — when we humans are warming the atmosphere, acidifying the oceans, altering the land and leaving a literal mark on the planet? Not the Anthropocene, according to geologists who rejected the idea of adding a new epoch to Earth’s official geological timeline.

Yet for many activists, artists and academics outside of geology, the Anthropocene, or “Age of Humans,” is here to stay, regardless of what rock specialists have to say.

Earlier this year, a panel of geologists rejected a proposal to officially designate the past seven decades, during which humans profoundly impacted the environment, as the new chapter in the planet’s history.

But as these scientists spent years debating, the term became widely adopted outside geology to encapsulate the angst around environmental degradation — popping up in book titles, music albums and art exhibitions.

For the term’s proponents, the idea that humanity has pushed the Earth into a new geological epoch should serve as a wake-up call. “It’s only been 70 years,” said Francine McCarthy, a professor of earth science at Brock University in Ontario, referring to the start of the new proposed epoch. “We don’t have another 70 years to wait.”

The name’s persistence speaks to a need for a cultural shorthand for referring to the big, complex ecological changes that are defining the present era, advocates say — something akin to terms like the Cold War or the Internet Age that came before it. Even if geologists say they cannot pinpoint its exact start, it is obvious to many who continue to use the term that the Anthropocene has begun.

“I always thought that this geological discussion was perhaps too soon,” said ecologist Inês Martins, whose employer — the Leverhulme Center for Anthropocene Biodiversity at the University of York — has embraced the term. “But the reality is it is a very useful concept to use to identify an era where humans have increased their impacts.”

Enter the Anthropocene

The term burst into public consciousness in 2000, when the Nobel Prize-winning chemist Paul Crutzen suggested the global effect of human activities was so profound that Earth was no longer in the Holocene, the current geological epoch.

“I was at a conference where someone said something about the Holocene, the long period of

relatively stable climate since the end of the last ice age,” Crutzen recalled years later to the author Fred Pearce. “I suddenly thought that this was wrong. The world has changed too much. So I said: ‘No, we are in the Anthropocene.’ I just made up the word on the spur of the moment. Everyone was shocked.”

The coinage is a combination of the prefix “anthropo-,” which comes from the Greek word for human, and suffix “-cene,” derived from the Greek for “new” or “recent.”

The five most recent epochs all deploy “-cene” but lack the specificity of Crutzen’s new name, according to Merriam-Webster, with names simply referring to how far in the past each is.

Crutzen, who died in 2021, knew a thing or two about humans degrading the atmosphere, having won his Nobel Prize for his work explaining how pollution was stripping Earth’s protective ozone layer.

Earthbound geologists took his idea seriously. In 2009, a scientific body called the International Commission on Stratigraphy appointed a working group to search for a so-called “golden spike” for the new epoch — a literal place on Earth where the rock record shows a clear transition from one ancient time to the next. For example, the Jurassic period, famous for its dinosaurs, is named after the Jura Mountains in Europe.

Scientists have put forward plenty of possible start dates. Crutzen himself suggested the second half of the 18th century, as greenhouse gases accumulated in glacial ice. The official Anthropocene Working Group proposed a spike in plutonium found in the mud of Crawford Lake in Canada, the result of nuclear weapons testing in the 1950s.

McCarthy, who studies the lake and argues that a plutonium-laced layer of sediment built up on its bottom should serve as a new “golden spike,” said the fact that the Anthropocene began so recently should send a sobering message to society to act fast to slow climate change. “That’s the scary part, is how quickly we have come to this point.”

But in a contested vote in March, a subpanel of the International Commission on Stratigraphy, the group charged with dividing the planet’s history into units that correspond with the geologic record, rejected that proposal, with some members arguing that such a recent feature should not define an epoch. Under the group’s rules, geologists cannot submit another Anthropocene proposal for at least 10 years.

“Sediment deposited within my lifetime is not a new epoch, by any standards,” said Philip Gibbard, a University of Cambridge geologist who voted against the official Anthropocene proposal.



WASHINGTON POST ILLUSTRATION; ISTOCK

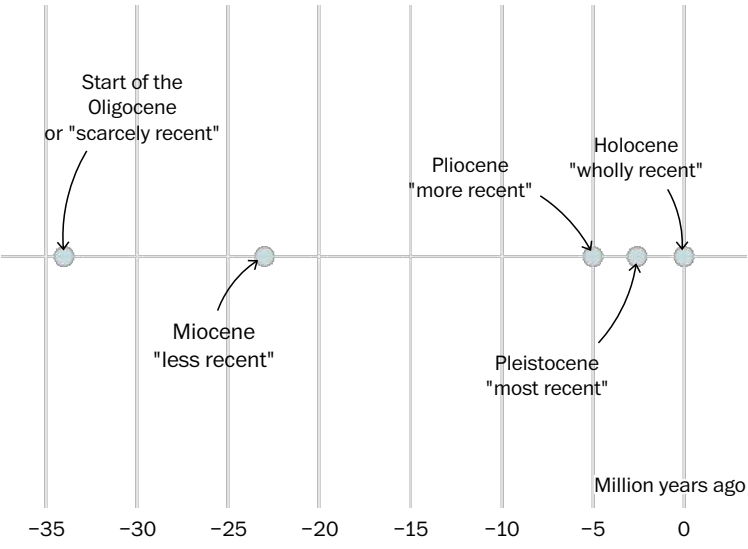


BONNIE JO MOUNT/THE WASHINGTON POST

Dawn at Crawford Lake in Milton, Ontario. Mud at the bottom of the lake has shown a spike in plutonium, the result of nuclear weapons testing in the 1950s.

What geological epoch names mean

The most recent epochs don’t have very specific names.



‘The cat’s out of the bag’

Golden spike or no golden spike, the Anthropocene isn’t going anywhere.

In a statement after the vote, the International Commission on Stratigraphy acknowledged the term will “continue to be used not only by Earth and environmental scientists, but also by social scientists, politicians and economists, as well as by the public at large.”

“It will remain an invaluable descriptor of human impact on the Earth system,” the commission added.

Even the term’s critics admit it has staying power. “The term Anthropocene is unfortunately here to stay,” Gibbard said. “The cat’s out of the bag. The horse has bolted. We can’t stop it.”

If anything, all the headlines on the rejection have only

heightened the public’s awareness of the term. “It is definitely drawing more attention” to it, said McCarthy. “Even those people who are against — the no vote people — most of them would probably agree that we are in the Anthropocene,” she added.

The term is being searched for online about as much in the months since the March decision as it was during the months prior, according to Google Trends, and is still popping up in scientific studies, including in the prestigious journal Nature.

“It’s a good term that explains what we do to the planet,” said climatologist Jan Esper, who wrote a recent Nature paper that found that the summer of 2023 was the hottest in the Northern Hemisphere in 2,000 years.

The evolution of the concept is still underway. Norman Wirzba, a professor of theology at Duke Divinity School, said the name Anthropocene may imply that all of humanity is responsible for climate change, even though a handful of countries are responsible for the majority of greenhouse gas emissions.

“The question is, why are we calling this the Anthropocene when it’s very clear that what really made this happen was capitalism?” said Wirzba, who noted an alternative name for the current epoch: the “Capitolocene.”

“To lump all of humanity together,” he added, “is not discriminating enough.”

Gibbard, the geologist, has another idea. He wishes for the Anthropocene to be regarded as an ongoing “event,” a term used in geology to describe ancient episodes that leave a mark in the rocks.

Geological events can be something as simple as a footprint left in the mud or as cataclysmic as a volcanic eruption. For science to work, Gibbard said, researchers need to agree on what words mean.

“It would be most unsatisfactory if we had a term that could not be used, or is being used, in different ways in different disciplines,” he said. But he added that no geologist is in a position to stop people from using words how they wish. “We are not policemen. It is not our job to police the language.”

But for others, the term’s vagueness is exactly what gives it strength.

“We all as a community of citizens of planet Earth decided that this was a word to refer to the age of humanity, and the flexibility that different groups brought to that term really gave it a lot of power,” said Jacquelyn Gill, a paleoecologist at the University of Maine. “The fact that the Anthropocene has eluded definition is a feature and not a bug.”

“Geologists and stratigraphers don’t own the concept,” she added. “People can just walk outside, and they recognize we’re in the Anthropocene.”

The world agreed to ban an ozone-depleting pollutant — and it’s working

Dip in level of HCFCs in atmosphere is a hopeful sign, scientists say

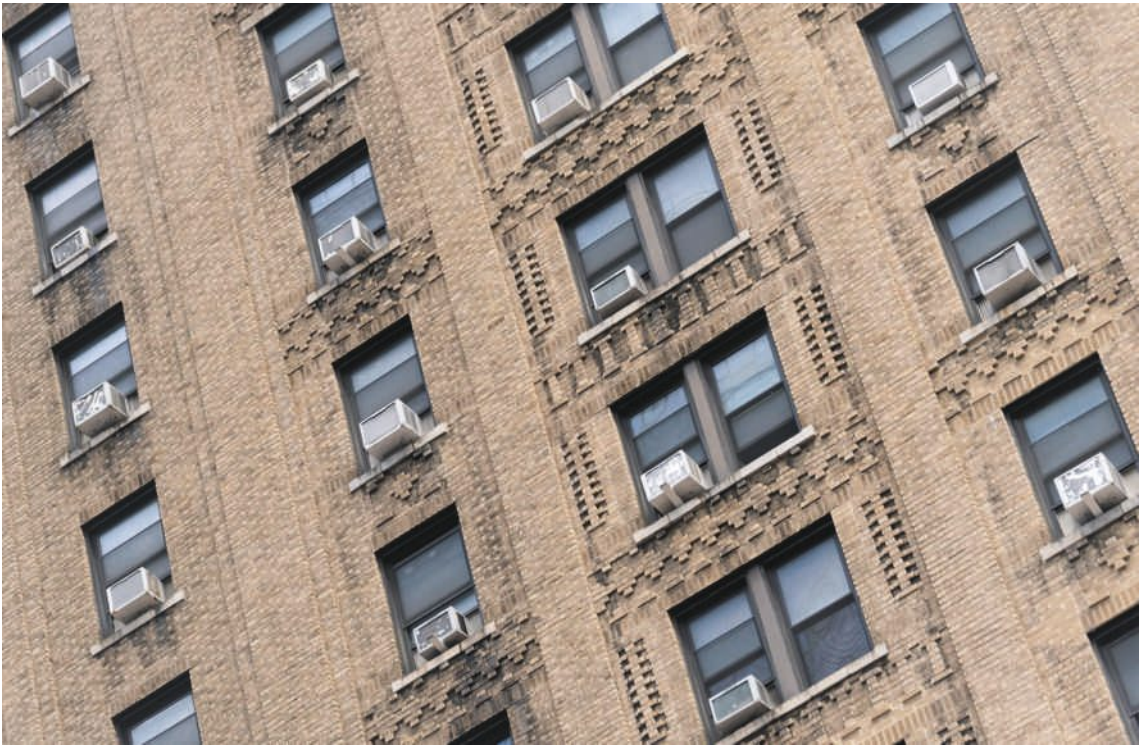
BY SARAH KAPLAN

For the first time, researchers have detected a significant dip in atmospheric levels of hydrochlorofluorocarbons — harmful gases that deplete the ozone layer and warm the planet.

Almost 30 years after nations first agreed to phase out these chemicals, which were widely used for air conditioning and refrigeration, scientists say global concentrations peaked in 2021. Since then, the ozone-depleting potential of HCFCs in the atmosphere has fallen by about three-quarters of a percentage point, according to findings published Tuesday in the journal Nature Climate Change.

Though small, that decline comes sooner than expected, scientists say — and it represents a significant milestone for the international effort to preserve the layer of Earth’s stratosphere that blocks dangerous ultraviolet sunlight.

As humanity struggles to control greenhouse gas pollution that has already pushed global temperatures to unprecedented highs, scientists said the progress on HCFCs is a hopeful sign.



JEENAH MOON/BLOOMBERG NEWS

New refrigerants known as hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are considered climate “super pollutants” and are often used in air conditioners and insulation. A global treaty has called for a reduction of their use.

“This is a remarkable success story that shows how global policies are protecting the planet,” said Veerabhadran Ramanathan, a climate scientist at the University of California at San Diego and Cornell University who was not involved in the new study.

Just over 50 years ago, researchers realized that a hole was forming in the ozone layer over

Antarctica, allowing cancer-causing radiation to reach Earth’s surface. The main culprits were chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which could destroy thousands of ozone molecules with a single chlorine atom and linger in the atmosphere for hundreds of years.

The discovery prompted countries to sign the 1987 Montreal

Protocol, in which they agreed to phase out production of CFCs. Under the terms of the agreement, rich countries would halt production first and provide financial and technical assistance to low-income nations as they also moved away from the polluting chemicals. Production of CFCs has been banned globally since 2010.

But the most common replacements were HCFCs — compounds that have about one-tenth of the ozone-depleting potential of CFCs but could still cause significant damage. The most commonly used HCFC also has roughly 2,000 times the heat-trapping potential of carbon dioxide over a 100-year period. So in 1992, nations agreed they would abandon these chemicals as well.

“The transition has been pretty successful,” said University of Bristol researcher Luke Western, the lead author of the Nature Climate Change study.

The United Nations estimates that the world has curbed 98 percent of the ozone-depleting substances being produced in 1990. It takes decades for those manufacturing bans to translate into fewer products sold and fewer HCFCs in the atmosphere. But Western’s research, which drew on data from two global air monitoring programs, shows that turning point has finally arrived.

HCFCs’ contribution to climate change peaked at about 0.05 degrees Celsius (almost a tenth of a degree Fahrenheit), Western said, and their abundance in the atmosphere is expected to return to 1980 levels by 2080.

“This milestone is a testament to the power of international cooperation,” said Avipsa Mahapatra, director of the Environmental Investigation Agency’s climate campaign. “To me, that signals potential to do a lot more, and it

gives me climate hope.”

Mahapatra said the success of the Montreal Protocol could inspire efforts to curb planet-warming pollution — which hit another record high last year. By setting clear, enforceable targets that were cognizant of each nation’s needs, she said, the agreement propelled people to take action while remaining the only treaty signed by every country on Earth. It is credited with helping the world avoid millions of skin cancer cases and as much as a full degree Celsius (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit) of warming.

But the work is not done, Mahapatra said. Much as HCFCs were a flawed substitute for CFCs, they have now been replaced by a new class of refrigerants — hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) — that are considered climate “super pollutants.” Although the Montreal Protocol was amended in 2016 to call for a reduction in use of HFCs, they are often used in air conditioners, refrigerators and insulation.

Ultimately, transitioning away from fossil fuels will be far more complex than curbing the production of ozone-depleting substances, Western said. The Montreal Protocol affected a relatively small industry, and it required companies only to change their products — not their entire businesses.

With climate change, “You’re up against a bigger beast in some ways,” Western said.



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in China and the USA.

POLICE FROM A1

teenage players, he'd been sentenced to 30 years in prison for abusing his power and betraying his community.

But Barber was a police officer, and his hearing was in a different courtroom with a different judge. Those details mattered, and not just in South Bend.

A Post investigation has found that hundreds of law enforcement officers accused of child sexual abuse have evaded serious consequences in the criminal justice system, even after they admitted to wrongdoing.

The Post identified at least 1,200 officers convicted of charges stemming from child sexual abuse from 2005 through 2020. Nearly 40 percent of those convicted officers avoided prison sentences.

In cases across the country, prosecutors offered generous plea deals to officers who admitted to raping, groping and exploiting minors, citing the need to bring cases to a close or spare victims from testifying. Prosecutors sometimes did so despite the objections of victims and their families. Then, judges approved those agreements — or made sentencing determinations of their own — that allowed abusive officers to walk out of courtrooms without any prison time.

In Missouri, a cop pleaded guilty to statutory sodomy after he was accused of sexually abusing a 16-year-old girl at a police shooting range. In 2022, he was sentenced to five years of probation.

In Tennessee, a deputy charged with raping a 14-year-old girl faced up to 90 years in prison. When he pleaded guilty in 2022 to aggravated assault, he received three years of probation. The victim, according to the sentencing transcript, called the plea deal “comical.”

In Texas, a school police officer accused of having a 14-year-old student perform oral sex at a middle school pleaded guilty in 2017 to an “improper relationship.” After five years of probation, his record was cleared.

In Indiana, Anne was determined to see Barber led out of the courtroom in handcuffs. She told prosecutors she was willing to go to trial to testify about what Barber had done to her in his squad car, in his uniform, wearing his gun and badge.

The prosecutors told her that it would be better for her if they worked out a plea agreement.

Then they made a deal with Barber's defense attorney. The charges he faced carried a maximum potential sentence of 18.5 years. Instead prosecutors agreed to limit his sentence to no more than four years.

The prosecutors did not tell Anne they also agreed to stay silent on how the officer should serve his time: behind bars or on probation. This judge could decide that Barber, too, would never spend a day in prison.

From the podium, Anne, now 17 and just starting her senior year of high school, spoke directly to Barber.

“You told real police officers that I was a liar. Like the phony coward you are, you blamed me,” Anne said. “And now after all these lies, you are going to ask the judge to trust you and not put you in prison.”

Anne and her parents didn't know that the judge, Jeffrey Sanford, had spent part of his career as a deputy city attorney for South Bend — and defended police accused of misconduct.

“Judge Sanford, I am asking you to impose the maximum prison sentence,” Anne said.

When she rejoined her parents, her father had a tear running down his cheek. They'd come to the sentencing alone. The detective who investigated her case wasn't called to testify, and the prosecutors presented no other witnesses.

Barber had come to the hearing with his wife and a group of people he'd been working with at a construction company after the police department put him on unpaid leave. His family wrote letters on his behalf. So did his pastor.

When it was Barber's turn to make a statement, he apologized to his wife, to his family, to the community, to the South Bend police and to Anne. Barber later told The Post that in that moment, he feared what prison would be like for a police officer convicted of a child sex crime.

“I took an oath as an officer to serve and protect the community, and I spat on that oath as I served myself and my own interests,” said Barber, according to a transcript of the hearing. “Instead of protecting you, I became the monster I swore to protect you against.”

When he was done, Judge Sanford explained the dilemma he said he was facing.

“I see a person who, you know, puts a pretty good foot forward, has lots of support from the family, what a great guy he is,” Sanford said. “And then I have somebody, on the other hand, who is wearing a uniform who is going to

‘I looked up to you. ... I obeyed you.’



CAROLYN VAN HOUTEN/THE WASHINGTON POST

a drive-thru restaurant ... in a police vehicle in uniform basically hitting on a 16-year-old.”

“So,” the judge said, “what’s the right punishment here?”

Nearly a year earlier, on a Monday night in October 2021, Anne’s mom noticed that something seemed off with her daughter. The teen’s phone was buzzing again and again.

She asked to see Anne’s phone — a parent power move she pulled every so often, she said. But for the first time, Anne, her quiet child who never caused trouble, refused.

Instead, the teen bolted to the bathroom and tried to lock the door, furiously deleting text messages off her turquoise blue iPhone. Her mom lunged at her and snatched it away as Anne burst into tears.

Her mother began scrolling. Then she found the name “T. barber” with a cop emoji next to it and messages her daughter had exchanged moments earlier.

T. barber
Oct 4, 2021, at 9:49 p.m.

Guessing you don't need a ride home tonight do you?

10:04 p.m.

I am driving by right now

Anne

okayyy

?

i just saw you

did you need me?

i got a ride

:(

why are you sad

i wanted to give you a ride

why?

to see you

to smell you

to touch you

This can't be happening, her mom thought to herself. Anne had talked all summer about police officers hanging out at the Chick-fil-A, where the store offered free meals to members of law enforcement.

She barged into Anne's room: “Did anything happen with you and a police officer?”

Anne was curled up on her bed, hiding her head under her pink comforter. She refused to talk.

Anne thought about how Barber had told her not to say anything. She didn't want to get him in trouble. Everyone, she worried, would blame her anyway.

Anne knew her parents were loyal supporters of the police. They'd once wanted to become officers themselves, and Anne had shared that ambition. Her Facebook page showed pictures of her dressed as a cop for Halloween.

After a sleepless night, her mom confronted the teen about the messages again. Anne confessed that a South Bend officer had driven her home from work twice and pressured her to have sex in his patrol car. He didn't use protection.

Her horrified parents thought about contacting the South Bend police. But they worried their complaint might not get taken seriously, so they called a friend who worked at a neighboring police department.

An hour later, Jon Yoder, a detective with the Mishawaka Police Department, was heating up leftovers in the office microwave when he received an email about a teenager and a South Bend cop.

He headed to his commander's office and closed the door.

Yoder, then 36, had grown up watching episodes of “Law & Order: Special Victims Unit” before becoming a special victims detective himself for St. Joseph County. His text alert was the iconic “dun dun” sound of the TV show's gavel. He'd investigated hundreds of sexual abuse cases in his career. This was the first time his suspect was a police officer — but it wouldn't be his last.

Special victims unit Commander Amy Bennett told him to keep the Barber case quiet. Their team had detectives from multiple jurisdictions, including South Bend, working together in one building.

They didn't want the unit's South Bend detective to learn they were about to investigate Barber or do anything to cause the appearance of a conflict of interest. Yoder knew he needed to work quickly.

By the next day, he'd arranged for Anne to meet with a forensic interviewer who was specially trained in child sex crimes. The detective took notes, which The Post obtained, while watching their conversation in a room across the hall.

Snot and tears soaked through Anne's pandemic face mask as she explained how it all began, in July 2021, during her lunch break at Chick-fil-A. She was talking to a co-worker about her dream of becoming a police officer. The next day, Barber, who'd overheard her, walked up to her table. He gripped his bulletproof vest. He told her she could ride along with him if her parents signed some paperwork.

One requirement was that she had to be 18. Anne told Barber she was only 16. He still gave her the



KATY RAJSKI/SOUTH BEND POLICE DEPARTMENT

TOP: Anne in front of the St. Joseph County Courthouse, where she spoke at the September 2022 sentencing hearing. ABOVE: Police officer Timothy Barber.

How police convictions were counted

The Abused by the Badge series examines police officers accused of sexually abusing children and the systemic failures that allow those crimes to occur. The data set of at least 1,200 officers convicted of charges stemming from child sexual abuse was built and analyzed by The Washington Post in collaboration with Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

Bowling Green's Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database tracks officers whose alleged crimes were discovered, who were arrested and whose charges appeared in news reports. Read more about our methodology and how this series was reported.

How this story was reported

Post journalists conducted dozens of interviews, including with the victim and her family, the South Bend police officer who pleaded guilty and law enforcement officials who investigated and prosecuted his criminal case. The Post also obtained nearly 3,000 text messages, hours of audio recordings, video footage, as well as hundreds of law enforcement records and court documents.

form and got the teen's phone number. She asked her parents to sign off, but they refused.

As much as they supported the police, they didn't like the idea of Anne being alone with an older man. Anne was a homebody who'd spent her whole life in Indiana. This summer was her first foray into the adult world, with her first job.

Barber didn't wait to hear back about the form before reaching out. Anne knew it was a little weird to have a police officer messaging her, but his interest in her future made her feel special.

Barber hadn't been a police officer long. He'd grown up in California, attended Northland Baptist Bible College in Wisconsin and had a string of jobs, including a stint at a Chick-fil-A in Florida, according to his police department employment application. He told Anne that he moved to Indiana for its lower cost of living and had become a youth director at a Baptist church.

Joining the police department wasn't a calling, he said in an April phone interview with The Post. He was married with young kids.

“Everyone else is always saying that they dreamed about being a police officer growing up,” Barber said. “I was not like that. It was more like I needed a job that I can make money for my family, and it was a job that I knew I could do.”

He listed his most recent work as a handyman when he applied in 2018 to the South Bend Police Department, which was facing an officer shortage. It's unclear what the department found when checking his background because officials heavily redacted the personnel file they released to The Post.

By the time Barber met Anne in 2021, he said, he was working long hours as a patrol officer.

Anne started noticing him at the Chick-fil-A almost every day. He texted her constantly. He would later admit to sending her more than 1,300 messages in less than three months from his work laptop.

He wanted to know her perfect date, how many kids Anne wanted. He told her he was jealous of her boyfriend. He divulged details about his marital problems. He said his wife had caught him cheating.

When Anne's friends didn't have room to drive her to the county fair, Barber suggested other plans.

The officer knew Anne didn't have her driver's license yet. He repeatedly offered to take her home after her night shifts at Chick-fil-A, where she usually worked until 10 p.m.

Anne told the forensic interviewer that she took Barber up on his offer a few days later, when her ride from work bailed.

The officer was still on duty, according to department schedule records, as he drove fast along dark winding roads, his hand on her left leg, then her inner thigh. It was past 10 p.m. when he pulled into an area she'd never been before.

“I was alone with him at a warehouse parking lot. And it was pitch black back there,” Anne told the interviewer, according to Yoder's notes.

Barber's hand was still on her leg.

“He told me that age didn't matter. He said that he ‘looked in the books’ and found that there's nothing wrong with a 36-year-old

T. barber

July 31, 2021, at 5:31 p.m.

I am sorry you got shafted by your friends

Anne

it's fine

I would take you but we would be there for like 10 min before we would have to leave

where would we go then

lol

to california

I WISH

well lets make it a reality. :)

when

when do you turn 18?

next year

maybe then so I don't got to jail

T. barber

Aug 2, 2021, at 8:55 p.m.

hey

hi

i miss you

mhmmmm sure

you don't believe me

i do

I forgot how much I like your eyes

I am guessing you don't need a ride tonight

sleeping with a 16-year-old,” Anne said.

She felt frozen, unsure of what to say. She didn’t know where he had taken her or what would happen if she didn’t do what he wanted. Maybe, she thought, if she had sex with him once, he would leave her alone.

He didn’t. He kept texting her. He offered to give her a ride again a few weeks later. She said she thought nothing would happen because he’d told her he felt guilty about the last time.

Then, she recalled, he took her to another empty parking lot late at night. When he noticed a nearby security camera, he drove to a dead-end road.

“I felt like I had to because he is a cop,” Anne told the interviewer. “He could do something to me.”

Both times, she said, Barber unzipped his pants but kept on his uniform and his gun.

About a half-hour after Anne finished talking to the forensic interviewer, South Bend police confiscated Barber’s patrol car and placed him on leave.

The next day, Yoder drove up Barber’s long driveway in nearby Elkhart, but Barber refused to talk to the detective without first consulting with his lawyer.

“I don’t want you to think that I don’t want to talk about it. I want to. I want this off my chest,” Barber told Yoder, who recorded the conversation. “I want to make sure I don’t say something that is gonna, like, incriminate me because I said it the wrong way or something.”

Meanwhile, Anne was at the hospital waiting for a sexual assault exam. Her mom had to sign the paperwork because she wasn’t old enough to consent.

“I didn’t want to say anything at first because I wanted to protect him,” Anne told the nurse, according to a medical report shared with The Post. “I didn’t want him to ruin his marriage or his family.”

Back at the office, Yoder reviewed the GPS coordinates for Barber’s patrol car. It placed the officer at Chick-fil-A almost every day of the past few months, sometimes multiple times a day.

Then he checked where Barber’s vehicle was on the nights when Anne described what Barber had done to her inside his patrol car. The GPS coordinates matched up with everything Anne said.

The detective uncovered other disturbing evidence. Anne said Barber exposed himself in his squad car at the Chick-fil-A drive-through, offered her candy and then forced her hand onto his erect penis. She still had a Snapchat video she took after he drove away that night.

“No, guys, no. I saw something of him that I did not ever want to see,” Anne recounted, as she stood shocked in the parking lot wearing her Chick-fil-A shirt pinned with a name tag. “I looked down in his car and it was just there. It was literally there. ... You can’t tell nobody, though.”

Anne

Aug 29, 2021, at 7:15 p.m.

how much was my candy so i can pay you back

T. barber

it will cost you 2 nude pics. :)

that will pay me back for the candy

Chick-fil-A workers the detective interviewed confirmed that Barber would often stop by and ask for Anne. The more the cop came around, the more upset she appeared. Anne had warned one of her teen co-workers to stay away from Barber because he was creepy and liked to flirt with girls.

In early October, Anne texted a friend that she was scared of Barber and that he had told her he would kill someone close to her.

“Dude that cop just came,” Anne messaged. “Im gonna get kidnapped.”

April Bray, one of Anne’s managers, told the detective that one night, the teenager came up to her crying.

“Girl, what is wrong with you?” Bray asked Anne.

“I just feel weirded out, I feel creeped out,” she said.

When Bray asked why, Anne pointed toward one of the tables. Sitting there in his police uniform was Barber.

Detective Yoder assumed that everyone on the South Bend force heard about the investigation once Barber was placed on leave. And yet, he said, not one officer or supervisor had stepped forward on their own with any information.

Only when Yoder questioned South Bend officer Jeremiah Hooks, one of Barber’s close col-

leagues, did the cop share that, weeks earlier, he’d received a letter from Barber’s wife, Alyssa. The two families had become friends after Barber and Hooks began working together.

In her letter, Barber’s wife revealed that she knew about her husband’s infidelity. Alyssa Barber — who declined to comment to The Post — had seen some of his inappropriate messages to other women and knew he had been to many of their houses “in absolute unfaithfulness.” She didn’t mention Anne by name but described concerns about Barber’s behavior at work.

“Tim really needs the help of honest friends at work to hold him to honesty. He meets with two pastors already weekly, but Tim could still hide sin at work because none of us are there,” she wrote. “He wants and needs you and Williams, if you are willing, to constantly hold him accountable at work for perverse humor, swearing, flirting, or other selfishness you observe.”

Hooks told Yoder that he agreed to be Barber’s “accountability partner,” but never saw anything that raised concerns.

Barber, though, had downloaded messaging apps onto his work laptop, and used them to text multiple teenage girls and young women he had met on duty. These messages were never discovered by supervisors, according to Barber. When Yoder retrieved Barber’s texts, the detective said, it became obvious that the officer had been abusing his position.

Barber told a teen runaway he was upset that she didn’t invite him to her 16th birthday party and asked what she wanted as a gift. He messaged another teen runaway that he could bring over money to pay her traffic ticket. He asked a 21-year-old car accident victim why someone so beautiful was single. He offered to bring a third teen runaway a meal from Chick-fil-A. He apologized to a 21-year-old crime witness after he “moved way to fast” — weeks after she texted him to “please just leave me alone.”

Barber would later claim to The Post that he was “surrounded by temptation” because there were so many women interested in police officers.

“It wasn’t like I was out hunting,” Barber said. “It wasn’t like I used the badge to try to force sex on people.”

The detective’s last interview was with Zackary Overton, the officer present when Barber gave Anne the ride-along form back in the summer. Overton said Barber repeatedly stopped at the Chick-fil-A. Once, he’d seen the officer staring at the high school student.

“Thinking back on it all, I’m like ‘shit, what the fuck?’” Overton told Yoder.

With this much evidence, the detective knew he had everything he needed to charge Barber. A prosecutor agreed.

“You coming forward has now stopped that guy from doing this to other girls, okay?” Yoder told Anne at her house before the arrest. “So just know that you did a good thing.”

At 4:50 p.m. on Oct. 19, 2021, Yoder, with about a dozen other law enforcement officers as back-up, arrived at Barber’s house. Yoder knocked on the front door wearing a bulletproof vest and body camera. He was carrying an arrest warrant with multiple charges: child seduction, official misconduct, public nudity and public indecency.

When Barber’s wife answered, Yoder asked to speak with him.

“I do not know where he is at this time,” she said, walking outside and closing the front door behind

Officer Barber messaging patterns

Reaches out after police encounter

Barber to a crime witness
July 31, 2021, at 8:28 p.m.

This is Tim Barber

Barber to a car accident victim
August 26, 2021, at 9:28 p.m.

My name is Tim by the way.

Barber to a teen runaway
September 22, 2021, at 12:13 p.m.

This is that officer from a long time ago when you “ranaway” all the time.

Asks personal questions

Barber to another teen runaway
September 30, 2021 at 9:03 p.m.

Can I ask are you two dating?

Barber to a car accident victim
October 3, 2021, at 3:05 p.m.

What? A beautiful lady such as yourself single?! You probably don't have time for boys?

Barber to a crime witness
July 31, 2021, at 8:01 p.m.

Hello, I know you didn't want me to talk with you anymore. I was just checking to make sure all is well with you. Also I wanted to apologize

Offers to meet up with a gift

Barber to a teen runaway
September 30, 2021, at 1:17 p.m.

Where shall I bring the money?

Barber to another teen runaway
October 3, 2021, at 4:56 p.m.

Well if you need anything let me know. I would be more than willing to bring it to you since it is your birthday.

Barber to a relative of a third teen runaway
October 1, 2021, at 8:30 p.m.

did you guys need chick fil a?

her as the detective’s body camera recorded their conversation.

Yoder was pretty certain that Barber was inside. And he knew there was a good chance that he had weapons too.

“Can you respect him enough or me enough to leave and he will turn himself in?” his wife pleaded.

Yoder, who’d had several suspects kill themselves before they could be taken into custody, remained calm but firm.

“We’re not leaving without him,” he responded. Yoder waited as she wagged her finger and shushed him. Then he threatened to call the SWAT team.

“I’m trying not to do this like this, okay,” he sighed. “I’m really not.”

“You are doing this like this,” she shot back. “I didn’t break the law.”

“I know you didn’t, but he did,” Yoder said.

“He did, you’re right,” she responded. “Just stay here.”

Barber finally emerged in sweatpants, a hoodie and a baseball hat. After he was handcuffed, the officer asked if his wife could take his wedding ring.

Barber spent one night in jail before posting a \$10,000 bond and returning home to his family with a GPS ankle monitor. A day after his arrest, the city’s Board of Public Safety placed Barber on unpaid leave.

South Bend police posted Barber’s arrest on the department’s Facebook page, promising to terminate the officer if he were found guilty.

As the news spread, young women started coming forward to complain about the cop’s behavior.

There was Angie Robinson, who’d reported a missing dog to police. Barber responded by bringing candy to her home, Starbucks to her work and asking to take her out. Then, according to her interview with the detective, Barber requested photos and told her he was horny.

There was MaKenzie Keen, who met Barber in March 2020 after one of her family members was assaulted. He brought the 22-year-old chocolate-covered pretzels and sent a selfie from his squad car. He told her that he had pictured her without a bra and asked for explicit photos.

Other South Bend residents took to Facebook to share their stories. One of them, Kari Clark,

told The Post how the officer had tried to bribe her teen daughter to go on a date.

“I told him his behavior was inappropriate . . . and very unprofessional,” she’d posted online.

As Anne learned about other accusations, she didn’t know what was worse: that she wasn’t the only one, or that if someone at the police department had stopped Barber sooner, she never would have met him.

None of the women said they ever heard from South Bend officials about their complaints — even though Barber’s messages to them could be considered fireable offenses under the department’s disciplinary policy.

Police chief Scott Ruskowski declined to answer questions from The Post. In court records, the city denied “failing to investigate, discipline, or otherwise hold accountable its police officers whether on or off duty.” South Bend also argued it wasn’t directly responsible for the harm that Barber caused Anne.

Now that Barber was out of jail, Anne worried he might try to find her. Yoder had tried to assure her that a no-contact order would keep him away.

Anne had come to trust the detective. But now, he told her, it would be up to the prosecutors to handle her case. He said they’d look out for her. Even though Barber was a cop, the detective promised, he was going to be held accountable.

Rebecca Soto, a St. Joseph County deputy prosecutor, was floored by the amount of evidence Yoder had gathered. Prosecutors in sexual assault cases often struggle to corroborate the details of crimes that happen behind closed doors. But with Barber, Soto said, there were hundreds of explicit text messages, GPS location data and witnesses who could talk about Anne’s fear.

Soto, then 42, had once wanted to be a police officer, just as Anne had. But after an injury in graduate school, Soto said she decided that rather than catch criminals, she would make sure they went to prison.

At Soto’s first meeting with Anne, she asked the teenager what she wanted out of the case.

Anne didn’t hesitate: Barber should spend time behind bars and never work as a police officer again.

She didn’t understand then

how much power Soto and her boss, prosecutor Ken Cotter, would have over the case. It would be up to them how aggressively to push for a trial, which charges against Barber to keep and what recommendations to make to a judge.

Soto told The Post that she worried that if the case went to trial, some jurors could look at Anne, who went to tanning salons and wore ripped jeans, and come to the conclusion that the girl was “inviting whatever sexual attention she gets.” Some of her texts to Barber were flirty. She accepted a second ride home.

Under the law, Soto knew none of that mattered. The evidence was overwhelming: Barber had used his job as a police officer to commit a sex crime against a minor.

But to a jury in a police-friendly town?

Soto recalled telling Anne that this was a possibility, not a certainty.

Anne told Soto that she could handle a trial. She was willing to testify in front of a jury about what Barber had done — and all it had already cost her.

At school, the teen said, she was harassed by classmates who’d figured out she was the girl in the police scandal on the news. One boy had asked if she’d liked it. Another bent himself over a desk and pretended to be handcuffed. Her parents, too nervous about her safety at Chick-fil-A, told her to quit.

There was one place where Anne could take out her rage: the wrestling mat. When she was a freshman wrestler, she pictured the faces of the middle school girls who tormented her and prompted her to transfer schools.

As a junior, she imagined Barber’s face on her opponents. She had her best season yet.

While Anne finished her school year, the prosecutors were working out a deal with Barber’s attorney, David Francisco, who did not respond to messages from The Post seeking comment. He was adamant that Barber didn’t deserve to go to prison, citing his lack of a criminal record, his young children and his community service as a police officer.

The child seduction counts that Barber was facing carried the stiffest penalties. In Indiana, where the age of consent is 16, these charges are brought against

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



PHOTOS BY CAROLYN VAN HOUTEN/THE WASHINGTON POST

TOP: The Chick-fil-A where Anne worked in South Bend in the summer of 2021, when she met police officer Timothy Barber, who was 20 years older than her. Barber, who knew that Anne wanted to become a police officer, repeatedly offered to give her rides home in his patrol car. ABOVE: Jon Yoder, a police detective assigned to the St. Joseph County Special Victims Unit, worked the criminal case against Barber. He reviewed the GPS coordinates for Barber’s patrol car, and the coordinates matched up with everything Anne said.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

teachers, cops, guardians and others who use their position of authority or trust to sexually abuse children.

In exchange for a guilty plea from Barber, Soto proposed dropping four of the officer's six charges, leaving one count of child seduction and one count of official misconduct. He would get 10 years on the sex offender registry and a maximum of four years in prison.

And she offered something else: Soto would not give a recommendation to the judge on how or where she thought Barber deserved to serve his sentence. Her boss, Cotter, signed off on the deal.

Though she'd warned Anne's family that Sanford was a lenient sentencer, Soto told The Post she wouldn't have to ask the judge for prison time because he'd already know that's what she wanted.

"I didn't feel like it was necessary," she said.

Barber said his attorney explained that this was good news. All Barber cared about was not going to prison — and now, he understood, the prosecutor would not argue for this in front of the judge.

Anne was told she could write a statement asking for Barber to be sent to prison for the maximum amount of time. She didn't know the prosecutor wasn't planning to do the same.

So what's the right punishment here?" asked Judge Jeffrey Sanford, according to a transcript of the sentencing.

He looked down at Anne. She'd worn a beige cardigan and no makeup. He looked at Barber, whose attorney had argued that Barber's behavior had been a "lapse of judgment" from an "otherwise excellent police officer."

His lawyer noted that incarceration would be a significant hardship to Barber's wife and four kids and recommended probation with some time to be served on home detention.

Barber was still on unpaid leave from the South Bend Police Department. Despite all the complaints from other young women that surfaced during the investigation, the department had not terminated him.

The prosecutors hadn't asked Yoder — or any other witnesses — to testify at the sentencing and detail what Barber had done to



CAROLYN VAN HOUTEN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Anne celebrates her high school graduation in June 2023. She enrolled at a state university and chose classes that would help her get into law school. After Timothy Barber's arrest in 2021, Anne learned that others had troubling interactions with him.

Anne. Again, Soto said, she didn't think it was necessary.

"Now, if I send you to the DOC," Sanford said to Barber, referring to the Indiana Department of Correction, "you'll be in isolation probably because you'd be in danger. You'd be in danger the whole time you were there. You might not even make it out of prison."

Before being appointed to the bench in 2016, Sanford — who did not respond to questions about the case — had represented South Bend as a deputy city attorney. He defended police officers accused of misconduct, including a case of sexual assault.

Soto did not raise the judge's history as a potential conflict of interest. She said she'd tried that once before in a different sexual misconduct case, when a former assistant Notre Dame basketball coach had been accused of taking naked photos of a woman without her consent.

During the hearing, Sanford allegedly laughed and made inappropriate comments about the woman and photographic evidence in the case, according to a local media report — a characterization the judge denied in an

exchange with prosecutors at the time.

Afterward, the woman refused to testify because she felt "degraded," and Soto asked the judge to recuse himself.

But he refused and, at one point, threatened to hold prosecutors in contempt of court. All the charges against the former basketball coach were eventually dropped.

Now Sanford wondered out loud what would have happened if, instead of being accused, Barber had been the one investigating the crime. Would Barber be arguing for that cop to do prison time?

"You probably would be," Sanford told the officer. "I don't think anybody in this courtroom would blame me for sentencing you to four years in prison. . . . well, maybe your family would, but the victim probably wouldn't, and that's what she wants to see."

Then the judge announced his decision.

"I'm not going to send you to prison," Sanford said.

Barber's sentence, the judge ruled, would be suspended entirely — with no time at all on home

detention. He'd be on the sex offender registry for 10 years and could continue to live at home while he was on probation.

"I'm giving you a break," Sanford said to Barber.

"I understand," Barber replied.

"And maybe you don't deserve it," the judge said. "I'm sure there's people in this courtroom who think that you don't."

Detective Yoder shut his laptop. Because he hadn't been called to testify against Barber, he'd been watching the hearing on a live stream.

When he'd spoken at the sentencing for the local softball coach a week earlier, that abuser was given 30 years in prison. Yoder had investigated this case just as aggressively, trying to show Anne and the community that it didn't matter that Barber was a police officer.

Instead, when he next scrolled through Facebook, he saw comments asking why police officers like Barber get special treatment.

South Bend officials did not fire Barber after he was found guilty, as the police department had promised on Facebook when

Barber was arrested. Instead, Barber said, he got a call from the city telling him to resign or he'd have to go through an internal affairs investigation. So he resigned on his own. According to the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, South Bend has not requested that Barber be stripped of his police certification.

The defense attorney who negotiated Barber's plea deal followed the career path of Judge Sanford. Earlier this year, he was appointed to a judgeship in the same courthouse — and Soto, the deputy prosecutor, was assigned to his courtroom.

Days after the sentencing hearing, Barber got the GPS ankle monitor removed that he'd been wearing since his arrest. He bought a new pair of tan work boots, he said, to replace the ones he had cut a hole to fit the monitoring device. Then, he took his kids for ice cream.

These days, Barber spends most of his free time at church or home, raising chickens and honeybees with his family. He said his relationship with his wife and kids has never been stronger.

When asked what he would

have done differently, Barber said: "I probably wouldn't have become a police officer."

Anne, meanwhile, had informed her parents that she no longer wants to go into policing. She enrolled at a state university and chose classes that would help her get into law school. She imagined herself working with victims. She would never tell them they would get eaten alive.

Her own attorney, Charlie Rice, explained to her that just because the state criminal case was over didn't mean she had to give up.

She filed a civil lawsuit against Barber and the city of South Bend, claiming they should be held liable for what happened to her in Barber's patrol car. The case could take years to resolve.

Rice is also seeking a federal criminal investigation into Barber's conduct, according to a letter he sent in March to the Justice Department. If the agency agrees, Barber could be prosecuted on federal charges and again face the possibility of being sent to prison.

Anne tried to go whole days without thinking of it all. She attended football games and country music concerts. She studied for her criminal justice classes. She confided in a counselor about her nightmares.

Then on a Monday in March, she got a call from her mom: Another of South Bend's roughly 250 officers had been arrested.

Officer Rico Butler was accused of sexually abusing a minor. Again, the charge was child seduction. Again, the alleged victim was a teenage girl. Butler, who did not respond to messages seeking comment, would later enter a not guilty plea at his arraignment.

As Anne read the charging documents posted by a local news site, she saw a familiar name listed as the detective assigned to the case.

Jon Yoder's commander had called him on a Friday afternoon.

"Here we go again," Yoder thought.

By that night, Yoder had the 27-year-old officer in an interview room, questioning him about what he had done with the 17-year-old girl. Within hours, the detective said, Butler had confessed.

Yoder worked until 3 a.m., making sure he'd documented every detail. He still wanted to believe that the evidence mattered. That cops would be held accountable. As he drove home, he wondered if this time, it would be true.

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ELECTION 2024

In Nevada, Democrats pin hopes on abortion message

Senator plays up GOP challenger’s past support for limits on procedure

BY MAEVE RESTON

LAS VEGAS — Hours after Sam Brown clinched Nevada’s Republican Senate nomination Tuesday night, his Democratic opponent released an ad highlighting his support of a 20-week abortion ban in Texas a decade ago — turning to a battle-tested playbook as Democrats look to fend off Republican inroads here.

Democratic Sen. Jacky Rosen’s ad features a Nevada woman who says she was not able to get the medical care she needed to terminate her pregnancy in her then-home state of Texas because of its 2013 ban on abortions after 20 weeks’ gestation — even though she had learned from her doctor that her son’s brain was separated from his spinal cord and he was unlikely to survive. Brown, while running for a Texas state House seat the year after the law passed, said he supported it.

“Because of the law Sam Brown pushed for, I had to leave Texas to get the care that I needed,” Valerie Peterson says in the ad that began airing in Nevada on Wednesday. “Now I live in Nevada, and I can’t watch Sam Brown take away our rights here, too.”

As Democrats navigate difficult political and economic terrain in Nevada, some believe their best hope for victory — both in this Senate race and for President Biden’s reelection — is to boost turnout among disenchanting Democrats and independents by convincing them that abortion rights are at risk, even in a state that is among the most supportive of abortion rights in the country.

Vice President Harris, second gentleman Doug Emhoff and other Democratic officials have tried to raise alarms in Nevada about the prospect that GOP control of the Senate and the White House could make a national abortion ban a reality. A coalition of abortion rights groups recently announced that they have gathered enough signatures for a Nevada ballot measure enshrining abortion rights in the state’s constitution, which Democrats hope will be another driver of turnout.

Brown, a retired Army captain who served in Afghanistan, insists he will not interfere with Nevada’s laws allowing abortion up until 24 weeks — protections overwhelmingly supported by voters in a referendum decades ago. He has said he will not vote for a national abortion ban in the Senate if Republicans gain control of that chamber. And in a February interview with NBC, he spoke of his empathy for women,



MELINA MARA/THE WASHINGTON POST

Sen. Jacky Rosen (D-Nev.) speaks to a voter at Paletaria Del Angel in Sparks, Nev., on May 29. Rosen has a new ad criticizing Republican opponent Sam Brown for his past stances on abortion; Brown describes himself as “pro-life” but says he opposes a national ban.

including his wife, who have made the difficult decision to terminate a pregnancy.

Rosen has dismissed his assertions, relentlessly arguing that voters should focus on the support he expressed for the 2013 Texas abortion ban. “Believe his record,” Rosen said. “He is only softening himself for the November election.”

Brown described Rosen’s statements as an effort to mislead voters about his position.

“For Democrats to try to scare people around an issue that is so personal and requires empathy, requires support — it’s sad to me,” Brown said. “They should be running on a record of delivering for people, but they can’t.”

Interviews with more than two dozen women across Nevada in recent months suggest that Democrats’ biggest challenges will be changing the perception that abortion rights are safe in Nevada and countering the desire of many voters to simply tune out the election.

When Democrats earlier this year were predicting that the Arizona Supreme Court’s decision reviving a near-total ban on abortion would send shock waves across the nation, 40-year-old Vivian Garcia wasn’t paying any attention to the legal battle in her neighboring state, she said.

Watching her children play on the lawn of an outdoor mall here, Garcia questioned why Demo-

crats were so fixated on issues like abortion when, in her view, they should be explaining how they would ease the financial burdens of “people that work really, really hard and pay their taxes.”

“It’s like they are trying to get your attention on something else when they really need to focus,” said Garcia, who works as an assistant director at a housekeeping business. She backed Biden in 2020 “because we wanted to see something different,” she said. Now, dealing with the rising cost of rent, “crazy” interest rates and gas prices, she’s not sure which party she will support in the presidential and Senate races.

Polls in Nevada are showing flashing warning signs for Democrats — particularly the softening support of Hispanic voters and younger voters. Biden won the state in 2020, but a New York Times-Siena College poll conducted in late April and early May showed that 38 percent of Nevada registered voters said they would support Biden and 50 percent would back Donald Trump if the presidential race was a two-way

matchup.

In the Senate race, Rosen fared better than Biden in the poll — with 40 percent of registered voters stating they would back her and 38 percent stating they would support Brown before he won the nomination. But 23 percent said they didn’t know. Democratic organizers in Nevada believe abortion rights will be a salient issue for frustrated younger voters — particularly women — who are not enthusiastic about either candidate at the top of the ticket, but would turn out if they believed their vote mattered on that issue.

Facing voter discontent with the economy in 2022, Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) charted much of the same strategy that Democrats are now employing in Rosen’s race. Leaning into the outrage over the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*, she kept a steady focus on the issue, ultimately defeating Republican Adam Laxalt in one of the closest Senate races in the country.

Just as they did in 2022, Democrats are casting Brown and other

“For Democrats to try to scare people around an issue that is so personal and requires empathy, requires support — it’s sad to me.”

Sam Brown, GOP Senate nominee in Nevada

Seeking to show unity, Trump will meet with GOP lawmakers on Capitol Hill

BY AMY B WANG, MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR, LIZ GOODWIN AND MARIANA ALFARO

Former president Donald Trump will return to Washington on Thursday with the goal of uniting ideologically splintered House and Senate Republicans behind his policy and political agenda as they pivot to November and a possible GOP return to the White House in 2025.

Trump is expected to tell House and Senate Republicans in separate gatherings Thursday that they must align and remain “forward focused on how Republicans can work together to advance policies to save America,” according to a Trump campaign official who, like others in this article, spoke on the condition of anonymity to preview the private meetings, which will take place steps away from the Capitol.

These will be Trump’s first meetings with GOP lawmakers since a jury found him guilty on all 34 felony counts of falsifying business records in his New York hush money case, making him the first former U.S. president convicted of a crime. Since the verdict last month, Republicans have largely fallen in line behind Trump, as he and President Biden continue to be locked in a tight race.

It will also be Trump’s first public visit to Capitol Hill since the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection, in which a pro-Trump mob stormed the Capitol complex to stop the certification of Biden’s 2020 victory. Though Trump was not at the Capitol that day, his efforts to overturn the 2020 election results, including his actions leading up to and

during the attack, are at the heart of federal charges against him.

Trump’s actions and words influenced several Republican lawmakers to publicly break from the former president and endorse other candidates in this year’s GOP presidential primaries. Although many Republicans had previously bemoaned Trump’s sometimes erratic behavior and norm bashing, the electoral fates of those who broke with him — like former representatives Liz Cheney (R-Wyo.) and Adam Kinzinger (R-Ill.) — has not gone unnoticed by them.

Only two of the 10 House Republicans who voted to impeach Trump after the Jan. 6 Capitol riot remain in Congress — Reps. Dan Newhouse (Wash.) and David G. Valadao (Calif.). Neither has endorsed Trump this cycle, and only Newhouse has said he will attend Thursday’s meeting.

Of the four GOP senators still in office who voted to convict Trump in his second impeachment trial after Jan. 6, only Sen. Bill Cassidy (La.) said he is likely to attend the meeting. Sen. Mitt Romney (Utah) said he’s not attending. Sens. Susan Collins (Maine) and Lisa Murkowski (Alaska) said they had scheduling conflicts.

Some Republicans have also broken with Trump on policy. While the GOP embraces the broad ambition of passing tough immigration policy, curbing spending and cutting taxes, the ideological divisions plaguing House Republicans in particular have made it difficult for them to pass substantive legislation.

Trump displayed his power over Senate Republicans from afar when, earlier this year, he helped kill bipartisan border security leg-

islation that would have cracked down on asylum claims at the U.S.-Mexico border. Senate Republicans rejected the bill a second time last month.

Republicans also remain increasingly divided over whether to address abortion and other reproductive health issues on the federal level, though many agree with Trump that those matters should be left up to the states.

Trump’s visit comes as Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) is brainstorming what a House Republican majority’s first-100-days agenda would feature if voters keep the GOP at the helm. Trump is scheduled to meet with House Republicans at 9:30 a.m. Thursday at the Capitol Hill Club followed by a meeting with Senate Republicans at 12:30 p.m. at the headquarters of the National Republican Senatorial Committee.

“We’re very excited to welcome President Trump back. ... There’s high anticipation here and great excitement, and I feel good,” Johnson said, later adding that lawmakers were eager to talk about post-election plans and “bounce around ideas” with Trump.

Asked whether he had spoken to Trump about committing to a peaceful transfer of power, Johnson said “of course he respects that, and we all do.”

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), who will step down as the Senate’s top GOP leader at the end of the year, has suggested Senate Republicans first need to win the majority before establishing a legislative agenda.

McConnell plans to attend the meeting, which will mark the first time he and Trump have spoken since shortly after the 2020 elec-

tion. McConnell broke with Trump over his refusal to accept the 2020 election results then and over the Jan. 6 riot, for which McConnell called Trump “practically and morally responsible.” Trump also later attacked McConnell’s wife — former Trump Cabinet secretary Elaine Chao — in racist terms. But McConnell has already endorsed Trump for reelection, saying that “it should come as no surprise that as nominee, he will have my support.”

“I said three years ago, right after the Capitol was attacked, that I would support our nominee, regardless of who it was, including him,” McConnell said Wednesday. “I’ve said earlier this year I support him. He’s ... earned the nomination by the voters all across the country.”

Trump has had conflicts with Senate Republicans in the past, although the majority of the conference is staunchly behind him. Trump is also considering members of the conference to be his running mate, including Sens. J.D. Vance (Ohio) and Tim Scott (S.C.).

In a meeting invitation obtained by The Washington Post, Senate Republicans were told to expect “to hear directly from President Trump about his plans for the summer and to also share our ideas for a strategic governing agenda for 2025.”

Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.) said he doubted the meeting would get too in the weeds on policy, focusing more on politics and messaging and rallying together ahead of the election.

“It’s the first time we’ve all been together with him since he was president, certainly the first time a large group of us have been with

him since the convictions, and I would expect he’d receive a lot of unifying messages,” Cramer said. “I would expect it will be a very encouraging day for him.”

Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) disparaged Republicans ahead of the meetings, saying the party’s only policy idea was to recycle “the same Trump tax cuts that proved to be a dud seven years ago.”

House Republican leaders briefed conference members during their weekly meeting Wednesday about Trump’s visit the next day. There were few specifics given about what might be discussed with Trump, but people familiar with the leadership’s thinking said a meeting with Trump has been in the works for months.

Several Republican lawmakers said Wednesday that they expected Trump to update them on what he saw as top concerns for the American people and to lay out a role for how lawmakers could support his reelection efforts.

Some moderate House Republicans are still contemplating not attending their meeting with Trump, possibly stunting his attempt to unite the conference. One moderate House Republican, who represents a swing district and who spoke on the condition of anonymity to freely discuss the meeting, said they were bracing for chaos. But Rep. Nick LaLota, a moderate from New York state, dismissed the notion that Thursday’s meeting could turn tense.

“I think it’ll be a morale-building, team-building-focused meeting where I expect spirits to be high,” he said.

Trump is aware of GOP disunity, according to Rep. Byron Donalds

measure qualifies for the November ballot — said the group drew “record numbers of volunteers who wanted to help us gather signatures.”

When asked whether she had concerns that some of the state’s voters are not closely following the legislative battles over abortion in other states, she said the message is that Nevadans “can’t take anything for granted.”

“We do have statutory protections in the state of Nevada. But I think what we’re learning is that border states — like Idaho, Utah, Arizona — are going to depend on our state to do what’s right, to step up, protect them and the patients that we serve,” Harmon said.

Brown has spoken about leading “with compassion” on the issue and underscores that he supports exceptions for rape, incest, and risks to the life and health of a mother. When Brown’s wife, Amy, spoke in the NBC interview about her regrets over having abortion as a 24-year-old before they met, she said she did not feel judged by her husband even though he describes himself as “pro-life.”

But the Republican candidate has been difficult to pin down on some aspects of the abortion debate. He declined, for example, to take a position on whether Arizona’s near-total ban should have been enforced (before that state’s legislature repealed it) stating simply that he is “pro-life and believe[s] the issue is now correctly left at the state level.”

When asked about his 2014 support for Texas’s 20-week abortion ban that did not include exceptions for rape or incest, Brown said there is no inconsistency, because his position then mirrored what the voters of that state wanted at the time.

Rosen said she is trying to convince Nevada voters that abortion rights are not protected in Nevada “because if Sam Brown wins — or if any of those other [Republican] candidates win — they will 100 percent put a nationwide ban in.”

“I live here in Las Vegas,” Rosen said. “I will bet the house on it.”

Brown said he will stand by the protections that voters approved in Nevada decades ago.

“I have been consistent that this in an issue that needs to be addressed by the people at a state level,” Brown said.

Carolyn Rose, a Las Vegas Republican who wants to see the GOP win control of the Senate and the White House, said she was relieved that Brown was clear about his position on abortion early in the race.

“Don’t pull punches and don’t act like you’re hiding something,” said Rose, 75, when asked how Republicans could address the issue in a more effective way. “Say it and then be done with it and move on to something else.”

(R-Fla.), who said he speaks to Trump frequently. But Donalds, who is reported to be under consideration to be Trump’s running mate, encouraged his colleagues to appear — even those who may be hesitant because of their reelection prospects or previously endorsed another candidate in the presidential primaries.

“I think that if you’re just going to go around just being a distraction for distraction’s sake, he has little patience for that — but quite frankly, I got little patience for that,” Donalds said of colleagues who often break with Trump. “So I think members should show up. They should go. It’ll be a packed house.”

Asked whether he was excited for Trump’s visit, Rep. Chip Roy (R-Tex.) — who campaigned for Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) in the primary — said he “certainly plans on attending” Thursday’s meeting. Roy said he thinks Republicans must have a conversation “about what we want to accomplish in the spring of ’25, to talk about the agenda and the policies that we ought to address.”

Rep. Bob Good (R-Va.), a former DeSantis supporter whose opponent Trump backed this cycle, said he will attend “to listen to what our presumptive nominee and the effective leader of our party has to say.”

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.), a top Trump ally in the House, downplayed the possibility of tension resulting from the presence of those who supported other primary candidates. “I don’t think President Trump even cares.”

Marianne LeVine contributed to this report.

THE WORLD

Nigel Farage pins his elective hopes on a struggling Brexit town

On his 8th try to join Britain’s Parliament, the political super-disruptor is running in Clacton-on-Sea, a leader in the 2016 vote to leave the E.U.

BY WILLIAM BOOTH

CLACTON-ON-SEA, ENGLAND — This is a little Brexit town, straining against stubborn poverty, alarmed by rising immigration. It’s a faded seaside resort filled with empty arcades and shuttered shops. Ask the locals to describe their home and they often use the word “forgotten,” or an expletive.

Clacton posted one of the highest “leave” votes in the 2016 Brexit referendum. About 70 percent of people here wanted to get out of the European Union and “take back control” of their laws and borders. Their member of Parliament then was a co-founder of the Vote Leave campaign.

And now, the biggest Brexiteer of them all, super-disruptor Nigel Farage, is running to represent this slice of eastern England, promising to make himself a “bloody nuisance” in Westminster if he wins.

Farage appears to have a decent shot in his eighth attempt to become a British lawmaker. (He was elected four times to the European Parliament in Brussels, which he said he loathed.)

As before, right-wing populist Farage is focusing on the dangers of immigration — which turns off some voters as being racist. But with the Conservative Party flailing — and resistance to far-right parties diminish across much of Europe — his newly reborn Reform UK party could play an outside role in Britain’s July 4 elections. Some analysts say Reform UK could bring about a political realignment.

The last time Britain went to the polls in a general election, Boris Johnson led the Conservatives to a landslide under the banner “Get Brexit done.”

So it is revealing that five years later, neither the Conservatives nor Labour — Prime Minister Rishi Sunak nor his challenger Keir Starmer — use the “B-word” much. For Conservative Brexit backers, there isn’t much to boast about. For Labour, comfortably 20 points ahead in the polls, it’s not worth reviving divisions.

This weird amnesia hasn’t infected Farage. Or people in Clacton. They have plenty to say about leaving the E.U.

Brexit, in retrospect, turned out to be “a bit of a con job,” said Trevor Harris, 58.

Harris, who works as a caregiver, was among the locals enjoying a few moments of late sunshine outside the Never Say Die pub in Jaywick, an area in the Clacton constituency that has regularly been cited in government reports as the one of the most deprived neighborhoods in England.

Harris warned of “no go” zones in the area. There are a lot of drugs, he said, and young people without work. “We look after each other,” he said. “But this is a hard place.”

Clacton has one of the highest proportions of people classed as “economically inactive” in Britain, with higher crime rates and poorer health than nearby towns.

Harris said it was natural for people to look for reasons to understand their plight, but too easy to blame immigrants for all of Britain’s problems. “Look around, do you see any immigrants here? Taking what jobs?”

He said he would not be voting for Farage but acknowledged that many of his neighbors would.

His mates at the pub’s picnic tables had harsher words. They said they had been cheated of the benefits they were promised. No,



TOLGA AKMEN/EPH-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

Nigel Farage, leader of the Reform UK party and a leading Brexiteer in 2016, launches his parliamentary bid on June 4 in Clacton-on-Sea. He’s promised to make himself a “bloody nuisance” in Westminster if he wins.

People pass an arcade in Clacton-on-Sea, a faded resort town in eastern England that has one of the highest proportions of those classified as “economically inactive” in Britain. It’s a “hard place,” said one man.

Brexit hasn’t brought an economic boom to Clacton — that question from a reporter got a laugh. There has been no windfall for the National Health Service and no drop in immigration, either.

Prime Ministers David Cameron and Theresa May pledged that Brexit would reduce immigration to “the tens of thousands.” Johnson, too, said that “the overall number would come down,” and Sunak vowed to “stop the boats” trying to illegally cross the English Channel.

The Office for National Statistics estimates that net migration to Britain last year was 685,000, a near record.

On the side of the Farage campaign bus is the promise to “slash immigration.” That appeals to those who believe Britain is being overwhelmed by too

many people too fast — newcomers who are not only competing for health care, jobs, homes and education, but who are simply different.

At the Broadway Social Club in Jaywick, the locals were singing karaoke, with one lovely rendition of Sting’s nostalgic crooner “Fields of Gold.”

A woman selling raffle tickets for local charities, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because she didn’t want to upset her neighbors, said: “This is a poor community. The young people try, but ... we’re in a terrible mess.”

Would Farage help?

“I hope he does something, anything, really,” she said. “But he’s not from around here, is he?”

Farage is from southeast England. British election rules don’t require candidates to live where

they are running. Last week, he greeted well-wishers in a newly opened Clacton campaign headquarters above an arcade.

Andrew Clemmit and Linda Blackwell, a middle-aged couple with a holiday home in Clacton, got a selfie with a beaming Farage and their two dogs.

“Nigel will win Clacton, I am sure,” said Clemmit, who runs a home-heating service. He said he was disappointed in Johnson, “who became all ‘woke’ and green” and let Brexit “get stopped by the politicians.” He had nothing good to say about Sunak.

Blackwell, who runs a gym, said: “I like everything Nigel says. He’s the only one who tells us the truth.”

Asked about Sunak, Blackwell said, “I don’t trust him.”

What about Labour? They shook their heads no way.

Labour’s Starmer has taken a softer line on immigration, saying his government would scrap Sunak’s plan to send asylum seekers to Rwanda, reduce the country’s reliance on overseas workers and offer Britons training in new skills.

The couple praised Farage for his campaign kickoff speech at Clacton Pier, where he said Sunak and the Conservatives had betrayed the hopes of Brexit. “They’ve opened up the borders to mass immigration like we’ve never seen before,” Farage said. “And they deserve to pay a price for that, a big price for that.”

Not everyone in the crowd was won over. A protester threw a milkshake in his face.

After Sunak last week left a D-Day commemoration in Normandy, France, early to get back on the campaign trail, Farage said the prime minister “doesn’t understand” Britain. “He is not patriotic — he doesn’t care about

our history, our culture.”

Sunak was born in Britain. His mother and father were immigrants, East African-born Hindus of Punjabi descent.

Farage supporters have been going door to door, ringing doorbells, handing out fliers. Among them is Tony Finnegan-Butler, 80, a retired sea captain who has campaigned for Farage and his parties — the UK Independence Party, the Brexit Party, and now Reform UK — for almost 30 years.

Finnegan-Butler said he hopes Farage and those who think like him will eventually take over or transform the Conservative Party, as Donald Trump and his MAGA base have done with the Republican Party in the United States.

Greeting people in bathrobes, calming barking dogs, Finnegan-Butler was satisfied that about seven in 10 people said they would vote for Farage.

“I love him,” said Ann Bryant, a retiree. She joked that when her son told her, “ ‘Mum, Farage will just go to the Parliament to make trouble,’ ” she responded: “Good for him.”

John Clements, 63, a former police officer, was out walking his dog. Asked whether he would vote for Farage, he said he sure would. “The town has become scruffy. It’s not a nice place. Potholes. Look, they don’t even cut the grass.” He pointed.

Clements described what he saw as the problem. “They keep saying immigrants, immigrants, immigrants. It’s not immigrants. It’s illegal immigrants! And the woke just want more of them. But we’re bursting at the seams. We don’t have enough for our own.”

He said, “England for the English.”

Karla Adam in London contributed to this report.



BEN STANSALL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

DIGEST

CANADA Wreck of Ernest Shackleton ship found

The wreck of the last ship belonging to Sir Ernest Shackleton, a famous Irish-born British explorer of Antarctica, has been found off the coast of Labrador in Canada, 62 years after it went missing. The wreck was found by an international team led by the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.

The team found the Quest using sonar scans on Sunday evening, sitting on its keel under 1,280 feet of churning, frigid water, the society said. Its towering mast lay broken beside it, likely cracked off as the vessel was sucked into the depths after it struck ice on May 5, 1962.

Shackleton’s death aboard the

ship in 1922 marked the end of what historians consider the “heroic age” of Antarctic exploration. The explorer led three British expeditions to the Antarctic, and he was in the early stages of a fourth when he died. He was 47.

The Quest’s discovery was “profoundly moving,” John Geiger, leader of the Shackleton Quest Expedition said Wednesday. “It’s just such a great story. It links Canada to this most famous of all polar explorers.”

The Norwegian-built ship, used for Arctic research and sealing after Shackleton’s death, appears to be in “incredible condition,” though it was damaged when it slammed into the seabed, Geiger said.

Now that it has been found, the next step will be sending

down remotely operated vehicles to capture images of its remains.

— Associated Press

SAUDI ARABIA Muslims begin pilgrimage to Mecca

Muslim pilgrims have been streaming into Saudi Arabia’s holy city of Mecca ahead of the start of the Hajj later this week, as the annual pilgrimage returns to its monumental scale.

Saudi officials say more than 1.5 million foreign pilgrims had arrived in the country by Tuesday, the vast majority by air, from across the world. More are expected, and hundreds of thousands of Saudis and others living in Saudi Arabia will also join them when the pilgrimage officially begins on Friday.

Saudi officials have said they expect the number of pilgrims this year to exceed 2023, when more than 1.8 million people performed the Hajj, approaching pre-pandemic levels. In 2019, more than 2.4 million Muslims made the pilgrimage. Saudi authorities control the flow of pilgrims through quotas, allowing each country one pilgrim for every thousand Muslim citizens.

The pilgrims included 4,200 Palestinians from the occupied West Bank who arrived in Mecca earlier this month, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs. Palestinians in the Gaza Strip were not able to travel to Saudi Arabia for the Hajj this year, because of the war between Israel and Hamas.

— Associated Press

NETHERLANDS 3 men convicted in journalist’s murder

A Dutch court on Wednesday convicted three men of murder for their roles in the 2021 shooting of investigative reporter Peter R. de Vries, an attack in downtown Amsterdam that sent a shockwave through the Netherlands.

His assassination appeared to be linked to a string of gangland hits in and around the Dutch capital, although the gang leader convicted of ordering some of them has not been charged in de Vries’s killing.

The shooter, getaway driver and organizer of the attack were convicted of direct involvement in the killing. The shooter and driver were sentenced to 28

years. The man who organized the slaying was sentenced to 26 years and one month.

The three demonstrated “unprecedented ruthlessness and unscrupulousness. Their actions and the recklessness they showed demonstrate that they do not care about human life,” said presiding Judge Gert Oldekamp of Amsterdam District Court.

De Vries was gunned down on July 5, 2021, on a busy Amsterdam street and died nine days later of his injuries, at age 64.

He had been an adviser and confidant for a protected witness in the trial of the alleged leader and other members of a crime gang. The witness’s brother and lawyer were both murdered.

— Associated Press

ISRAEL-GAZA WAR

After joy of hostages’ rescue, Israel’s divisions return

Calls for cease-fire grow as four former captives adjust to changed lives

BY STEVE HENDRIX AND LIOR SOROKA

JERUSALEM — The moment of unity Israelis enjoyed Saturday after four hostages were safely ferried from Gaza amid a bloody fire-fight was just that — a moment. Within hours, families of hostages were on the streets in greater numbers than the previous week-end, demanding that the government approve the latest U.S.-backed cease-fire proposal. “Bring them *all* home!” they chanted.

Within a day, opposition leader Benny Gantz ended eight months of emergency power sharing and resigned from the war cabinet over Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s handling of the war.

By midweek, as the rescued Israelis were being evaluated by doctors and psychologists and details of their ordeal were beginning to emerge, the strategic and political divisions tearing at the country were back on full display. Factions fought bitterly over the latest cease-fire talks and attempts to draft more ultra-Orthodox men into the army.

Far from easing the domestic pressure on Netanyahu, hostage advocates said the rescue mission had boosted public support for a negotiated settlement.

“We realize this is not something that can be replicated 120 times,” said Yossi Moatti, the CEO of the Hostages and Missing Families Forum, Israel’s lead hostage advocacy group, referring to the number of captives still held in Gaza. “We realize that the deal is the only way to get the other hostages out.”

He said the movement, which has become more visible in weekly protests calling for the ouster of Netanyahu’s far-right government, would not stop taking to the streets or confronting Israeli leaders whenever possible. Hostage families staged a stormy protest in a parliamentary meeting Monday and planned to gather outside a military base in Tel Aviv on Wednesday night.

Momentum would build, Moatti predicted, pointing to the surge in turnout for street demonstrations just hours after news of the rescue broke.

The mood that night was at once joyous and furious. Some marchers said they had come out for the first time in months.

“That is why there is hope,” Moatti said. “We saw many, many



AMIR LEVY/GETTY IMAGES

Demonstrators in Tel Aviv on Saturday hold pictures of hostages still in Gaza, as well as images of newly rescued hostage Noa Argamani, as they demand that Israeli officials approve a cease-fire deal. Advocates said the mission that rescued four hostages over the weekend increased public support for an agreement with Hamas.

people more than usual coming out of their houses to say, ‘Take the deal!’”

Public frustration has soared as round after round of cease-fire talks have come and gone.

The latest initiative, promoted by President Biden as an “Israeli proposal,” would begin with a six-week pause in fighting and the release of women, children, elderly and wounded hostages in exchange for Palestinian prisoners.

But negotiators have been unable to reconcile competing visions of when the war should end. Hamas has insisted on a timeline for a final cessation of hostilities; Netanyahu has said Israeli forces will keep fighting until the militant group has been destroyed.

Among those pushing for the government to accept a cease-fire were relatives of the four hostages freed Saturday.

“I am one of the lucky ones,” Orit Meir, the mother of 22-year-old Almog Meir Jan, said in a

hospital news conference Tuesday. “There is a deal on the table. We ask the Israeli government to move forward with the deal.”

Like the rest of the rescued hostages, Meir Jan was kidnapped from the Nova dance festival on Oct. 7. He was being held by armed guards alongside Shlomi Ziv, a 41-year-old who lived near the Lebanese border, and Andrey Kozlov, a 27-year-old recent immigrant from Russia, both of whom worked security at the rave.

The most well-known captive was 26-year-old Noa Argamani, who became a symbol of the mass kidnapping after a video of her being driven screaming into Gaza on a motorcycle went viral.

All four were reportedly in good health when helicopters whisked them from the fighting in the Nu-seirat refugee camp and touched down at a hospital just outside Tel Aviv. But like other freed hostages, they have returned to a different, and often tragic, new normal.

Meir Jan learned soon after landing that his father had died hours before. Relatives said Yossi Jan, who lived alone in central Israel, had become isolated and overwhelmed by his son’s ordeal, lost 45 pounds, and spent hours fixated on television news.

When he didn’t answer phone calls from the military Saturday to tell him that Almog was safe, Yossi’s sister drove to his home and found him in the living room, dead of an apparent heart attack.

“My brother died of grief and didn’t get to see his son return,” the sister, Dina Jan, told Israeli public broadcaster Kan.

Argamani learned that her mother had brain cancer and was clinging to life, despite having gone through experimental treatments to buy time for a reunion with her daughter. Hours after being freed, Argamani traveled to another medical center to be with her.

“Noa learned about her moth-

er’s complex condition from the medical team,” Ronni Gamzu, CEO of Ichilov Hospital, said at a news conference Sunday. He said that the patient’s comprehension was limited but that he thought there had been a “reasonable” degree of communication between mother and daughter.

The former hostages have been released from their own hospital stays, where they began a multidisciplinary acclimation program that health professionals have been honing since a wave of 105 hostages was released in November. The program includes physical exams, psychological counseling, and screenings for rape and sexual abuse.

Hostages are not pressed to recount their experiences too quickly. They and their families are housed in dedicated facilities mostly shielded from media attention. But details of their condition, and their experiences inside Gaza, have begun to trickle out through

family, friends and Israeli officials.

Meir Jan told his sister that he and the other male captives were sometimes allowed to watch Al Jazeera, she recounted to reporters at a news conference, and saw extensive coverage of the hostage family demonstrations in Israel.

Argamani has told others that she was moved to several different locations and was occasionally dressed in traditional Arab clothing. She tried to stay positive through mindfulness exercises, according to an account of her meeting with Shin Bet Security Chief Ronen Bar, and could sometimes hear “nonstop” Israeli shelling.

“Once I heard a report on the radio that Israel was against ending the war, and it broke me,” she told Bar, according to the Israeli outlet Ynet.

Soroka reported from Tel Aviv. Heidi Levine in Tel Aviv contributed to this report.

Hezbollah fires rockets at Israel, as U.S. accuses Hamas of prolonging war

This article is by John Hudson, Victoria Bisset, Mohamad El Chamaa, Susannah George and Bryan Pietsch

DOHA, QATAR — Hezbollah bombarded northern Israel with rockets and artillery shells Wednesday, further threatening Israel on its northern front as the war in Gaza drags on, with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken accusing Hamas of making unworkable demands during cease-fire negotiations.

“It’s time for the haggling to stop and the cease-fire to start,” Blinken told reporters at a news conference in Qatar.

Hezbollah’s attack, which the Israel Defense Forces said involved at least two waves of about 215 projectiles, represented a major escalation in the simmering battle on Israel’s northern border that has consistently threatened to explode into all-out war. It came in retaliation for an Israeli airstrike Tuesday in southern Lebanon that killed a senior Hezbollah commander. Some started fires, but Israel did not report any casualties in the rocket attacks.

The escalation comes at a fraught time for Israel as it faces mounting global pressure to wind down its war in the Gaza Strip, with negotiations for a cease-fire appearing to reach a fork in the road. Hamas submitted a response Tuesday to a U.S.-backed cease-fire proposal; the response asked for reassurances about an end to the war, according to an official with knowledge of the talks. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss an ongoing diplomatic effort.

The official said Hamas’s response contained “amendments to the Israeli proposal, including a timeline for a permanent cease-

fire and the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Gaza Strip.”

Blinken said Hamas proposed “numerous changes” to the plan announced by President Biden late last month.

“Some of the changes are workable, some are not,” Blinken said in remarks in Doha alongside Qatari Prime Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani. Qatar and the United States have mediated negotiations between Hamas and Israel as the parties work toward a deal that could facilitate the release of the dozens of hostages held by Hamas in the Gaza Strip and end Israel’s war there.

The deal on the table is “virtually identical” to one proposed by Hamas on May 6, Blinken said, but the militant group is now asking for a number of changes.

“Hamas could have answered with a single word: yes. Instead, Hamas waited nearly two weeks and then proposed more changes, a number of which go beyond positions that it had previously taken and accepted,” Blinken said. He questioned whether Hamas was “proceeding in good faith or not.”

National security adviser Jake Sullivan told reporters aboard Air Force One that the United States has reviewed the contents of Hamas’s response and will now work with mediators, specifically Egypt and Qatar, to “bridge final gaps.”

“Many of the proposed changes are minor and not unanticipated. Others differ more substantively from what was outlined in the U.N. Security Council resolution,” Sullivan said.

“Our aim is to bring this process to a conclusion,” Sullivan added.

Hamas has described its response to the proposal as “posi-



AYAL MARGOLIN/REUTERS

Israeli personnel work to control a fire after rocket attacks from Lebanon in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights on Tuesday.

tive.”

Israel, for its part, had also appeared to be dragging its feet on the deal. Biden announced the proposal as an Israeli one, but Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu subsequently distanced himself from it under pressure from his right flank not to accept the deal.

Mediators fear that any Hamas amendments to the current deal will be framed by Israel as a rejection, said Aaron David Miller, a longtime U.S. diplomat now at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. If Hamas doesn’t reject the deal, “Netanyahu is counting on Hamas to say ‘yes, but’ in a way that is deemed unreasonable,” he said.

Mediators are hoping to delay conversations about more complicated questions of how to end the war in Gaza by getting the two sides to at least agree to the first phase of the deal, which would include a six-week cease-fire and the withdrawal of Israeli troops from heavily populated areas of Gaza; the freeing of all

women, elderly people and children held hostage in return for Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails; the return of displaced Palestinians to their homes throughout Gaza; and a surge in humanitarian aid to the starving enclave.

“The logic of the Biden administration is that if the two sides can agree to Phase 1, the six weeks of quiet will be an incentive to continue,” Miller said.

The Israeli strike Tuesday on the southern Lebanese town of Jwaya killed Talib Abdallah, along with three other Hezbollah members, the group announced. It was the first time since January that Hezbollah had acknowledged the killing of one of its commanders. In his eulogy, he was described as a hero of the month-long 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war.

At the funeral, Hezbollah official Hashem Safieddine vowed to increase operations “in intensity, strength, quantity and quality” in retaliation.

The Israeli military confirmed

Abdallah’s killing in a Telegram post Wednesday, describing him as “one of Hezbollah’s most senior commanders in southern Lebanon” and saying he was responsible for planning and carrying out “a large number” of attacks against Israeli civilians.

A biography released by Hezbollah on Wednesday said Abdallah, 55, joined the movement in 1984 and was among fighters the group sent to the Bosnian war in the early 1990s. He played key roles in the group’s battles against Israel, including during the 2006 war, and more recently led military operations against Israel along a stretch of the Lebanon-Israel border, the biography said. A person close to Hezbollah, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, called Abdallah “very important” to the movement.

Hezbollah, in a statement Wednesday, said it targeted Israel’s Meron Air Base with rocket and artillery fire in retaliation. Netanyahu said he was holding a security assessment in light of the “developments in the north, and Hamas’s negative response regarding the release of the hostages,” according to the Times of Israel.

According to a Washington Post tally, Israeli strikes have killed more than 300 Hezbollah members in Lebanon since Oct. 7, as well as 88 civilians and non-combatants.

The Israeli military has repeatedly said it is ready to launch an operation into Lebanon to push back Hezbollah forces from the border at any time.

Here’s what to know

Almost 3,000 malnourished children in southern Gaza are at risk of dying after recent violence cut them off from treat-

ment, the U.N. children’s agency warned. UNICEF said Tuesday that the numbers represent about three-quarters of the children who were believed to be receiving “lifesaving care” in the south before Israel launched its operation in the city of Rafah. The agency added that the deteriorating levels of aid access in the south meant that more children could fall ill with malnutrition. Humanitarian groups have previously warned of the risk of famine in northern Gaza.

A U.N. inquiry said Israel has committed war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza. The report, which the U.N. human rights office said was the first in-depth U.N. investigation of events on and since Hamas’s attack Oct. 7, also found that Palestinian armed groups carried out war crimes in Israel. Last month, the International Criminal Court’s chief prosecutor announced he was seeking arrest warrants against senior Israeli and Hamas officials for crimes committed in the war.

At least 37,202 people have been killed and 84,932 injured in Gaza since the war started, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, which does not distinguish between civilians and combatants but says the majority of the dead are women and children. Israel estimates that about 1,200 people were killed in Hamas’s Oct. 7 attack, including more than 300 soldiers, and it says 298 soldiers have been killed since the launch of its military operations in Gaza.

Bisset reported from London, El Chamaa reported from Beirut, George reported from Dubai and Pietsch reported from Washington. Kareem Fahim in Istanbul and Suzan Haidamous in Beirut contributed to this report.

Possible Trump return hangs over G-7 summit in Italy

BY TYLER PAGER,
ANTHONY FAIOLA
AND MATT VISER

FASANO, ITALY — Three years ago, President Biden made his first overseas trip as commander in chief to Britain for the Group of Seven leaders’ summit, where he sought to turn the page on Donald Trump’s presidency and promise more robust and steady global leadership from the United States.

“There was a real sense of relief in the room that America was back and actually leading at the table,” John Kirby, a spokesman for the National Security Council, told reporters Tuesday. “And that’s still more true now than ever.”

But when Biden arrives for what could be his final G-7 summit as president, he will encounter nervous allies who are closely following his rematch with Trump and are worried that Biden’s vow that “America is back” will no longer ring true when they gather next year in Canada.

Trump routinely criticized NATO as president, and some of his former aides say that, if reelected, he would probably move to withdraw the United States from the military alliance. Trump particularly alarmed allies in February when he said he would encourage Russia to do “whatever the hell they want” to countries that he views as not spending enough on defense.

Biden will also find a changed political landscape in Europe, even from just days ago when he was in France to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

Far-right parties in France and Germany made large gains in the weekend’s European Parliament elections, leading French President Emmanuel Macron to dissolve the French Parliament and call snap elections just weeks before the start of the Paris Olympics. Polls suggest Marine Le Pen’s far-right nationalists will make massive gains, potentially hobbling Macron’s agenda until the end of his presidential term in 2027.

Kirby downplayed any U.S. concerns about the European elections and said Washington believes Ursula von der Leyen will be reelected president of the European Commission, a role that functions as the bloc’s chief executive. “We’re not at all concerned that we’re not going to be able to advance shared inter-



President Biden sets off Wednesday from Joint Base Andrews to travel to the Group of Seven summit, where he will encounter nervous allies who are closely following his rematch with Donald Trump and are worried that Biden’s vow of “America is back” is in danger.

ests and values across the European continent,” Kirby said.

The changed landscape will be evident in the person of the summit’s host, Giorgia Meloni, Italy’s hard-right prime minister, who will welcome her foreign counterparts to a five-star resort in southern Italy on the heels of a result in the European elections that is likely to bolster her profile.

The summit also comes just days after his son Hunter was found guilty on three counts of lying on gun-purchasing paperwork and unlawfully possessing a gun. Hunter Biden’s legal and personal troubles — he is a recovering drug addict — have deeply affected the president, and aides increasingly worry about the toll the case is taking on the elder Biden.

After the verdict, the president scrambled his schedule Tuesday to travel to Wilmington, Del., where

the trial took place, to be with his family the night before he left for Italy. Some of those family members, including at least one of Hunter’s children, traveled with Biden to Italy aboard Air Force One.

But it is the specter of a Trump return that will hang over the summit this week as European leaders contemplate a future where they may be unable to rely as much on U.S. support and must stand more on their own. “The shadow of Trump is indeed hanging over the G-7, but it has galvanized them,” said Armida van Rij, senior research fellow at the London-based Chatham House think tank.

Some of the summit’s agenda items will highlight the sharp differences between Biden and Trump on global issues.

At the top of the agenda, the leaders will be looking to tap the profits from frozen Russian assets

for a \$50 billion loan to Ukraine.

The United States hopes the G-7 can seal an agreement to do that this week. “Our commitment to Ukraine will continue to be right upfront and clear,” Kirby said.

Biden is to meet Thursday with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, who is among the many foreign leaders invited to the summit, and the two will sign a bilateral security agreement. They will then hold a joint news conference.

“We want to demonstrate that the U.S. supports the people of Ukraine, that we stand with them and that we’ll continue to help address their security needs,” national security adviser Jake Sullivan told reporters on Air Force One.

Reaching a deal on the frozen assets could be technically complex, but it would mark a victory for Biden and others seeking to send a sign of unified support for Ukraine.

“The countries all agree on making a financial effort on behalf of Ukraine,” said a senior Italian official who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe internal discussions. “They’re all ready, but it’s about the [details.]”

Sullivan declined to comment on the specific talks, but he said the countries were making progress.

Von der Leyen, speaking Tuesday in Berlin, said 1.5 billion euros in “windfall profits” from Russian assets would be available in July, with 90 percent for defense and 10 percent for rebuilding. “Now we make Russia pay,” she said.

The leaders are also likely to discuss the U.S.-sponsored ceasefire plan in the Middle East. Pope Francis — who admits to being a “disaster” with computers — will flag the risks of artificial intelligence. Meloni will try to bring Africa to the forefront, pushing her

As Russian threat looms in Europe, Germany looks to revive national service

BY KATE BRADY

BERLIN — German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius on Wednesday presented a proposal for reviving military service against a backdrop of Russia’s war in Ukraine, more than a decade after the country scrapped national service.

The decision comes as more and more European countries are considering restoring some form of military or universal conscription in the wake of the Russian invasion.

“We need to realistically be in a position to deter an attack,” Pistorius told reporters, in the latest example of how the country is embracing new military and foreign policy priorities.

Under Pistorius’s plan for a “selective military service,” all 18-year-olds in Germany would be sent a questionnaire to gauge their interest in the army, known as the Bundeswehr. Returning the questionnaire would be compulsory for the estimated 400,000 young men each year, but voluntary for women — in line with Germany’s constitution. Pistorius added that everyone who completes the questionnaire would have the legal right to conscientious objection.

About 100,000 men a year are expected to show interest, Pistori-

us said. Similar to what’s known as the “Scandinavian model” of Sweden and Norway, a group of 40,000 to 50,000 would then be invited to a selection process. About 5,000 of the most suitable candidates would be called up for six months of military service — with the option of extending that up to 17 months. This would all be in addition to the current 10,000 volunteers each year.

“We want the best and the most motivated,” Pistorius said.

Pistorius’s goal is to increase the size of the army to 203,000 by 2031 and create a body of reservists of up to 260,000. Germany currently has about 180,000 soldiers and 60,000 reservists.

At the height of the Cold War, faced with the combined might of Eastern Europe’s Warsaw Pact countries, West Germany had a military of 400,000 men and spent about 4 percent of its gross domestic product on defense — double the NATO spending target today. All young men were conscripted from the age of 18, and anyone who didn’t want to do military service was obliged instead to do civilian service, such as working at a nursing home. By 2011, the compulsory period was just six months, compared with 18 months in the 1960s.

As increasing numbers of young

men chose civilian service and the military’s personnel needs drastically reduced, Chancellor Angela Merkel ended mandatory national service in 2011 — a move that Pistorius called a “mistake.”

Wednesday’s pitch was just the first step. A fraught debate over Germany’s military service is expected in the months ahead, and it is likely to become an election issue next fall. Any final proposal for military service would have to pass parliament.

The governing center-left coalition, which includes the Social Democrats, the Greens and the business-friendly Free Democrats, remains divided on the details, and Pistorius has yet to gain the full backing of his own chancellor, Social Democrat Olaf Scholz, who described the Bundeswehr’s lack of troops as a “manageable task.” Speaking in Stockholm in May, Scholz said a return to mass conscription “wouldn’t work anymore.”

Wednesday’s pitch has elicited a relatively positive response from coalition partners, however.

“The security situation in Europe has changed fundamentally,” Green Party leader Omid Nouripour told the German Press Agency. “We must therefore ensure that our armed forces are well posi-

tioned. In addition to good equipment, this also applies to the issue of personnel.”

Recent opinion polls suggest that almost two-thirds of Germans support the return of military service, which is part of a much broader shift in German foreign and defense policy that began just days after Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, which Scholz described as a “Zeit- enwende,” or a turning point.

Andrea Gawrich, a security policy researcher and professor at the University of Giessen, warned that military service was only part of the multifaceted challenge of responding to the threat from Russia.

“Military service can only be a small piece of the puzzle in the answer to this new security risk,” she said, pointing to other challenges including cybersecurity, disinformation and fake-news campaigns, and the need for more weapons for Ukraine.

After years of the army being considered a laughingstock because of a widely reported lack of resources including tanks, ammunition and even thermal underwear, Pistorius has vowed to turn it around and improve its capability in territorial defense with a special \$108 billion fund that is likely to be spent by 2028. Germany must be “war-ready” by 2029, the defense

minister has said on numerous occasions.

Financing the recruitment of troops, before also housing, feeding and training them, will also be a huge challenge. Eva Högl, a Social Democratic lawmaker and parliamentary coordinator for the armed forces, estimates that \$54 billion in construction projects will be needed to modernize barracks and increase the appeal of serving in the army — for both new and old troops. The infrastructure from Germany’s previous decades of military service simply no longer exists.

“This must be achieved without simultaneously weakening the Bundeswehr in other ways,” Gawrich said.

Germany is by no means the only European country to consider a return of national service. Across the continent, more than 10 countries, including Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden and Ukraine — practice national service in varying forms. At the end of the Cold War, the lack of direct military threat became a popular argument for the transition from conscription to voluntary military service.

In Britain, where national service was abolished in 1960,

signature plan for investment and cooperation on the continent with an end goal of encouraging waves of migrants to stay put.

Over the next few days, Meloni will embody her role as the only hard-right figure to be largely welcomed by both the Biden administration and bureaucrats at E.U. headquarters in Brussels — unlike, for instance, the illiberal prime minister of Hungary, Viktor Orban.

The leaders will hold six sessions beside the Adriatic Sea in Italy’s Puglia region, gathering at the sand-colored Borgo Egnazia resort, nestled amid olive groves and modeled after an Italian town. The location will be cordoned off by heavy security, with journalists kept at bay in a media center an hour away.

On one issue, however, Biden and Trump have been more closely aligned, with both imposing tariffs on China for unfair competition.

Since the United States slapped steep new tariffs on Chinese electric cars, advanced batteries, solar cells, steel, aluminum and medical equipment, Europe has weighed whether to follow suit. Europeans remain concerned that Chinese goods may now shift from the United States to Europe, where, for instance, the once-thriving solar panel industry in nations such as Germany has already sustained major blows from cheap Chinese imports.

On Wednesday, the European Commission announced a new set of tariffs of up to 38 percent on Chinese-made electric vehicles, far below the United States’ 100 percent tariffs, though the decision comes amid German warnings of a ballooning trade war with China.

“We are not closing our markets to foreign companies,” German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said last week. Protectionism and customs barriers, he added, “ultimately only make everything more expensive and all of us poorer.”

Biden’s stay in Italy is expected to be brief. After arriving close to midnight on Wednesday, he will depart Friday and head straight to Los Angeles to appear at a political fundraiser with former president Barack Obama, actors George Clooney and Julia Roberts, and late-night TV host Jimmy Kimmel.

Viser reported from Bari, Italy, and Faiola reported from Rome. Stefano Pittrelli in Rome and Kate Brady in Berlin contributed to this report.

Macron defends call for vote: ‘I’m an unwavering optimist’

BY RICK NOACK

PARIS — French President Emmanuel Macron defended his decision to call snap legislative elections after a humiliating defeat Sunday in balloting for the European Parliament, saying he hears people’s anger — and thinks they will support his political bloc anyway.

“I want there to be a government that can respond to their anger, to their urgent needs,” he said in a news conference Wednesday.

But it’s not at all clear that the next French Parliament will favor Macron and his allies. In opinion polls, his camp is lagging behind the National Rally, a far-right party guided by Marine Le Pen and her protégé, Jordan Bardella, which won about 31.4 percent of the vote in the European elections, more

than double the showing for Macron’s allies.

The French president dissolved the National Assembly — the lower house of Parliament — and called elections within hours of Sunday’s defeat, apparently stunning even some of his close allies. The first round of voting is now set for June 30 and a second round for July 7, just before NATO’s 75th anniversary summit in Washington and the start of the Paris Olympics.

A far-right victory would not force out Macron, whose term ends in 2027 and who would retain significant power under France’s presidential political system. But by calling legislative elections, he is making a political bet of potentially seismic proportions, analysts say.

He may be hoping for a clearer mandate to govern than he now

has. But the elections also open up the possibility of Macron, a centrist, having to share power with 28-year-old Bardella as prime minister. While the National Rally has made electoral inroads over the years, it has never been part of the government or in a position to dominate the parliamentary agenda.

“I don’t believe at all that the worst could happen. I’m an unwavering optimist,” Macron said in dismissing the possibility Wednesday.

His ability to form alliances in the center of the political spectrum appears to be on shaky ground, however. Senior members of Les Républicains, a conservative party, said Wednesday they had voted to oust their chairman, Éric Ciotti, after he provoked outrage in the party by calling for an unprecedented alliance with the National Rally. But Ciotti disputed the legality of the process to remove him. Some of Ciotti’s allies may still be sympathetic to an alliance and could be willing to risk a split from Les Républicains.

Ciotti’s proposal drew scathing criticism from Macron on Wednesday.

“Since Sunday evening, the masks are falling,” Macron said. He called Ciotti’s announcement “a pact with the devil” and urged moderates to support the president’s bloc.

Macron also faces a shrinking number of potential allies on the left. France’s Socialist Party on Wednesday confirmed an “agreement in principle” with other major left-wing parties.

Some analysts have speculated that Macron may even be factoring in the possibility of a far-right victory, to try to prove that the party is incompetent and unfit to govern before 2027’s more consequential presidential election.

The 46-year-old leader lost his absolute majority in the National Assembly two years ago, and his allies have struggled to pass laws since. His government has used executive powers to push through some of its most controversial projects, including a retirement-age in-

crease last year, which has drawn protests both from the right and the left.

Macron on Wednesday portrayed himself as a firewall against the far left and the far right, which both threaten France’s economic prosperity, he said.

Had he not called snap elections after Sunday’s results, “you would have told me: ‘This guy has lost touch with reality.’” Macron told journalists, citing surveys showing that most French people agree with his decision.

Le Pen, a nationalist, Euroskeptic and anti-immigration hardliner, now sees “a historic opportunity.” She told the French channel TF1 on Monday that her party will focus on economic recovery and the fight against immigration. Voters in the European election, she said, gave a clear signal: “They said we want to change direction.”

Macron on Wednesday defended his political record over the past seven years but acknowledged some shortcomings, such as the slow speed of rural transformation.

He appealed to both center-right and center-left voters, saying his government has boosted funding for law enforcement but also acknowledging that discrimination remains an obstacle to economic success.

A far-right majority in the French Parliament would undermine investors’ trust in the country, he warned.

Since the far-right win on Sunday and his announcement of snap elections, “markets are panicking, the European and international partners are worried,” Macron said. “What does that mean for the lives of French people? Access to loans and housing will be more expensive.”

By catching his rivals, allies and French voters by surprise, Macron also may have hoped to show what’s at stake, he signaled Wednesday.

“I do not want to give the keys to power to the extreme right in 2027,” he said. “So, I fully assume that I have triggered a movement of clarification.”

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

Artists flee Instagram to keep their work out of Meta’s AI

Since users can’t opt out of posts being used to train the technology, creators are flocking to the AI-skeptical app Cara to protect themselves

BY TATUM HUNTER

Painters, photographers and other artists have flocked to Instagram for years to share their portfolios and gain visibility. Now, many say they are leaving to prevent the app’s parent company Meta from using their art to train AI models.

Visual artists are resharing messages and templates on their accounts in protest, with many saying they are moving to Cara, a portfolio app for artists that bans AI posts and training.

They are upset because a Meta executive stated in May that the company considers public Instagram posts part of its training data. A few weeks later, it pinged users in Europe, stating that their posts would be used to train AI starting June 26. There is no way to opt out, though some places such as the European Union allow people to dispute when Meta uses their personal data.

Tension is mounting between online creators and AI companies. Right now, almost everything posted publicly on the internet is considered fair game for AI training. The end product has the potential to replace the very people who created the training data, including authors, musicians and visual artists.

Artists said they feel powerless — they need Meta apps to market themselves but can’t prevent their work becoming fodder for AI. Some say they are already on the verge of losing their livelihoods.

Cara founder Jingna Zhang said the app has grown from about 40,000 users to 650,000 in the past week. At one point, it was the fifth most-downloaded social app in Apple’s store, per Apple’s rankings. Whether the flight will make an impression on Meta is unclear.

“I haven’t slept,” said Zhang, a photographer and artists’ rights advocate. “We were not expecting this.”

Artists including Zhang have filed multiple lawsuits against AI companies such as Google and Stability AI. They say the companies are training their generators on material scraped from the internet, some of which is under copyright. Authors and publishers including George R.R. Martin and the New York Times have filed similar suits. The companies have argued that the training material falls under “fair use” laws



ILLUSTRATION BY ELENA LACEY/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

that allow for remixes and interpretations of existing content.

For now, many artists feel their only real power is to try to protect future work, and that means trying untested alternatives.

Zhang said the free Cara app, which launched in January 2023, is still in development and has crashed multiple times this week because of the overwhelming interest. Available on iOS, Android and the web, its home tab is an

Instagram-esque feed of images with like, comment and repost buttons.

Artist Eva Redamonti said that she has seen “four or five” Instagram alternatives marketed to artists, but that it’s tough to assess which apps have her best interests in mind. Ben Zhao, a professor of computer science at the University of Chicago, said he has seen multiple apps attract users with promises they don’t keep.

Some platforms intended for artists have already devolved into “AI farms,” he said. Zhao and fellow professor Heather Zheng co-created the tool Glaze, which helps protect artists’ work from AI mimicry and is on Cara.

Artists are not allowed to share AI-generated work until “rampant ethical and data privacy issues” are resolved, Cara’s FAQ page says. It uses detection technology from AI company Hive to

scan for rule-breakers and labels each uploaded image with a “NoAI” tag intended to discourage scraping. However, there is no way to prevent AI companies from taking the images anyway.

Some artists say AI has already affected their bottom lines.

When Kelly McKernan — an artist and illustrator from Nashville — joined Facebook and Instagram over a decade ago, the apps quickly became the best place to

find clients. But from 2022 to 2023, their income dropped 30 percent as AI-generated images ballooned across the internet, they said. One day last year they Googled their own name, and the first result was an AI image in the style of their work.

Meta’s AI scraping policy is the “last straw,” they said.

McKernan, along with two other artists, is now suing AI companies including Midjourney and Stability AI.

Allie Sullberg, a freelance illustrator, downloaded the Cara app this week after seeing many of her artist friends post on Instagram about AI scraping and the switch to Cara. She said she is exasperated that Meta is presenting its AI efforts as a tool for creators, who don’t materially benefit when models are trained on their work.

Users consent to Meta’s AI policies when they use its apps, in accordance with its privacy policy and terms. Sullberg said she first joined Instagram around 2011. The first consumer-facing generative image model, OpenAI’s DALL-E, debuted in 2021.

Meta spokesman Thomas Richards told The Washington Post that the company doesn’t have an opt-out option. “Depending on where people live, they can also object to the use of their personal information being used to build and train AI consistent with local privacy laws,” he said.

Jon Lam, a video game artist and creators’ rights activist, spent hours hunting for a way to opt out of AI scraping on Instagram. He found a form, only to learn it was only applicable to users in Europe, which has a far-reaching privacy law. Lam said he is feeling “pure anger and fury” at Meta and other AI companies.

“These companies have turned on their customers. We were sold a false promise, which was that social media was built to stay connected to your friends and family and help you share what you’re up to,” Lam said. “A decade later, it’s just this platform for them to harvest data to train on.”

McKernan said they are hopeful that, as big lawsuits play out, actions by creators put pressure on AI companies to change their policies.

“Compacency is what allows companies like Meta to keep treating content creators — the people who make them money — the way they treat us,” they said.

Nvidia, riding AI chip boom, takes its turn in the antitrust hot seat

Tech Brief

EVA DOU

The Biden administration has made chips a centerpiece of its effort to revive high-value manufacturing across America, and artificial intelligence chip maker Nvidia is now one of the most valuable companies in the world.

The moment has pushed Nvidia onto the radar of antitrust enforcers.

For years, the Biden administration’s Justice Department and Federal Trade Commission have focused on internet giants like Google and Amazon in their antitrust campaign to curb Big Tech abuses.

Nvidia — the world’s leading maker of the chips used to train advanced AI models — had been an up-and-coming darling, far from a household name, even as it was beginning to make its shareholders very wealthy in the AI boom.

But now Nvidia is an underdog no more. It ranks with Apple and Microsoft as one of the world’s most valuable firms, its leather-jacket-clad CEO Jensen Huang is trailed by adoring fans when he goes out — and the Justice Department has begun scrutinizing Nvidia to see if it has violated antitrust laws.

Nvidia has outside market power, with no near rival for making AI chips.



BILL O’LEARY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Nvidia founder Jensen Huang on Capitol Hill last year. The chip maker’s market capitalization has surged past \$3 trillion.

Mizuho Securities estimates that Nvidia controls at least 70 percent of the market for AI chips used to train large-language models like ChatGPT. Rivals — including Intel and

Advanced Micro Devices in the United States and Huawei in China — trail behind.

It is unclear, though, if Nvidia has abused its market power in illegal ways.

U.S. antitrust law requires proof not only of a company having monopoly power, but also of it abusing it by engaging in anti-competitive conduct.

Hal Singer, managing director at the litigation consultancy at the litigation consultancy Econ One, said the Justice Department probably will be looking to see if there are problematic stipulations in Nvidia’s contracts with customers or suppliers that prevent its competitors from getting a fair shake.

“They’re presumably looking for some sort of conduct, some restraint, that allows Nvidia to charge higher prices than it otherwise would,” he said.

Nvidia and the Justice Department declined to comment.

The price of buying enough Nvidia chips to build an AI system can be staggering.

The think tank MITRE recently announced plans to spend \$20 million to purchase 256 Nvidia GPUs — which will build only a small one of these

computers. Meta is on track to spend billions of dollars on Nvidia chips by the end of this year, with a target of 350,000 GPUs.

Founded in 1993 in Sunnyvale, Calif., by Huang, Nvidia got its name from “invidia,” the Latin word for “envy,” and got its start making chips for running video games. Its graphics processing units, or GPUs, still do big business in the video game industry, but it’s the chips’ potential for AI that has rocketed the company’s market capitalization past \$3 trillion.

Huang recently sparked controversy due to photos of him signing a female fan’s tightfitting top, a sign of the kind of unusual frenzy that has surrounded the company. With Nvidia, federal authorities will have to balance antitrust priorities against a deepening national technological race against China. The Biden administration has curbed the export of advanced Nvidia chips to China.

DIGEST

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

E.U. imposes tariffs on Chinese EVs

The European Commission said it will impose extra duties of up to 38.1 percent on imported Chinese electric cars starting in July, risking retaliation from Beijing, which said Wednesday that it would take measures to safeguard its interests.

Less than a month after Washington announced plans to quadruple duties on Chinese EVs to 100 percent, Brussels said it would combat excessive subsidies with additional tariffs. That equates to billions of euros of extra costs for Chinese carmakers at a time when they are struggling with slowing demand and falling prices at home, according to Reuters calculations based on 2023 E.U.

trade data.

European automakers, meanwhile, are being challenged by an influx of lower-cost EVs from Chinese rivals. The Commission estimates their share of the E.U. market has risen to 8 percent from below 1 percent in 2019 and could reach 15 percent in 2025. It says prices are typically 20 percent below those of E.U.-made models.

— Reuters

Audi to invest \$1B in EV projects in Mexico

German carmaker Audi will invest \$1.08 billion in electric vehicle projects in the Mexican state of Puebla, the state’s governor said Tuesday.

The investment will lead to the creation of 500 jobs, the

Puebla government said in a statement.

Audi Mexico’s Executive President Tarek Mashhour and Puebla Gov. Sergio Salomon aim to turn the state into a hub for electric vehicles, according to the statement.

Audi, which belongs to the Volkswagen group, has one plant in Mexico in the Puebla town of San José Chiapa, where it has 5,000 employees, according to company data.

— Reuters

TALC LAWSUITS

Victims ask court to block J&J bankruptcy

A group of cancer victims asked a federal judge to block Johnson & Johnson’s proposed bankruptcy settlement of tens of thousands of lawsuits alleging

that the company’s baby powder and other talc products caused their illnesses, according to a court filing.

The plaintiffs filed a motion late Tuesday in a New Jersey court seeking a temporary restraining order to stop a J&J subsidiary from filing bankruptcy in Texas or another jurisdiction outside New Jersey.

The plaintiffs say they will suffer “irreparable harm” absent a court order blocking such a filing. J&J intends to have a subsidiary declare bankruptcy after claimants vote on a \$6.48 billion settlement offer.

The company hopes to garner support from 75 percent of claimants as part of the prepackaged bankruptcy plan. J&J set a July 26 voting deadline.

The company faces suits from more than 61,000 plaintiffs alleging that its talc caused

ovarian cancer or mesothelioma, a deadly cancer linked to asbestos exposure.

— Reuters

ALSO IN BUSINESS

Twenty-four companies are working to develop an avian flu vaccine for cattle as the virus spreads among U.S. dairy herds, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack told Reuters on Wednesday. Bird flu has infected 90 dairy herds across 12 states since late March, according to the Agriculture Department. Three dairy farmworkers — two in Michigan and one in Texas — also have been infected with the virus. A vaccine could curb the risk of bird flu spreading to new species and lessen potential economic losses for dairy farmers, but it might take years to develop. In addition to the two dozen companies working at

varying stages of vaccine development, the USDA is conducting its own preliminary research into a vaccine at its laboratory in Ames, Iowa, Vilsack said. The agency is looking for a vaccine candidate to test for efficacy, he said.

U.S. passenger railroad Amtrak said Wednesday that it expects to top pre-coronavirus ridership levels this year for the first time, despite having less capacity. Ridership during the first seven months of the railroad’s budget year that began Oct. 1 was 20 percent higher, and ticket revenue was 10 percent higher vs. the same period in 2023, according to written testimony by Amtrak CEO Stephen Gardner that was to be presented at a hearing of a U.S. House subcommittee Wednesday.

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Partnership on AI



John Zecca
Executive Vice President,
Global Chief Legal, Risk and
Regulatory Officer, Nasdaq

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Tesla investors vote on Musk’s \$50 billion pay package

Result will have major implications for both billionaire and company

BY TRISHA THADANI

SAN FRANCISCO — For weeks, Tesla CEO Elon Musk has waged a campaign to persuade Tesla shareholders to restore his nearly \$50 billion pay package, the largest “ever observed in public markets,” according to the Delaware judge who voided it.

The company released a video instructing shareholders how to cast ballots featuring Optimus, Musk’s humanoid robot. Those who voted were offered the chance to win a Musk-escorted tour of the company’s “Gigafactory” in Austin. And Musk tweeted repeatedly about the vote on X, his social media platform, where this past weekend he predicted victory: “The public sentiment is unequivocally supportive,” he wrote.

But with the vote set to conclude Thursday at the company’s annual shareholder meeting in Austin, the outcome seemed far from certain. Major shareholders are divided on whether Musk, one of the world’s richest men who has been at times a distracted leader, deserves such a reward. That means the outcome could rest on the votes of individual investors, many of whom bought the stock because of Musk’s public image as a generational genius.

The outcome will have significant implications not just for Musk’s fortunes, but also for the future of Tesla, which has been reeling from weak sales, global competition and mass layoffs. If shareholders deny him the compensation package, Musk has threatened to leave the company and build futuristic technology, including robotics and artificial intelligence, elsewhere. If shareholders approve the package, Musk would gain more control over Tesla’s board through stock options.

In a letter to investors this month, Tesla chairperson Robyn Denholm urged investors to support Musk because he is “not a typical executive” and motivating

him “requires something different.”

“Elon’s unique contributions have built Tesla into a company that was, in 2018, a loss-making, ambitious company with significant hurdles and challenges to overcome into what it is today — a company that is literally changing the world,” she wrote. “These contributions should be respected.”

But Brad Lander, the New York City comptroller whose office owns about 3.4 million shares of Tesla and invests on behalf of public employees, said the package is unreasonable given Tesla’s struggles and Musk’s insistence on dividing his attention among an array of companies, including a new artificial intelligence endeavor called xAI.

“We need a full-time CEO who is focused on growing the company and producing great shareholder returns, not allowing for a distraction or chasing shiny new objects,” Lander said.

The divide

When a majority of Tesla shareholders approved Musk’s compensation in 2018 — a package of stock options in lieu of salary then worth \$56 billion — it propelled Musk from eccentric CEO to world’s richest person, fueling his bets to explore the cosmos, digitize the human brain and acquire Twitter’s “de facto town square.” But some shareholders sued, claiming the process was improper.

Earlier this year, a Delaware judge agreed. She tossed out the pay package, calling it “an unfathomable sum” — “over 33 times larger than the plan’s closest comparison, which was Musk’s prior compensation plan” — and noted that it had been approved by a board stocked with Musk’s longtime friends and former divorce lawyer. A lawsuit filed by the Employees’ Retirement System of Rhode Island on Monday alleges that Musk made billions of dollars selling Tesla shares using insider information.

Musk and Tesla did not respond to a request for comment on the lawsuit.

The board is asking shareholders to restore the pay package, which would increase Musk’s voting power to close to 25 percent,



Tesla CEO Elon Musk, center, at a company factory in Germany in March, has said that he is “uncomfortable growing Tesla to be a leader in AI & robotics without having ~25% voting control.”

and authorize the company to move its corporate home from Delaware to Texas.

It’s unclear which way the vote will swing: While some key investors have vowed to oppose the package, others have been silent. Vanguard Group, BlackRock and State Street, which collectively own about 17 percent of Tesla stock, have not publicly stated their positions. None responded to requests for comment.

Meanwhile, about 40 percent of Tesla is held by non-institutional investors, including individual retail investors. Many are Musk fans, like billionaire Ron Baron, who called Musk indispensable to Tesla and said his compensation must recognize that fact.

“Our answer is clear, loud and unequivocal: Tesla is better with Elon. Tesla is Elon,” Baron said.

But others have grown increasingly disillusioned with Musk as the company’s performance has faltered. “Enough is enough,” said Leo Koguan, one of Tesla’s largest individual shareholders, who added that he would vote against the proposal.

In recent weeks, a coalition of

seven large institutional investors including the New York City Comptroller and Amalgamated Bank have urged shareholders to vote against the package, citing a “material governance failure.” Proxy advisory firm ISS called the package excessive despite Tesla’s success, noting that it’s unclear it will “increase Musk’s focus on Tesla.”

Marcie Frost, CEO of the California Public Employees’ Retirement System, which represents 2.2 million public workers in the state and is among Tesla’s largest shareholders, said it, too, will vote against the package, as it did in 2018. Frost said the vote against Musk was not “personal,” arguing that his “outsize” compensation could instead be going to shareholders.

“It’s really important that as a shareholder that we get the return on the capital that we’re allocating to these public companies,” Frost said.

James Park, a professor at the UCLA School of Law who studies securities regulation and corporate law, said a vote in favor of the proposal would be a “powerful

statement” that shareholders want Musk to be integrally involved in the company and they “can’t imagine Tesla without him.” A no vote, however, would reflect dissatisfaction with Musk’s leadership and the current state of the company.

In Denholm’s letter to investors this month, she noted that Musk has driven growth in the company’s size and profitability over the past six years, and said ratifying the pay package is “more important than ever.”

“If Tesla is to retain Elon’s attention and motivate him to continue to devote his time, energy, ambition and vision to deliver comparable results in the future, we must stand by our deal,” she wrote.

In a January tweet, Musk doubled down on his desire for more control over the company.

“I am uncomfortable growing Tesla to be a leader in AI & robotics without having ~25% voting control,” he wrote. “Enough to be influential, but not so much that I can’t be overturned.”

Musk and Tesla did not respond to requests for comment.

Vote could slow AI efforts

The high-profile vote comes at a touchy time for Tesla, which has lost about 30 percent of its stock value since the beginning of the year. In April, Tesla reported a steeper-than-expected 55 percent plunge in first-quarter profit due to slowing sales. To allay investors’ concerns, Musk has made lofty promises about launching a fully autonomous “robotaxi” in August, an ambitious timeline that had many observers skeptical of how he would actually pull it off.

Park, the UCLA professor, said the current economic backdrop will play heavily into voters’ choices. “There may be a set of retail investors who are very dedicated to Musk who are willing to overlook some of these events and may not know about them and they may just vote in favor of the package,” Park said. “And there may be others who are disappointed and may be disillusioned about Musk.”

If Musk doesn’t get his way, Tesla shareholders should be prepared for a significant slowdown in its AI efforts, said Adam Jonas, a Morgan Stanley analyst.

Some seem willing to take that risk. Nell Minow, vice chair of ValueEdge Advisors, said she donated the majority of her Tesla stock to charity after voting “no” on the pay package. As an individual investor, she said, she has soured on Musk, calling corporate governance at the company “catastrophically bad.”

“There’s no way you can consider this board independent,” Minow said. “If he doesn’t have enough of an incentive from his current holdings then I don’t know if this gigantic amount of money would make a difference.”

Kevin Smith, a software engineer who said he owns just a handful of Tesla shares, added he has been turned off by the excessive campaigning by both Musk and Tesla, who seem to see the vote as a chance to make a statement about the court ruling instead of focusing simply on how much money Musk should be paid.

“It seems to be a symbolic gesture against the court,” Smith said. “So my symbolic vote is no.”

Julian Mark and Aaron Schaffer contributed to this report.



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Fed predicts only one rate cut in 2024 inflation fight

RATES FROM A1

bankers are gaining ground once again.

Now the question is what more the Fed needs to see before it begins trimming rates from the current level, between 5.25 and 5.5 percent, the highest they've been in more than two decades. As the months go by, the odds also rise that the Fed will cut sometime around the November election — and get caught in the political crossfire along the way.

After rushing to hoist rates, officials are on watch for signs that the job market or overall growth are cracking under the pressure. But those fears haven't materialized. And with no recession in sight, the central bank is worried that lowering rates too soon would allow inflation to reignite.

"We know where they are willing to make a mistake, and where they are not," said Diane Swonk, chief economist at KPMG. "They're not willing to cut prematurely, and that means also preemptively. Therein lies the tension."

On Wednesday, a fresh set of economic projections showed the median number of Fed officials expect just one cut by the end of 2024. But there's clearly debate within the central bank's 19-member policymaking body: Eight officials penciled in two cuts, and four expect no cuts at all. Powell said he would "look at all of [the possibilities] as plausible."

The forecasts themselves don't include a specific timeline. Yet analysts can piece together some clues: The Fed will hold policy meetings in July, September, November and December. July is probably too soon for the Fed to see enough progress on inflation, and the November meeting will be during the week of the presidential election.

That leaves September and December for any potential moves. Even then, September could be cutting it close, analysts say.

"It's a consequential decision for the economy," Powell said. "And you know, you want to get it right."

Major stock indexes flashed green for much of the day, with



Federal Reserve Chair Jerome H. Powell in D.C. on Wednesday. The central bank pared back its forecast of three rate cuts to one.

the S&P 500 and Nasdaq composite index hitting all-time highs. But the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed down slightly.

Some Fed watchers were surprised at the prospect of just one cut. But Michael Strain, director of economic policy studies at the conservative American Enterprise Institute, said policymakers had simply "caught up with reality."

"The reality of the situation keeps beating them on the head, and at this point, it's very hard to ignore," Strain said. "There's just an issue with the calendar — there are only so many opportunities to cut rates before the end of the year. And the data are speaking very clearly that rate cuts would be premature."

Earlier on Wednesday, government data showed that prices rose 3.3 percent in the year ending in May and that prices were flat month over month for the first time in two years. A narrower measure of inflation that strips out volatile categories like food and energy also came in slower than it has for months.

The report beat analysts' expectations, and Powell said the news was a "step in the right direction." But he cautioned that just as the Fed doesn't want to react to one discouraging piece of data, "you don't want to be too motivated" by more promising figures, either.

Part of the Fed's challenge is understanding why inflation is falling slower than it did last year — and confronting the limits of

monetary policy in slowing the entire economy. Officials have made major progress since inflation peaked at an annual rate of 9.1 percent two years ago. But much of that drop has to do with healing supply chains and falling energy prices, which helped tame consumer prices on anything from couches to gasoline. (The latest crop of projections showed policymakers were slightly more pessimistic than they had been on inflation, though they held forecasts for overall growth and the unemployment rate steady.)

Crucially, housing costs continue to be a main driver of overall inflation, as has been the case for more than a year. A key rent gauge carried on a streak of rising 0.4 percent over the previous month. Overall shelter costs were up 5.4 percent over the previous year. Many real-time measures of rent costs show rents easing considerably, or even falling. But those shifts have taken way longer than expected to show up in official data, frustrating Fed officials and economists who fear the rental figures are keeping overall inflation artificially high.

Medical care costs also rose slightly more in May than in April. Costs for prescription drugs rose 2.1 percent, and hospital services increased 0.5 percent. Yet energy costs index fell 2 percent over the month, led by a 3.6 percent drop in the gas index. Airfare also fell 3.6 percent, following a 0.8 percent decrease in April.

Key to leaders' assessment is whether they think inflation is steadily falling, or whether the unwanted surprises from the beginning of the year signal something more lasting and worrisome. Some economists speculate that seasonal glitches that often interfere with January data — for example, the resetting of annual insurance costs — seeped into the entire first quarter and interfered with the central bank's read on inflation.

But others wonder whether price increases are simply sticking. Last month, Fed governor Christopher Waller said progress "may be a lot slower than we saw at the end of last year," when inflation came down markedly.

"Whatever the factors were in the first three months, they haven't completely disappeared," Waller said at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. "There might be something much more fundamental going on than seasonal. I don't know exactly what that would be. We're still all trying to figure out what it is."

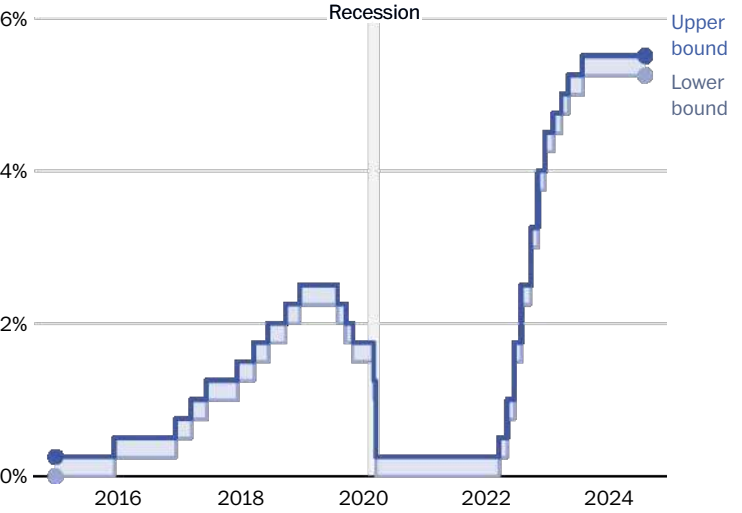
Still, even with inflation too high, the economy is roaring. Employers added a whopping 272,000 jobs in May. Wages continue to outpace inflation, and there's no recession in sight. Yet the sting of high prices has still left businesses, workers and families with the sense that the economy isn't working for them.

That disconnect is proving to be a major issue for President Biden's reelection campaign, as he tries to tout the economic turnaround since the depths of the pandemic. In a statement Wednesday, Biden said the report showed "welcome progress" but noted "many families are feeling squeezed by the cost of living." He touted his administration's moves to address costs for housing, prescription drugs and groceries.

Former president Donald Trump, meanwhile, has seized on high inflation and subsequent interest rate hikes to argue that Americans are suffering under the weight of steep mortgage rates and sticker shock for the basics, even though economists estimate that many of his proposals would send inflation even higher.

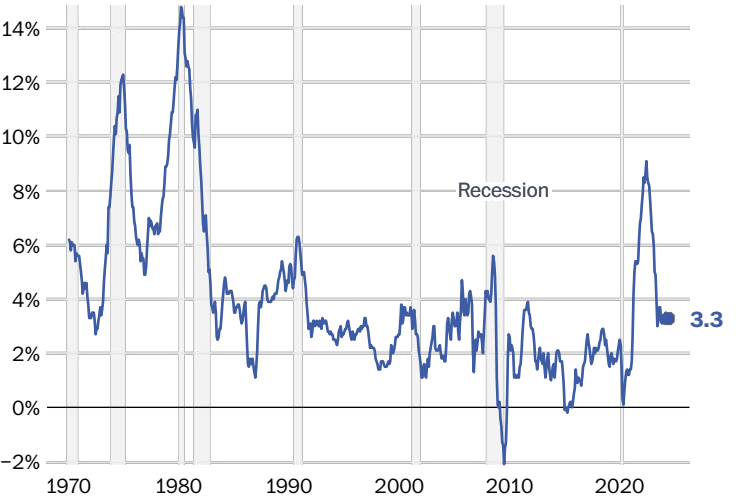
Federal Reserve leaves rates unchanged

The central bank's target rate remains at the highest level in over two decades



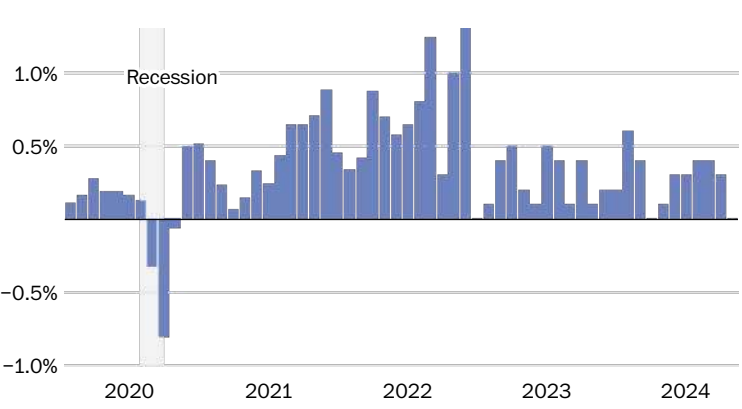
Source: Federal Reserve via FRED

Annual inflation rate



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Monthly inflation rate



Note: Seasonally adjusted

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

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THURSDAY OPINION

EDUARDO PORTER

How could a megacity built on a lake run out of water?

It's not been two months since I settled in Mexico City, and the water service to my apartment has been cut off at least three times. My mother is thinking about installing a contraption named for the Mexica rain god Tlaloc to capture, filter and store rainwater in a tank in her front yard.

Tanker trucks navigate the streets, carrying water from the slopes to the west to parched buildings all around me. We're all supposedly bracing for "Day Zero," when, according to local lore, sometime later this month the city will run entirely out of the stuff.

This is not the city I grew up in. I wasn't yet a teen when President Luis Echeverría pushed the button to start the Deep Drainage system, a 40-mile network of humongous tunnels running as far as 200 meters under the surface, built to put an end to the flooding that would regularly lay waste to the city's poorest neighborhoods in the rainy season.

Mexico City was engineering solutions to fight water at least as far back as the 16th century, when Mexico's colonial rulers decided to build the seat of their empire atop the Aztec capital Tenochtitlan, famously centered on an island upon a system of lakes. These lakes were the end point of a network of rivers draining from the surrounding mountains into the Valley of Mexico.

In pre-Columbian Mexico, the Mexica relied on causeways and levees to keep the main island dry by regulating the water level among the lakes. They developed a system to grow produce on large floating islands called "chinampas" to the south. In the rainy season, excess water would drain toward wetlands in the north.

Several hundred years of urban development and population growth messed up the equilibrium. The lakes were drained to recover land for urban use. Land was paved over, reducing the earth's capacity to absorb water. Pre-Columbian canals and levees were dismantled on the grounds that they retained water within the city limits. The rivers had to go, too — largely intubated in the 1940s under the argument that they carried human waste and disease, but probably also because city planners wanted the riverbeds to carry cars instead.

The growing population of city dwellers needed water, of course. Having engineered an array of defenses to keep water out of the city, urban planners had to get it somewhere else. Largely, they sought it underground. But as more water was pumped out than could be replenished, the earth started to give. The city has been sinking at a rate that has reached some 20 inches per year.

Today, most of the rainwater that falls on Mexico City and its surroundings is expelled through the drainage system. The lake system that once covered almost 600 square miles now covers six. The city draws over twice as much water from its aquifers as is replenished every year. And that's not enough.

The immediate problem is the "Cutzamala" network of reservoirs, pipelines and water treatment plants that was built in the 1980s and provides about a quarter of the city's water from dams as far as 100 miles away. Its dams are now at barely above 27 percent of capacity, stressed by a three-year drought.

"Day Zero" is not likely to happen anytime soon since most of the water to the city still comes from underground sources. Still, as climate change brings about longer droughts and the valley's aquifers are gradually exhausted by over-exploitation, the city could get there in the not-distant future.

There are estimates that every additional hectare of new urbanization reduces the replenishment of underground aquifers by some 660,000 gallons per year. And the city footprint has been expanding at over 3 percent per year. Moreover, land subsidence is cracking pipes to the point that some 40 percent of water is lost to leaks on its way to consumers.

The city water authority estimates demand will grow 28 percent by 2030. By then, over half of users will lack continuous supply, served instead via either daily or weekly deliveries.

I've heard proposals about reforestation and the recovery of wetlands — restoring old canals and pulling old rivers out of their pipes to make them rivers again. Rainwater recovery is all the rage. I met a guy who developed a porous pavement to build sidewalks that would allow rainwater to seep through rather than run down the street in a furious river.

There is a stripe of conservationist that wants the city to shrink — "degrow" in the parlance. There are too many of us, the thinking goes, putting too much of a strain on Mother Earth's resources.

I don't think we must be fewer, but we must be smarter. Mexico City owes its water shortage to a myopia all too characteristic of the Anthropocene. An unflinching belief in our supremacy over the natural environment precludes honest inquiry into how to relate to the ecosystems in which we settle. We conquer them. If they insist on flooding, we flush the water away.

Then we get thirsty.



JADE GAO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A video screen in Beijing shows news coverage of China's military drills around Taiwan on May 23.

Bringing China's 'gray zone' tactics on Taiwan into the light

BY KEVIN RUDD

The central question for our time, if we are to avoid war across the Taiwan Strait, is to understand how Chinese President Xi Jinping actually interprets the deterrence strategies of the United States, Taiwan itself, and U.S. allies and strategic partners.

What strategy is China now embarking upon, short of preparation for an actual invasion, to achieve its political objectives in relation to Taiwan? And what is the role of deterrence in responding to such a strategy?

The key to understanding Beijing's red line on Taiwan's political status is China's fear that Taiwan will become an independent state, and be recognized by the international community as such, thereby destroying the possibility of unification with the mainland.

This, in turn, is based on Beijing's insistence that any political dialogue between Taiwan and the mainland must be based on the "1992 Consensus" — an ambiguous arrangement broadly based on the principle of "one China," albeit with differing interpretations of what that means to each side.

Taiwan's Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), in government since 2016, has opposed the "one China" element within the 1992 Consensus. As a result, Beijing has rejected all official dialogue with Taiwanese administrations since the party came to power. The DPP has argued that Taiwan was already independent and so had no need formally to declare it. Tsai Ing-wen, Taiwan's president from 2016 to 2024, took this concept further — continuing to reject the 1992 Consensus, while refining the Democratic Progressive Party's position on Taiwan's political status as one committed to "maintaining the status quo." This position has been reiterated by the new DPP president, William Lai, who took office last month.

But Beijing is increasingly making it plain to foreign interlocutors that this stance is not sufficient. Far from being relieved that the DPP has stepped back from the brink of any formal declaration of independence, Beijing is signaling loud and clear that its political objective remains forcing Taiwan into negotiations on its preferred "one country, two systems" model, which it has used for Hong Kong.

Beijing might well be in the process of concluding that Taiwan thinking of itself as *de facto* autonomous, with the international community on much the same page, will become further entrenched — and irreversible. As time begins to run out (from China's perspective), we will begin to see a change in

Chinese strategy toward the "Taiwan problem." Indeed, we are already seeing it, with China increasingly availing itself of a multidimensional "gray zone" strategy over the past 18 months or so, a strategy aimed at applying new forms of pressure on Taiwanese and international public opinion to force Taipei to the negotiating table.

Prominent analysts have described the gray zone strategy as seeking "economic, military, diplomatic, or political gains without eliciting a costly and direct response from an opponent." Others have described it as a "short of war" approach — a combination of political, military, diplomatic, economic and cyber measures whose objective is to achieve a psychological, attitudinal and then behavioral change on the part of Taiwanese public and political opinion.

These measures include intensifying political assaults by Beijing to delegitimize Taiwanese political leaders opposed to unification. They also involve military assets: naval, air, coast guard and other intrusions across the median line, across Taiwan's 24-mile contiguous zone and in and around Taiwan's offshore islands, are meant to show the Taiwanese that their administration is incapable of defending Taipei's claims to sovereignty. They also entail punitive economic measures (well short of a blockade) aimed at impeding Taiwanese trade, investment and other national income, to demonstrate to apolitical Taiwanese voters Taipei's vulnerability.

During her tenure, Tsai pointed to mounting cyber intrusions into Taiwan's economic and communications infrastructure, again with the intention of demonstrating to the Taiwanese people the acute vulnerability of their systems to an integrated cyberattack.

For China watchers, there are some similarities in Beijing's "short of war" strategies that have already been tried in the South and East China Seas, and those being tried on Taiwan. Japan has seen this with the intensity of People's Liberation Army Air Force sorties around Senkaku-Diaoyu Dao. We have also seen China assert nonlethal coercive actions in relation to the Second Thomas Shoal and the Philippines.

With Taiwan, however, there appears to be a growing intensity across the full range of gray zone activities. And those are likely to increase as the DPP settles in for another term and as Beijing's preferred political partner on Taiwan (Kuointang, or KMT) looks at the prospect of a cumulative 12 years in opposition.

An embrace of gray zone agitation does not mean China has suspended its efforts to build the military capabilities necessary to take Taiwan by over-

whelming military force. Those efforts continue.

And there is no inconsistency in China pursuing these two approaches in tandem. China's political strategy for unification with Taiwan has always had a fundamental military component. Indeed, these two approaches are entirely compatible if their cumulative effect is to reduce Taipei's deterrence and war-fighting capabilities, as well as its political, social and economic resilience.

Deterring China from launching military action against Taiwan is the cornerstone of a U.S. and allied strategy for preserving the status quo and the wider geostrategic stability of the Indo-Pacific region. The question that arises for all of us, however, is how to also deter China's emerging menu of measures that remain "short of war" and "short of invasion" but that share the same political objective, which is to force Taipei to capitulate.

Governments across the region and the world will increasingly be required to draw a clear linkage between identifiable gray zone actions on the one hand and a series of calibrated policy responses on the other. The alternative is no response at all — which presumably is Beijing's current expectation.

In the future, the Taiwanese might choose to engage in a fresh round of negotiations with Beijing on easing cross-strait tensions, new forms of economic cooperation and new approaches to the political relationship between them.

Indeed, all our interests would be served by breaking the 1992 Consensus impasse so that effective dialogue can recommence after nearly a decade of silence. Silence accentuates tension; talking can reduce it. As Winston Churchill famously reminded us, it's always better to "jaw-jaw than war-war."

But there is a difference between a voluntary, agreed approach to negotiations and a coerced one.

For Beijing, reassurance that Taipei and its international partners will sustain the status quo on Taiwan's future political status is essential for strategic stability. But with Xi's evident frustration at Taiwan's continuing autonomy, reassurance alone will not be sufficient.

It needs to be part of a much wider equation of integrated deterrence that will command all our efforts for the decade ahead if we are to successfully preserve the peace.

The writer is Australia's ambassador to the United States and was previously prime minister and foreign minister. This is an edited extract of a speech delivered last week at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu. The speech is a personal reflection in his capacity as a China scholar and not as an official representative of the Australian government.

MEGAN MCARDLE

Why congestion pricing — a great idea! — is doomed

Fans of Friedrich Hayek know that a price is a glorious thing. In his 1945 essay, "The Use of Knowledge in Society," Hayek asks us to imagine that for some reason tin has come to be in short supply. In less time than it would take the government to form a committee to study the shortage, the invisible hand of the marketplace resolves it. As tin gets scarcer, users with a pressing need for the metal bid up the price, sending a strong signal to all users of tin: Economize! As if by magic, across the globe, suppliers look to see whether they can supply more at the higher prices, while processes are rejiggered to use less of the now-precious metal, and some low-margin products are taken out of production entirely, freeing up tin for higher-value uses.

But as anyone who has recently gone grocery shopping can attest, prices can also be grim things. One of the many messages they convey is "you can't afford this." And, infuriatingly, the unluckiest among us hear this message the most often. It's not really the fault of prices; it's the reality of scarcity in a world of limited resources and infinite desires. But this is little consolation, so we mutter about "price gouging" or "greedflation," and

then demand that our legislators *do something*.

The first paragraph explains why congestion pricing of roads is good. The second explains why it's a nonstarter in the United States, as New York Gov. Kathy Hochul (D) demonstrated when she decided to "pause" (pronounced "kill") a New York City congestion pricing program that was supposed to take effect this month. If congestion pricing can't be done in Manhattan, it seems safe to say it can't be done anywhere else in America, either.

This is a pity. Roads are a scarce good; you can fit only so many cars on a road at one time, and fewer if you would like those cars to go somewhere. When roads are "free," we are forced to fall back on a more costly and inefficient strategy: sitting in traffic. This wastes valuable human time and inflicts noise and pollution on everyone nearby. Far better to charge a modest price that inspires some drivers to carpool and others to take public transit or shop nearer to home, until supply and demand are balanced and traffic flows easily.

But though this is better for society, it's not necessarily better for the drivers. Try to charge them for driving somewhere

they're used to going for free, and they will soon be up in arms. Don't you understand how expensive it would be? And how unfair? The rich can pay the congestion fee much more easily than the poor!

New York's proposed system would offer low-income drivers a substantial discount. But that mitigation would solve a problem, not *the* problem, which is that rationing by prices made a lot of existing drivers worse off. Sure, when they drove into the city, they would spend less time sitting in traffic. But just as road pricing is easiest on people who find it least painful to pay the tolls, rationing by queuing is easiest on people who find it least painful to spend time in traffic. In a place as choked with cars as Manhattan, the population of drivers is skewed toward such people. Those who find it unbearable cram themselves onto commuter trains or move to some less congested metro area.

In the current system, anyone who is unusually willing to spend hours staring at the back end of a bus gets to drive, while others take the train. Under the proposed system, the special power of traffic tolerance would become worthless, as the right to drive would be reallocated by willingness to pay. It's no

wonder drivers rebelled.

In political disputes, a discrete group facing highly concentrated costs often defeats a larger public interest that conveys a small individual benefit to everybody — such as being able to move around the city faster when you really need to. This is particularly true in the American system, which is designed to empower angry minorities. And it's especially true when they're abetted by status quo bias and a sympathetic majority, as in this case.

Complain all you want about selfish suburban drivers or the Metropolitan Transit Authority's bloated cost structure or Hochul's cowardice; the biggest obstacle to congestion pricing is that almost two-thirds of New York City residents have told pollsters they oppose it — in a city where less than half of all households even own a car. A more technocratic, less democratically responsive government might have been able to ram it through, and perhaps in time everyone would have come to like it. But in fractious America, with all its political veto points, congestion pricing is doomed by the reality that people hate slapping prices on things — especially if they have to pay them.

OPINION

The Washington Post
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Is there a legislative fix for judicial overreach?

REMEMBER WHEN U.S. District Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk suddenly ordered the abortion pill off the market, all over the country? Or when two separate judges in two separate cases blocked the use of billions of military dollars to build a border wall?

Such nationwide injunctions issued by federal district court judges, who are often carefully selected by activists seeking a result they desire, are too often arbitrary and unwarranted. Politicians, of course, love it when these sorts of rulings go their way, but they find it incomprehensible and unfair when they do not. This suggests the two parties might actually be able to agree to cut back on the abuse.

Injunctions in which a court nixes an executive action across all 50 states are increasingly common. Under President George W. Bush, only six were issued. Under President Donald Trump, judges handed down an astonishing 64, and 59 of those were from judges appointed by Democratic presidents. So far, President Biden has gotten the nationwide injunction treatment 14 times, always from Republican-appointed judges, with many more of his rules unwound using a similar mechanism known as vacatur.

Most alarming, these decisions have been concentrated in particular districts: in Texas for conservative wins and in California for liberal ones. Sensitive

matters are sometimes even funneled to particular judges, most notably Judge Kacsmaryk, a former lawyer for the religious right responsible for restricting the availability of the pregnancy-termination drug mifepristone, reopening a background check loophole on gun sales, and more. Impartial justice is more likely when judges are assigned randomly to cases. This works well in geographically compact districts, but in sprawling areas such as Judge Kacsmaryk's Northern District of Texas, it's possible to locate a division with only one judge serving it, then file there.

The result has been the halt of progressive policies in areas from immigration to abortion rights to student loans, as well as conservative darlings such as a ban on transgender people serving in the Army or individuals from Muslim countries entering the United States. The question isn't whether these decisions were right on the policy merits; it's whether it ought to be possible for anyone who disagrees with a presidential directive to lodge a lawsuit in just the right place to see it argued in front of just the right judge — who ends up wielding a de facto veto on federal policy.

The issues of so-called judgemandering and nationwide injunctions are intertwined. The possibility of each makes the other more insidious: Without the near-guarantee of a sympathetic jurist, challenging an executive action could prove counterproduc-

tive — and without the possibility of forestalling a policy nationwide, even the most favorable of rulings can go only so far. So it is perhaps unsurprising that bills from Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) both tackle the problem, but from different sides.

The best answer might be to restrict nationwide injunctions without barring them entirely.

Mr. Schumer wants to codify nonbinding guidance released this spring by the Judicial Conference that would ensure the random assignment, within a district, of any lawsuit seeking to bar or mandate a state or federal policy. Mr. McConnell, who told judges around the country they could ignore the Judicial Conference's regulation, goes after the nationwide injunction instead — by preventing district court rulings from binding anyone but the parties in the case and similar parties within the district.

There is no good defense for judgemandering. The closest thing to an argument for it is that, if cases are

randomly assigned, occasionally, when a relevant case arises, a jurist will be forced to travel a substantial distance. Nationwide injunctions are more complicated but require limiting at the very least.

These judicial commands let one judge in one place determine outcomes for the entire country. Yet sometimes a nationwide injunction could be the most effective way to obtain fair and complete relief for plaintiffs — and forestall blatantly unconstitutional policy before it does irreparable damage. Think of the Muslim travel ban: The thousands affected couldn't reasonably have all filed suit themselves or even found their way into a class action.

The best answer might be to restrict nationwide injunctions without barring them entirely. Scholars have ideas: Congress could create a presumption against them that can be overcome only if a judge finds a government official is deliberately ignoring settled law, or if a judge shows a nationwide injunction is necessary to fully remediate an injury.

Curbing judge-shopping will reduce the dangers of nationwide injunctions, and restraining nationwide injunctions will lessen the impact of judge-shopping. Those concerned about the politicization of the judiciary, no matter which side of the aisle they're on, should be eager to address both parts of the problem.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How tough should Caitlin Clark have to be to thrive in the WNBA?

Regarding Candace Buckner's June 5 sports column, "Clark discourse grows ugly":

Bill Walton's entry into the National Basketball Association with the Portland Trail Blazers raised some of the same tough issues that have come up during Caitlin Clark's season. Many said Walton got too much attention, generated race-based reporting, was making too much money and was too fragile. Then, along came power forward Maurice Lucas.

As David Halberstam wrote in his book "The Breaks of the Game," Lucas "brought Portland a sense of physical protection that Walton, somewhat intimidated by more physical NBA players in his first two years, badly needed." Lucas told Walton he would be his friend and that bodies would be flying. Lucas's protection allowed Walton's game to flourish. Along with Lionel Hollins and others, Lucas and Walton carved out a memorable championship season. Ms. Clark's teammates have been quick to help her up when she gets clocked; maybe they could be a bit quicker to protect her, too.

Steve Selby, Falls Church

The problem isn't the perception that, as the secondary headline with Ms. Buckner's column online stated, "Caitlin Clark is here to save the WNBA, as long as she doesn't get touched." The problem is that with greater exposure, which Ms. Clark has brought to the league, comes greater scrutiny.

In her comments to the media, Ms. Clark has never said nor implied what Ms. Buckner infers. She has acted in a professional manner, which is more than can be said about the Women's National Basketball Association and some of its players. Using intentional hard fouls to put rookies in their place is irresponsible. If the league doesn't like the scrutiny, it should have addressed this issue long ago.

Unfortunately, it doesn't seem the WNBA cared enough to take it seriously before Ms. Clark's arrival. Now that the league is garnering negative attention for letting its veteran players act with impunity, some want to blame Ms. Clark. If the league wants to grow the game, its leaders need to clean up the lack of professionalism on the court. If this lack of professionalism were to kill the current wave of enthusiasm for the sport, the WNBA would have no one to blame but itself.

Kenneth Pullen, Omaha

In a recent game, Las Vegas Aces star A'ja Wilson got repeatedly roughed up and still scored more than 30 points. Maybe we need to focus on her and her unique abilities — or on one of the eight or so WNBA players who are averaging more points, assists and rebounds than Caitlin Clark is. All this attention could have a negative impact on Ms. Clark's development and certainly will cause resentment from other players who are scoring more, getting more assists and more rebounds, and playing on teams that have winning records.

Edward Drossman, New York

I've watched Caitlin Clark since her freshman year. Her dashes upcourt evoked Pete Maravich. She splashed Stephen Curry-like threes, played with the same fire as Cheryl Miller and seasoned her play with Magic Johnson's exuberance.

However, she's a professional, and she's facing defenses determined to press her, harass her and frustrate her. And they're succeeding. She leads the league in turnovers, and her field goal percentage and three-point percentage have plummeted from her college days.

Chennedy Carter blindsided Ms. Clark during an inbounds play, knocking her down. That was personal and didn't pertain to basketball, and Ms. Carter should have been suspended. But let's remember, that was one cheap shot by one player. The Indiana Fever franchise did the wise thing and submitted videos of play they considered questionable for the league to review.

During a recent game between the Chicago Sky



and Connecticut Sun, the Sun's Alyssa Thomas threw the Sky's Angel Reese to the ground by her neck. That was a more egregious play than a shoulder check. Where was the outrage from people like Draymond Green, Charles Barkley and Geno Auriemma, who expressed so much concern for Ms. Clark?

Physically aggressive play can be a part of basketball. In the late 1980s and 1990s, the Detroit Pistons bludgeoned Michael Jordan incessantly. The NBA's answer was to merchandise the Bad Boys.

Marc D. Greenwood, Opelika, Ala.

One term that appeared early in Candace Buckner's screed against WNBA rookie Caitlin Clark's "ardent protectors" set the tone for the rest of the piece. Ms. Buckner called Chicago Sky guard Chennedy Carter's flagrant foul against Ms. Clark "shoulder-checking." A "move" that NBA player Draymond Green "would probably scoff at as lightweight."

A video clip of the incident, played over and over from every angle, shows Ms. Carter knocking Ms. Clark to the floor before the ball was in play while Ms. Clark was looking away. That is far from a shoulder check, which is typically understood as a tactic to gain position in a live-ball situation. The writer also inexplicably ignored the mini celebration from the Sky bench after the foul.

Most of the column focused on the racial and "Clark as the victim" commentary of those Ms. Buckner calls "Clarkies." She offered comparisons

to NFL and NHL teammates who protect their vulnerable stars. To extend that analogy: If an NFL lineman committed a flagrant foul, his teammates would probably try to calm him down and separate him from the other player, and the coach might yell at him. There would not be a group hug on the sideline.

Back to the "shoulder-check." When one athlete (regardless of race) intentionally shoves another player while she is looking the other way with enough force to knock her to the floor, the risk of serious injury is much higher than if both are battling for position. This type of behavior should be denounced and punished for what it is: a dangerous, unsportsmanlike act. Sportswriters should not treat such conduct as a normal part of a rookie's initiation, nor should they condone any teammates or coaches who celebrate it.

Joseph A. Capone, Oakton

Picking teams

Regarding Jerry Brewer's June 9 Sports column, "The fiercest fight in sports":

I was an athletic child and found great opportunities in extracurricular sports in the 1970s. My town provided chances for boys and girls to play sports together, both on a coed swim team and by making space on the baseball team for a girl who felt more at home there than in softball.

I wonder whether it is time for schools to offer an "inclusive league," one that welcomes everyone — even if it is just intramural until other schools adopt

the program. It seems it would be such great fun and good for people of all genders to interact with one another. It might take the edge off competition, too, which can ruin athletics for some kids. I bet participation in single-gender sports would decline.

Blake Ketchum, Claysburg, Pa.

While well written, Jerry Brewer's column gives short shrift to the girls and women who have sacrificed much of their youths to be the best athletes in their sports, only to be beaten out by a former male athlete.

If that seems fair, why are no trans men winning NCAA championships in individual sports? It's simple: Biological men have a physical advantage. When a former excellent male athlete transitions, they clearly have an advantage over biological women.

Fairness is the bedrock of sports. If competition is not fair, there would seem to be little point to higher-end athletics. At the very low-end recreational leagues, it's likely not nearly as much of an issue. Still, for girls who are marginal athletes trying their hardest, regardless of their God-given natural ability, to be benched for a trans athlete seems unfair.

Changing genders is clearly a very difficult and emotional decision. But it is a personal decision, and there are consequences to any personal decision. Those consequences should not negatively impact biological women.

There is a reason steroid use is banned in athletics: It gives competitors an advantage. Competitive advantage through chemistry is not the way to go in sports.

Mike Urita, Burke

In his column on transgender rights, Mr. Brewer makes the following statement: "The most aggressive people own the messaging, and culture-war politicians have leeches onto the tension. It might be the most effective wedge issue in their arsenal."

He's right: Both the far right and the far left are dominating the issue.

I am a lifelong Democrat and as socially liberal as a person can be, but transgender rights do not extend to the playing field or to sports in general. In fact, most of my friends feel the same as I do. The unfairness of letting people born male compete with those born female should be obvious to even the most progressive people.

John Palmieri, the Bronx

Rooting for Robinson

Regarding Jerry Brewer's June 6 Sports column, "The fight over Jackie Robinson":

Mr. Brewer's column on Jackie Robinson certainly brought back wonderful memories. As a young Jewish lad growing up in the 1940s in Toledo, I became an instant fan of the Brooklyn Dodgers for two reasons: 1. The first base coach from 1947-1957, Jake Pitler, was Jewish and I could identify with that, and 2. Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in 1947, which also impressed me as a school-age kid.

My parents were very liberal and sensitive to discrimination against Black and Jewish people. I lived and died with those Bums and hated the Yankees because they beat the Dodgers in every matchup except 1955. I remember my namesake, Hank Greenberg (no relation), enduring antisemitism from players and fans, and how he proudly stood up for Robinson. So, Robinson captured the souls of not only millions of trampled African Americans, but also a lot of young Jewish boys like me who felt the pinch of antisemitism. Yes, I think we had a lot in common.

Larrie Greenberg, Washington

Letter submissions

Letters can be sent to **letters@washpost.com**. Submissions must be exclusive to The Post and should include the writer's address and day and evening telephone numbers. Letters are subject to editing and abridgment. Please do not send letters as attachments. Because of the volume of material we receive, we are unable to acknowledge submissions; writers whose letters are under consideration for publication will be contacted.

OPINION

GEORGE F. WILL

We were warned about Alvin Bragg

In his contemplative moments, if there are such, Alvin Bragg, Manhattan's elected district attorney, should ponder a 1940 speech given by a U.S. attorney general. Before Bragg's next pirouette on the political stage — at former president Donald Trump's July 11 sentencing, where he will recommend a punishment — he should consider Robert Jackson's thoughts on the role of restraint in the prosecutor's profession.

Bragg campaigned in 2021 promising to continue trying to hold Trump "accountable," noting that in the New York attorney general's office he had sued Trump "more than a hundred times." In 2023, seven years after a particular Trump misbehavior, but just in time to influence this year's election, Bragg indicted Trump for "34" felonies. One dead misdemeanor (falsifying business records; the statute of limitations has long since expired) was resuscitated and carved into 34 slices. These were inflated into felonies by claiming they were done to facilitate a crime. (Bragg often has a progressive's penchant for reducing felonies to misdemeanors — e.g., some first-degree robberies are now charged as petty larcenies.) Bragg says:

Trump used bookkeeping dishonesty *in 2017* (about paying hush money, which is not illegal) to influence the *2016* presidential election. (A puzzling understanding of causation.) He was a candidate in the 2016 election he is accused of somehow illegitimately trying to influence. This violated a federal campaign finance law. (Enforcement of which Congress assigned to the Federal Election Commission, not to local district attorneys.)

The 12 jurors might give 12 different answers concerning what Trump is guilty of. But what sentence might Bragg advocate next month?

He is an elected prosecutor (a terrible thing; read on), with constituents to mollify — constituents mostly hostile to his defendant. (Manhattan's vote went about 86 percent for Hillary Clinton in 2016 and for Joe Biden in 2020.) He likely has higher political aspirations. He demonstrably seeks the limelight. So, he might be tempted to recommend incarceration.

This, even though it is obvious that no one other than Trump would have been prosecuted under Bragg's rickety scaffolding of quasi-legal theories. And even though no first-time offender not named Trump would be imprisoned for committing a felony that, even were it plausibly concocted, ranks among the least serious (Class E) felonies. Now, note Jackson's 1940 warning, before he became a Supreme Court justice and chief U.S. prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trials.

"The prosecutor," he said, "has more control over life, liberty, and reputation than any other person in America," and "his discretion is tremendous." He can have people investigated, perhaps with "veiled or unveiled" public intimations. He can order arrests, present cases to grand juries in secret sessions and secure indictments "on the basis of his one-sided presentation of the facts." If his targets are convicted in trials, he can recommend sentences.

"While the prosecutor at his best," Jackson said, "is one of the most beneficent forces in our society, when he acts from malice or other base motives, he is one of the worst." This is why federal district attorneys have been presidential appointees, requiring Senate confirmation. This process is designed to produce executive and legislative branch expressions of confidence in prosecutors' characters — "the spirit of fair play and decency."

Jackson noted that federal prosecutors have "now been prohibited from engaging in political activities." A prosecutor should have "a detached and impartial" view of those in his community because law enforcement "isn't blind." The prosecutor has discretion to pick their cases; therein lies their "most dangerous power." The prosecutor should select cases "in which the offense is the most flagrant, the public harm the greatest, and the proof the most certain."

The law books, however, contain such a vast assortment of crimes, a prosecutor can pick a man "he dislikes or desires to embarrass," Jackson wrote, and ransack the law books for a crime to pin on him. "It is here that law enforcement becomes personal, and the real crime becomes that of being unpopular with the predominant or governing group, being attached to the wrong political views, or being personally obnoxious to or in the way of the prosecutor himself."

"Reputation," Jackson said in 1940, "has been called 'the shadow cast by one's daily life.'" Bragg has chosen a flamboyant life in electoral politics. He probably is impervious to Jackson's wisdom, for a reason Jackson understood: "The qualities of a good prosecutor are as elusive and as impossible to define as those which mark a gentleman. And those who need to be told would not understand it anyway."



Rep. Jamaal Bowman (D-N.Y.) at a news conference in Washington on May 23.

KAREN ATTIAH

The war in Gaza comes to New York's 16th Congressional District

"Shut up or else" is the message a pro-Israel lobby is sending to Black lawmakers in the United States who are critical of what's happening in Gaza. The front line is New York's 16th Congressional District, where Rep. Jamaal Bowman (D) is facing one of the most expensive primary challenges in history.

The conservative pro-Israel lobbying giant AIPAC announced this spring that it would take extraordinary steps to remove progressive lawmakers who have called for a cease-fire in Gaza. Through a new super PAC called the United Democracy Project, funded primarily by right-wing billionaires, the group has pledged to spend \$100 million this year to oust candidates it considers unsupportive of Israel.

Keep in mind: The Biden administration backs a plan for Gaza that would include a cease-fire, and polls show Americans increasingly support a cease-fire. Yet AIPAC is going full steam ahead. Bowman is the lobby's first major target. As the June 25 primary approaches, the two-term congressman is facing what could prove to be the most expensive primary challenge in history. AIPAC has pledged to spend, through the super PAC, up to \$25 million to elect Westchester County Executive George Latimer.

It's hard to overstate the importance of the Bowman vs. Latimer showdown for progressives. The outcome represents much more than just the issue of money in politics. It raises concerns about right-wing money being funneled into Democratic primaries and tests the ability of AIPAC to shield Israel from criticism. But bigger than that, it is a test of how far America's right wing will go to crush progressive movements. No one should be surprised that a Black politician is the canary in the coal mine.

I recently spent some time with Bowman and his supporters to get a sense of their strategy to defeat this historic challenge.

Alicia Singham Goodwin, the political director of Jews For Racial & Economic Justice, told me that her group has been canvassing, phone-banking and organizing "Jews for Jamaal" events around the mixed urban-suburban district. "Jewish communities are already in deep mourning over [Hamas's deadly attacks on] Oct. 7," she told me. "Now, it's like AIPAC, the media, so many vultures have come in to press on our pain to keep us unhealed in order to serve their political aims." Campaigning for Bowman is a way of redeeming that pain, she explained. "We organize to get out of the spiral of grief, pain and anger for something more beautiful."

In Harlem on a recent Saturday, a group of Obama administration alumni paused from campaigning for sandwiches, wine and juice. They had come together in a chat group over their discontent with President Biden's policy for Gaza, and now they were mobilizing their energy for another Black lawmaker who symbolized hope and change they could believe in. Bowman, a former educator, was elected on a progressive platform in 2020 over longtime Democratic incumbent Eliot L. Engel. The 16th District stretches from the North Bronx, with its vibrant Caribbean immigrant communities, to the wealthy commuter enclaves of Westchester County.

"There are 60 RSVPs for Bagels with Bowman," one organizer announced. But the candidate could not avoid thinking of dollars and cents. "We are at 3 million now, right?" he asked his campaign manager. "Because they" — meaning Latimer's campaign — "are at 20 million." His lighthearted delivery gave him the air of a David going up against Goliath, and the folks in the room chuckled. "They have money," Bowman said, "but they don't have the people."

Still, will that be enough? Latimer is well known in the district, and his advertising campaign has been relentless: some \$13 million so far, mostly on broadcast ads. Last quarter, Bowman's

campaign raised \$1.3 million.

Biden's reelection campaign has been struggling to hold on to its large base of Black voters — a recent Post-Ipsos poll found the share of younger Black voters who support the president is 62 percent, compared with 74 percent in 2020 — so aiding a Black incumbent under right-wing fire would be good optics.

Because on the issue of Israel and Gaza in particular, Black leaders have become targets in more ways than one. A majority of the primary challengers funded by AIPAC are opposed by candidates of color (Cori Bush of Missouri, who also called for a cease-fire, is next on AIPAC's list later this summer). The New York Times reported that a large number of Black lawmakers were targeted in an Israeli-commissioned social media influence campaign designed to gin up support for the war effort.

Meanwhile, the Congressional Black Caucus has largely been silent on Black incumbents under threat. AIPAC boasts that it is the top fundraiser for Congressional Black Caucus members. House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries (N.Y.), who has endorsed Bowman for reelection, is one of the top recipients of AIPAC funds. Even the NAACP released a statement urging the Biden administration to stop sending weapons to Israel and push for a cease-fire — and yet the Congressional Black Caucus can't (or won't) protect its own members?

As the campaign heats up, some Democratic leaders can see what's at stake and are coming to Bowman's aid. Sen. Elizabeth Warren (Mass.) has announced her support. More Democratic leaders should do the same.

Visualizing victory on June 25, Bowman explains what it will mean to win. "Imagine how the world will change in that moment," he said. "The many will cease to be afraid of AIPAC. Then we can have real conversations about how to fight antisemitism, and how to have a free Palestine, and how to uplift the humanity of all people."

LEE HOCKSTADER

Putin is losing the battle. Did he just win the war?

Take a moment to look at Europe's burgeoning turmoil through Vladimir Putin's gimlet eyes. You don't need to imagine the wolfish smirk creasing his face to know that Russia's tyrant is enjoying a spectacularly good spring.

The two countries at the fulcrum of European power, France and Germany, are in late-stage political meltdowns — compounded in the latter's case by deepening economic rot.

In France, the Russophile extreme right has just scored a concussive victory in elections for the European Parliament. In Germany, an even more Russophile extreme right got more votes than Chancellor Olaf Scholz's own party.

European elections are mainly referendums on each country's governments. Seen that way, Scholz and French President Emmanuel Macron are political roadkill.

Neither one's party managed to win even 15 percent of the vote in Sunday's election. In a fight for their political lives, neither can credibly lead the continent to rearm and confront the Russian threat, though each has described the stakes of doing so in existential terms.

The man in the Kremlin's smirk has broadened into a grin.

Last week, Macron was trying to muster a coalition of European allies to send military trainers into Ukraine — NATO boots on the ground for the first time since Putin's full-scale invasion. This week, Macron is trying, so far without success, to muster a moderate alliance to save his own political neck.

Having dissolved the National Assembly and called snap elections in the next month — at a stroke risking his government, his legacy, and France's role in Europe and the world — Macron was reduced

this week to quelling rumors that he plans to resign.

Meanwhile, French stocks and bonds were tanking on investors' fears that the ethnocentrist hard-right party of Marine Le Pen, having coasted to victory in France's elections for the European Parliament, might actually seize the reins of government in France this summer. That was all but unimaginable before Sunday.

Putin's delight is uncontainable.

Scholz, an inept politician who has flailed in office and failed to manage a dysfunctional three-party governing coalition, wields no more authority in Berlin than a bratwurst.

This week, the Financial Times reported that Germany's stock market chief said foreign investors are deriding the government in Berlin as "stupid" and warned that Scholz's bickering coalition risked reducing the world's No. 3 economy to the status of a "developing country."

That warning reflected the broader failure of European economies to remain competitive. Sapped by a spike in energy prices triggered by the war in Ukraine, as well as their own zeal for overregulation, they have failed to keep pace with growth rates in the United States or China.

Putin, determined above all to be a protagonist on the world stage, is not standing idly by. His divisions of cyber-trolls are carpet-bombing Europeans with disinformation, deepfakes and deceptions.

But Moscow's attacks now go beyond that: Its assaults on Washington's European allies are increasingly kinetic, in Pentagon parlance. That means bombings and sabotage planned by Russian military intelligence, known as the GRU, according to Western officials.

In the latest incident, a 26-year-old man who had reportedly served in the Russian

army was arrested near Paris after he injured himself in a hotel room with an explosive device. French authorities, who said the device was intended for use in a violent attack, put the man in the custody of France's domestic intelligence agency, not the police. The incident took place the day before President Biden arrived in Paris ahead of celebrations for D-Day's 80th anniversary.

The GRU's goal is to intimidate, disorient and distract a Western alliance already grappling with domestic divisions and disintegrating political consensus across its borders. Secretary of State Antony Blinken warned of a Kremlin campaign that he said involved not just cyberattacks but "setting fire and sabotaging supply warehouses" and "disregarding sea borders and demarcations in the Baltics."

About one-third of the of the countries in the 27-member European Union are now led by governments controlled or shared by extreme-right parties. Not all are friendly to the Kremlin, but some are. Not all would be content to see Ukraine abandoned by the West and parceled out in pieces to Russia, but some would be.

Meanwhile, the battlefield momentum Moscow enjoyed briefly in Ukraine — thanks largely to the Republican-led House of Representatives' delay in approving a new arms package for Kyiv — has stalled. But to Putin that is of secondary importance. What he cares about is sustaining the violence, turbocharging Russia's overheating economy increasingly dependent on military spending and biding his time until a second Trump presidency. And then: Oops, there goes any prospect of further U.S. aid, along with, sooner or later, Kyiv's capacity to repel Moscow's meat-grinder assaults.

That sound you hear is Putin chortling.

MARC FISHER

In Virginia, the definitive Trump loyalty test

In the Donald Trump Loyalty Olympics, next week's congressional competition in central Virginia is the medal match to watch.

In one corner, we have the incumbent, Rep. Bob Good, a very conservative Republican who beat the previous conservative Republican holder of the seat by running sharply to that guy's right. Good, chair of the House Freedom Caucus, is one of the handful of hard-right House members who orchestrated the ouster of former speaker Kevin McCarthy and has the endorsement in next Tuesday's GOP primary of such Trump loyalists as Stephen K. Bannon and Reps. Matt Gaetz and Lauren Boebert.

In the other corner, the challenger, state Sen. John J. McGuire III (R-Goochland), whose website's "About John" section offers this headline: "Pro-Life. Pro-Gun. Pro-Trump." McGuire, elected to Virginia's Senate just seven months ago, was the clear underdog in this race until late May, when he trumped Good with this effusive endorsement from the King of Queens himself:

"Bob Good is BAD FOR VIRGINIA AND BAD FOR THE USA. He turned his back on our incredible movement, and was constantly attacking and fighting me until recently, when he gave a warm and 'loving' Endorsement — But really, it was too late. The damage had been done!"

Wait, this is Trump's endorsement of McGuire? Ah, yes, he does get around to calling the challenger "a true American Hero." But mainly, this is payback against Good, who committed heresy by initially endorsing Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis back when there were people who believed that a Republican Party might still exist independently of the former president.

Every Republican I called in the 5th District agreed that on the things members of Congress actually are supposed to do, the differences between Good and McGuire are minimal. This contest could be seen as a test of the power of incumbency against the imperative to demonstrate absolute fealty to Trump. But really, it's just the Loyalty Olympics, period.

Or, as Marjorie Taylor Greene put it, "Bob Good is an angry, disloyal, MAGA traitor who was caught on camera trashing President Trump and doing everything he could to defeat President Trump."

But hold on: Didn't we see Good in New York during Trump's criminal trial, dressed in his Official Loyalty Suit, complete with cherry red tie? Yes, but Good's tie also had some blue in it, which could be perceived as insufficient loyalty. (Additional fact, in case facts matter anymore: After Good's DeSantis alliance, the congressman returned to the Trump fold, totally and completely.)

Because we're all about totality and completeness, we must add that McGuire was at the trial, too, on the very same day as Good and also in his Official Loyalty Suit (tie totally and completely red). But while Good only stood with other Trump Troopers outside the courthouse, McGuire got to ride in the Trump motorcade from Trump Tower to the (totally and completely rigged) courthouse.

(I apologize for the exhaustive detail, but we want to be sure to supply voters all you might need to make an informed choice in this vital election.)

Oh, one other possibly useful tidbit: On Jan. 6, 2021, McGuire attended the Trump rally on the National Mall, but he says he didn't inhale — er, go inside the Capitol with the insurrectionist mob.

Also you should know that the Trump campaign sent a firm cease-and-desist letter to Good last week, demanding the removal of yard signs that said "TRUMP / BOB GOOD" because the only Official Loyalty-Guaranteed Yard Signs are those that say "John McGuire / TRUMP ENDORSED."

Okay, so how's a good Republican in the 5th District to judge the Loyalty Olympics?

You could follow the money, with millions of dollars going to McGuire (well, mostly against Good) in the form of TV ads paid for by PACs funded by Wall Street billionaires, and other millions of dollars going to ads for Good, paid for by PACs funded by libertarian billionaires and the Club for Growth.

Not helpful? How about this: I called some Republican county chairs in the 5th District, and they noted with dismay that McGuire had promised — it's on video! — last year that if he won his state Senate seat, he would support Good's reelection and wouldn't run against him. Confronted with that broken promise, McGuire told the Cardinal News that it was ancient history: "That was a year and a half ago, at least."

It's not quite prehistoric to Robin Horne, past chairwoman of the Louisa County Republican Committee. "They have the same beliefs — closing the border, keeping America safe," she told me, "but John McGuire lied and said he would not run against Bob Good. People don't like that."

As a strong Trump supporter, Horne has no problem forgiving Good for his brief sojourn straying from the path. "People have to stop saying you're disloyal if you supported DeSantis," she said. "We all support President Trump, but for him to endorse McGuire because Bob Good was for DeSantis, that's just childish. That's not how you bring people together."

And here I was thinking it was all about loyalty.




The Google AI Opportunity Fund is helping ensure more Americans can access AI training


As the demand for AI-related professional skills rises, Google.org has launched a \$75 million AI Opportunity Fund to help ensure AI's benefits are widely shared.

Through this fund, Google.org will support small businesses, education, and other sectors to train Americans of all backgrounds and provide them with AI skills at no cost.


It's a core part of our commitment to [training today's workforce for tomorrow's AI-supported economy.](#)




8 a.m.
73°



Noon
84°



4 p.m.
86°



8 p.m.
83°

High today at approx. 3 p.m.
87°
Precip: 0%
Wind: S 7-14 mph

RETROPOLIS
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OBITUARIES
Rapper Brother Marquis, 57, was a mainstay of the raunchy Miami-based group 2 Live Crew. **B4**



OBITUARIES
Françoise Hardy, 80, was a French singer known for her melancholy voice and trendsetting style. **B4**

Lawyer is acquitted in sexual assault case

Prominent defense attorney's trial created buzz in D.C. legal circles

BY KEITH L. ALEXANDER

A D.C. Superior Court jury on Wednesday found a prominent D.C. defense attorney not guilty of sexually assaulting another attorney nearly two years ago in a case that rippled through Washington's legal circles.

The high-profile trial of Jonathan Jeffress — on charges stemming from what began as a consensual encounter in his car — lured a steady stream of defense attorneys, prosecutors and judges to the court, curious to witness a dramatic spectacle centered on this son of a prominent and well-connected family of lawyers.

The jury of seven men and five women acquitted Jeffress, 52, of four felony sexual assault charges and a misdemeanor simple assault charge.

"I am relieved to have been found not guilty of all charges against me," Jeffress, a partner in the Washington law firm Kaiser and a former federal public defender, said in an interview. "I was falsely accused as the jury has now recognized. This has been the hardest year of my life, but the support and togetherness I have felt has been more than any person could ever hope for."

Over six days of testimony, Jeffress and the woman laid out vastly different versions of what transpired in Jeffress's parked Polestar during a 14-minute period Dec. 21, 2022. Jeffress said the exchange was mutual. The woman detailed fearing for her life, recounting a struggle in the front seat of Jeffress's car in which she testified that Jeffress placed her into a headlock, bruised her elbow and grabbed her breast until she blacked out "three to four times." She said she was then forced to massage his genitals.

Jeffress began and ended his testimony with the same message: "I did not assault her." The 37-year-old woman detailed her relationship with Jeffress and

SEE ACQUITTAL ON **B6**



MICHAEL ROBINSON CHÁVEZ FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, center, and Maryland Gov. Wes Moore (D), right, prepare to announce the reopening of the Port of Baltimore's shipping channel in Dundalk on Wednesday, two days after the channel was fully restored.

Leaders hail Port of Baltimore's reopening — and remember grief

It was a moment of triumph, tempered by tragedy.

Federal and Maryland officials gathered Wednesday at the Port of Baltimore, with towering cranes and stacks of shipping containers behind them, to mark the reopening of the port's shipping channel two days after it was fully restored.

It was less than three months since the Dali container ship lost power, veered off course and took down the Francis Scott Key Bridge, sending 100 million pounds of steel and concrete into the Patapsco

Lives lost in bridge collapse are not forgotten amid 'inspiring' recovery efforts

BY MICHAEL LARIS

River and killing six workers who had been filling potholes on the bridge deck.

"What happened that early morning of March 26 was horrific," U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said. "What happened next was inspiring."

Maryland Gov. Wes Moore (D), leaders of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Coast Guard, and others described a trusting partnership that allowed for the swift clearing of the channel. "Instead of 11 months, we got this thing done in 11

SEE **PORT** ON **B2**

At least 20 E. coli cases linked to Lake Anna visits

Va. health officials say infections led to water testing at reservoir

BY JENNA PORTNOY

Judy Inglett never dreamed her healthy 15-year-old daughter would end up on dialysis and undergo blood transfusions after swimming at Lake Anna State Park in Virginia over the Memorial Day weekend.

Ava was there with family friends and neighbors who had invited her on their boat and rented a house, enjoying the festive recreation area as they have countless times before, her mother said.

Within days of coming home, though, Ava developed diarrhea. By the next week, she was in renal failure, her mother said, prompting doctors to rush her to a children's hospital, where she remained as of Wednesday.

Ava is one of 20 people diagnosed with an E. coli infection — that for four children escalated to serious kidney complications — that investigators said triggered lake water testing that has left families second guessing their go-to summertime vacation spot.

"Her kidneys took a very hard hit. If we hadn't brought her in



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Lake Anna State Park in Spotsylvania County, Va. Public health officials say everyone who reported becoming ill swam in or was exposed to the water, but they don't yet know that the lake is the culprit.

when we did, I could be planning a funeral at this point," Inglett, of Fauquier County, said Tuesday night after swapping bedside roles with her husband at Inova L.J. Murphy Children's Hospital.

Everyone who reported becoming ill to the state swam in or was otherwise exposed to the lake wa-

ter, but public health officials say they do not yet have enough information to know the lake is the culprit.

The state has not put any special restrictions on using the lake and encouraged swimmers and boaters to follow regular safety precautions like showering after

swimming to wash off possible contaminants, and never drinking untreated water.

Escherichia coli, commonly known as E. coli, bacteria infections usually occur after someone ingests food or water contaminated with a small, often invisible,

SEE **LAKE** ON **B3**

CEO who stole millions from nonprofits gets 5½-year term

Bethesda executive kept embezzling even after being alerted to probe

BY RACHEL WEINER AND SPENCER S. HSU

After a client confronted Graham Hauck about missing funds in 2019, the management executive who lived in Washington's comfortable suburbs paid the money back — then kept stealing. In 2021, after FBI agents warned Hauck that he was under investigation for embezzling funds, he kept stealing. Two years later, after federal prosecutors laid out all of the evidence against him, Hauck kept stealing. And in March, after being offered a deal to plead to wire fraud, Hauck kept stealing.

Before pleading guilty, he took his family on a vacation to Hawaii. Then he stole some more.

On Wednesday, Hauck, 51, was sentenced to 5½ years in prison and ordered to repay his victims, which include a cancer-research nonprofit, a museum association and an international trade lobbying group.

"It takes a certain type of sociopath to be able to lie so

continuously to so many people over a long time," a federal judge in D.C. told him before handing down the punishment.

Hauck ultimately admitted to embezzling \$2.5 million from the trade associations and nonprofits that used the Hauck & Associates management firm his father founded in Bethesda. He had to plead guilty twice because more victims came forward after his first plea, prosecutors said.

He double-billed clients, used his access to their bank accounts to siphon off funds and set up accounts that redirected conference registration fees to him, he admitted in court. He falsified balance sheets and routed funds overseas to hide the embezzlement.

During the years he was under investigation, the government says, Hauck paid \$75,000 in country club dues to the private Chevy Chase Club. He was on vacation in Switzerland when first caught misappropriating client funds, according to his plea.

"What I find particularly egregious about this case," U.S. District Judge Rudolph Contreras said, is that at no point did Hauck say: "Family meeting. We're in a real pickle here." The judge said Hauck could have

SEE **CEO** ON **B2**

Swift reopening of Port of Baltimore spurs moment of triumph within tragedy

PORT FROM B1

weeks,” Moore said.

A ship’s loud horn repeatedly blared nearby. “That’s a beautiful sound,” Moore said.

But the hugs, smiles and handshakes were tempered by the gravity of what had happened out on the water not far away. The governor and others acknowledged that while the channel was cleared, some things will never be restored.

“The missing bridge never escapes the minds and eyes of everyone that sees this,” Col. Estee S. Pinchasin, the Baltimore district commander for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, told The Washington Post.

She helped oversee the massive recovery effort, which included workers with high-powered torches cutting through steel debris and divers scouring underwater wreckage for the bodies of those who were lost.

“The missing bridge doesn’t allow it to get back to normal,” Pinchasin said. “No matter what we do, those families are forever impacted.”

While the physical wreckage is mostly gone — the Army Corps says it will continue surveying and clearing smaller pieces of steel stuck in the mud below the 50-foot-deep channel — many questions remain about how the tragedy happened.

The National Transportation Safety Board is probing what caused the electrical problems on the Dali. The FBI is investigating whether serious problems on the ship were known before it left port. State departments of transportation are examining how vulnerable their bridges are to ship strikes.

The Coast Guard launched a national inquiry into how it keeps ports and waterways safe, with a top official saying the nation’s marine transportation infrastructure may not have kept pace with the increased risks from ever-larger vessels.

Maryland officials have said those who need to be held accountable will be.

But on Wednesday, Moore’s focus was largely on the channel, cooperation among different levels of government and the rebirth of the port.

“People forever will be able to talk with pride about the way that this state responded, in some of our times of greatest need and greatest tragedy,” Moore said.

While crews were scooping out the remnants of the bridge, Moore joined with White House economic adviser Lael Brainard to call major port customers, seeking to secure commitments they would return their business to Baltimore once the channel was fully restored, according to White House and Maryland officials.

The port is well equipped to handle the shipment of cars,



PHOTOS BY JAH CHIKWENDU/ THE WASHINGTON POST

light trucks and farm equipment, known as “roll on, roll off” operations. Port officials say that vehicle business is nearly back to its levels before disruptions caused by the Dali. Large container traffic will lag, they said, because shippers from Asia operate with long lead times. Officials say they are hoping for a full recovery by 2025.

The Coast Guard put navigation buoys back in place marking the full 700-foot-wide channel, offering a path for easy two-way traffic to and from the port.

“Think of it like a yellow brick road,” said Jonathan Daniels, Maryland’s top port official.

The Coast Guard has pulled back additional safety measures that had been put in place while ships traversed a narrower channel, including speed limits and a requirement that vessels be guided by tug boats.

The Coast Guard said it will be up to ship pilots to decide whether tug boats are needed until salvage operations are complete. Representatives of the Association of Maryland Pilots, whose members board vessels to help them in and out of the port area, did not respond to questions about how they will decide which ships need tugs.



TOP: A ship passes Tuesday through the Port of Baltimore’s shipping channel, which was fully reopened this week after a massive, months-long cleanup effort. **ABOVE:** A container is lifted by a crane at the Port of Baltimore on Wednesday. While the physical wreckage from the Francis Scott Key Bridge’s collapse is mostly gone — the Army Corps of Engineers says it will continue surveying and clearing smaller pieces of steel stuck in the mud below the 50-foot-deep channel — many questions remain about how the tragedy happened.

Federal judge calls CEO who embezzled \$2.5 million a privileged ‘sociopath’

CEO FROM B1

taken his children out of expensive private schools or sent them to free public activities rather than the Chevy Chase country club.

Instead, Contreras said, the defendant decided, “We’re going to keep up appearances. ... We’re going to keep stealing to live this lie.”

Prosecutor Kondi J. Kleinman

asked for an eight-year sentence.

“Mr. Hauck enjoyed the type of upbringing most defendants in this courthouse can’t even imagine, let alone experience,” Kleinman said.

“The fact he continued to steal more is just astonishing,” he added.

The firm was founded by Hauck’s father in 1974; Graham Hauck had worked there since college. Sheldon Hauck Jr. said in

a letter to the court that when his brother took over from their late father, the company lost some major clients. The business took another blow when the coronavirus pandemic led to the cancellation of many of the conferences the company manages.

Graham Hauck says he also inherited a large tax debt, while taking care of his wife, three children and mother.

“It’s pretty evident that

Graham was under extreme financial pressure,” Sheldon Hauck Jr. wrote. He added that the cost of caring for their mother is now falling on him. He asked the judge to “show mercy” and give a lenient sentence, “not because Graham deserves it, but because his immediate and extended family deserves it.”

Graham Hauck has been in jail since September.

Defense attorney David Be-


nowitz said Hauck sold his home to repay \$370,000, stopped drinking and has lost 85 pounds in jail now that he is free from the “massive rationalization” that he had to uphold his father’s legacy.

“I am sorry, incredibly sorry,” Hauck told the court, apologizing to clients, employees, family members and friends. “Although I saw the worst possible consequence as failure — which meant closing the business and bank-

ruptcy — I didn’t foresee the far worse consequences of my actions,” including divorce, damaging his family relations and reputation, and prison.

His “weak-mindedness” cost him what he most feared losing, Hauck said. “I am dedicated to the hard work of making things right,” he said.

“No more lying or hiding. No more pain. No more crimes,” he added.





The Guide to Offers
The Washington Post

Enter for the chance to win a pair of tickets to Shakey Graves and Trampled By Turtles on June 27 at The Anthem

Across his career, Shakey Graves — a.k.a. the performance moniker of Austin, Texas-born Alejandro Rose-Garcia — has intentionally created thrilling musical adventures tailored to each fan: burning CDs and putting them in personalized decorated bags; building intricate scavenger hunts that send fans in search of unique tapes; and issuing Bandcamp-exclusive releases. “I’ve always been on this quest to make people feel like my own music is a choose your own adventure,” he said. “Whether they are a rock band with a string-band lineup or a bluegrass band with rock tendencies, Trampled By Turtles is progressing the future of both bluegrass and rock forward. They prove you do not have to fit neatly into either box and we should never hope they do” (bluegrassunlimited.com).

See details at [washingtonpost.com/entertainment/events/lists/388](https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/events/lists/388)





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The Washington Post

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Va. officials suggest caution at Lake Anna

LAKE FROM B1

amount of animal or human feces, and symptoms typically develop in three to four days, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Of the people who came down with gastrointestinal symptoms typical of an E. coli infection after visiting Lake Anna, at least seven have been hospitalized, said Katherine G. McCombs, director of surveillance and investigation in the Virginia Department of Health Office of Epidemiology.

More than half of those sickened are children who generally have more serious reactions to the bacteria than adults. Four children developed severe cases and a condition known as hemolytic uremic syndrome, or HUS, which can cause kidney failure, she said.

Symptoms of an E. coli infection include stomach cramps and diarrhea that is often watery or bloody, vomiting, fever and chills. Health officials ask that anyone experiencing gastrointestinal illness after visiting the Lake Anna area during Memorial Day weekend or since contact their local health department and seek medical care if symptoms are ongoing.

Lake Anna, a freshwater reservoir an hour from Richmond and Charlottesville, was created in the early '70s to cool a nuclear power plant operated by Dominion Energy, which returns warmer water to the lake.

Warmer water and nutrients can combine to make conditions favorable for algae growth — health officials say signs of algae activity have been detected at Lake Anna and are normal this time of year. The algae is not related to the current illnesses.

Staff from the Department of Environmental Quality on Tuesday collected six samples from three areas at the lake to be tested for concentrations of bacteria, including E. coli, said agency spokeswoman Irina Calos. Results are expected by Thursday or Friday, she said.

Samples were taken from the sandbar near the confluence of Goldmine Creek, water adjacent to the state park and the Cocktail Cove sandbar. A second round of samples will be collected on June 25, Calos said.

Regular quarterly water quality samples taken by the Lake Anna Civic Association on June 4 did not show harmful levels of E. coli, said association president Greg Baker on Tuesday. He said he empathized with the families affected but believes there is no imminent risk to visiting the lake.

“The lake is open for business,” he said. “It appears the lake has no E. coli occurrences at this moment but please everybody use common sense. It is a lake, don’t drink the lake water, avoid large gatherings in the lake and enjoy the lake.”

Nate Hiner, whose 8-year-old



JUDY INGLETT

Ava and Lauren Inglett at Inova Children's Hospital, where Ava is being treated for an E. coli infection. Ava, who visited Lake Anna over Memorial Day weekend, has had four rounds of dialysis and three blood transfusions. “It’s a helpless feeling as a parent when you want to fix it and I can’t fix it,” said her mother, Judy Inglett.

daughter was diagnosed with HUS and treated with blood transfusions at Children's National Hospital, said he is skeptical of testing that shows the lake is safe.

“Over 20 cases of this illness with the commonality being this lake. That’s irrefutable evidence that there’s something in that water,” said Hiner, who lives in Spotylvania.

He and his wife, Jennifer, who are both paramedics, and their twins hopped on a friend’s boat on May 26 to visit the lake, as they have several times each summer for years. They stopped at a few spots where the children could get out and swim.

A few days later their daughter Kinsley developed severe diarrhea that by Friday contained bright red blood, sending them to the emergency room and after a week’s hospital stay with no improvement, Children’s National Hospital. The same day their son Chase began developing similar symptoms and soon both children were being treated at the hospital in Northwest Washington.

As of Tuesday, Chase was discharged and Kinsley was steadily improving after a brief transfer to intensive care for profuse bleeding.

“It’s very terrifying because there’s nothing these kids can take or do,” Nate Hines said.

Alexandra Yonts, a pediatric infectious-disease physician at Children’s National Hospital, said children under 5 are at highest risk for illness.

“The biggest thing is good hand

“The lake is open for business. It appears the lake has no E. coli occurrences at this moment but please everybody use common sense. It is a lake, don’t drink the lake water, avoid large gatherings in the lake and enjoy the lake.”

Greg Baker,
president of the
Lake Anna Civic Association



FAMILY PHOTO

Eight-year-old twins Chase and Kinsley Hiner both came down with severe E. coli infections after swimming in the lake.

hygiene,” she said. “This is something that is transmitted through a fecal-oral route. Somehow you come into contact with feces from an infected human or animal and it makes its way into your mouth.”

Other culprits include undercooked meat such as hamburger, petting zoos and especially land-grazing animals like cows. Bodies of water near farms where runoff can wash harmful bacteria into the water, like Lake Anna, should be avoided after a big rainfall, Yonts said.

Most infections from harmful strains of E. coli bacteria cause diarrhea and vomiting that require hydration at home, but about 5 to 15 percent of children with this infection develop HUS. Treatments for this serious condition range from monitoring in the hospital to dialysis, or artificial filtration of the blood, and about a quarter of cases will require long-term dialysis or even a kidney transplant, she said.

Inglett said her daughter Ava has had four rounds of dialysis and three blood transfusions. As of Tuesday night, doctors were taking a break from dialysis to give Ava’s kidneys a chance to function normally.

“Right now, it’s a wait and see,” Inglett said through tears, wondering if her daughter will recover enough to play soccer and field hockey next school year.

“Nobody knew this was going to happen,” she said. “She’s been down there so many times and she’s always been fine. It’s a helpless feeling as a parent when you want to fix it and I can’t fix it.”

D.C. Council makes some last-minute changes as it passes \$21 billion budget

BUDGET FROM B1

a new D.C. jail and a youth indoor sports complex at RFK Stadium. But she rehashed previous criticism of the council’s tax increases and decision to reallocate money from the D.C. Public Schools central office into individual schools.

“I remain greatly concerned that taken as a whole, the council’s proposed budget and fiscal policy sets up our residents and businesses for even larger cuts to services and programs or additional tax hikes next year,” Bowser said.

D.C. Council Chairman Phil Mendelson (D), however, described the unanimous budget vote Wednesday as a win for residents, adding that lawmakers had made the most out of a difficult hand.

“When the budget was proposed to us on April 3, yes, it was balanced, but the balancing seemed to be almost entirely the result of cutting safety-net programs and other initiatives that advanced the fight for equity,” the council chairman said. “The council collectively has reworked this, and our budget resets the district on the path to fight poverty and promote social justice.”

Key changes

Some changes proposed by Mendelson after the first vote followed concerns raised by the mayor and housing advocates.

Mendelson allocated an additional \$3 million for 100 new housing vouchers — building on the 477 vouchers the council funded two weeks ago — after several advocates interrupted his Monday news conference warning that swaths of families were at risk of homelessness without further assistance (though the city has had challenges getting vouchers, which offer rental assistance and case management depending on need, out the door).

On Wednesday, council member Robert C. White Jr. (D-At Large) proposed an amendment to fund 65 more housing vouchers by reducing funds for street outreach services and cutting \$1 million from a newly proposed truancy program that he said was not yet fully thought out, though he left \$3.3 million in the budget to implement it.

“Hundreds of families in the rapid rehousing program are still facing termination of their housing assistance, unable to pay their rents and without anywhere to go,” White said. “I think the best way to preserve housing

and prevent homelessness is to not throw families currently in housing into the street.”

Some lawmakers, led by council member Brooke Pinto (D-Ward 2), expressed concerns about reducing money for the truancy program, noting that fewer students would be helped as city officials aspire to keep more children in the classroom. “Sixty percent of our high school students are now chronically absent or truant. That is a crisis. That is absolutely unacceptable,” Pinto said.

White’s amendment passed 11-2, with Pinto and council member Anita Bonds (D-At Large) dissenting.

Separately, Bowser and her administration had also raised alarm bells after Mendelson two weeks ago reallocated some of the \$464 million set aside to build a new D.C. jail into future budget years. Mendelson said he wasn’t confident in the Bowser administration’s timeline for the project, but Bowser and Department of Corrections Director Tom Faust said the delay could jeopardize the project entirely.

Ahead of Wednesday’s vote, Mendelson reversed his changes to the jail’s funding. The project is expected to be completed in 2034.

Sports wagering and baby bonds

The most robust debate centered on whether it was appropriate to pass a bill to dramatically reshape the city’s struggling sports wagering program through the budget process, offering less opportunity for scrutiny. That bill, introduced earlier this year by council member Kenyan R. McDuffie (I-At Large), aims to repair the city’s mobile sports betting market by offering pathways for major betting operators to partner with local sports teams.

Intralot, the Greek gaming company that has held a monopoly on mobile sports betting in the District, recently subcontracted with FanDuel to replace its own poorly performing GambetDC platform. The change led to an immediate surge in tax revenue, raising \$1.9 million in the first 30 days, compared with the \$4.3 million GambetDC brought in over a four-year period.

Lawmakers must soon decide whether to extend Intralot’s contract, which is set to expire in mid-July. Last month, Office of Lottery and Gaming Director Frank Suarez, citing estimates from the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, said in written

testimony that McDuffie’s bill would generate about \$27 million in revenue over four years — about \$15.32 million less than four-year projections from the FanDuel platform.

McDuffie sought to include his legislation as part of the budget, using part of its proceeds to fund his “baby bonds” initiatives, which creates trust funds for children of low-income families. But several lawmakers, led by council member Zachary Parker (D-Ward 5), shared reservations about McDuffie’s plan, pointing to the council’s controversial 2019 vote to approve the sole-source contract for Intralot it was now trying to untangle.

Parker and others questioned which path would generate more revenue for the city, while others wondered about the fate of dozens of small businesses with GambetDC retail betting kiosks that offer them an additional revenue stream. He attempted to separate McDuffie’s bill from the budget process through an amendment Wednesday.

“Regardless of where you land on sports betting, we can agree that process matters,” Parker wrote on the social media platform X, explaining his amendment. “Fast-tracking sports betting through the budget is a

choice, one that is unnecessary.”

On Wednesday, McDuffie clarified that his effort to move quickly on the bill was in part because professional sports venues with retail sportsbooks, including Caesars Sportsbook at Capital One Arena and BetMGM at Nationals Park, would be hampered without a chance to enter the mobile sports betting market, which his bill would permit.

“Time is of the essence,” McDuffie said.

McDuffie said he would introduce a separate amendment to protect the concerns of small businesses with kiosks in two weeks, when the council will vote on a package of laws necessary to implement the approved budget.

Parker’s amendment failed 9-4. Democratic council members Parker, Bonds, Brianne K. Nadeau (Ward 1) and Vincent C. Gray (Ward 7) voted in support.

“I’m glad some of the surrounding issues are being resolved, especially when it comes to small businesses,” Nadeau said before the vote. “But I do not like that I’m being forced to vote on this as part of the budget package.”

Meagan Flynn contributed to this report.

OBITUARIES

FRANÇOISE HARDY, 80

French singer-songwriter renowned for wistful lyrics and bold style

BY HARRISON SMITH

Françoise Hardy, a French singer-songwriter whose melancholy voice, doe-eyed beauty and trendsetting sense of style made her an international sensation in her teens, captivating fashion designers and beguiling musicians such as Bob Dylan and David Bowie, has died at 80.

Her son, singer and guitarist Thomas Dutronc, announced the death in an Instagram post on June 11. French media also reported the death, but gave no additional details. In 2021, Ms. Hardy revealed that she had been diagnosed with a tumor in her left ear three years earlier, following a lymphoma diagnosis in 2004, and said she felt “close to the end” of her life.

Ms. Hardy was a little-known 18-year-old singer from Paris when she appeared on French television in October 1962, performing her sentimental pop song “Tous les garçons et les filles” (“All the Boys and Girls”) as the country waited to hear the results of a presidential election referendum.

Gazing into the camera, she sang in French of watching happy couples who “walk in love without fear of tomorrow. Yes but me, I’m alone in the streets with a tormented soul. Yes but me, I’m alone because nobody loves me.”

By the end of the year, she had sold more than half a million records, acquiring a devoted following with her rich alto and wistful lyrics. Singing in French, English, Italian and German, she became closely identified with the European rock style known as yé-yé, although music critics said her songs were often more sophisticated than those of contemporaries such as France Gall and Sylvie Vartan.

Ms. Hardy incorporated elements of country, folk, bossa nova, jazz and baroque pop into her music, writing many of her own hits while also working with songwriters such as Serge Gainsbourg, who helped her adapt “It Hurts to Say Goodbye” into a hit French single. Her ballad “All Over the World” climbed the British pop charts, and her love song “Le temps de l’amour” — driven by a marching drum beat and slinky electric guitar riff — reached a new audience after Wes Anderson used it in his 2012 movie “Moon-



AFP/GETTY IMAGES

French singer Françoise Hardy, seen in New York in 1965, developed a devoted international following beginning in her teens. With her voice and fashion sense, she captivated both musicians and designers.

rise Kingdom.”

“With tender, nostalgic air and a voice heard as if through a veil, Françoise manages to attract both kids and their parents, men and women alike,” the French magazine *Special Pop* declared in 1967. “More than a singer, she’s becoming a universal myth with whom thousands of young girls dream of identifying.”

With her high cheekbones and light brown hair that fell around her shoulders, Ms. Hardy drew admirers including Mick Jagger, who described her as his ideal woman (she suspected she “was too clean” for him, given his drug use); Bowie, who said he had been “very passionately in love” with her from a distance; and Dylan, who wrote a poem “for françoise hardy” in the liner notes of his fourth album.

When Dylan performed in Paris for the first time, at the Olympia in 1966, Ms. Hardy was sitting in the front row. As she told it, he refused to go back onstage after the intermission unless she visited him in the dressing room. “It was surreal, but I went,” she recalled in a 2005 interview with Britain’s *Independent* newspaper. “He

looked very thin and sickly, which may explain why the concert was so bad.”

For years, Ms. Hardy was admired for her bold fashion sense, with the *Associated Press* calling her “the symbol of swinging youth in France.” Appearing on the cover of magazines such as *Paris Match* and *Vogue*, she was photographed in flared pants and short skirts, leather jackets and knee-length fur coats, boyish newsboy caps and derby hats.

She developed a close relationship with couturier Paco Rabanne, who designed a shimmering gold-plated minidress for her, and was also known for wearing a futuristic all-white suit by André Courrèges and a swagging tuxedo suit designed by Yves Saint Laurent.

Interviewed by *Vogue*, French couturier Nicolas Ghesquière declared that Ms. Hardy was “the very essence of French style.” Her first hit single even inspired the name of Japanese designer Rei Kawakubo’s Paris-based label, *Comme des Garçons*.

Ms. Hardy often downplayed her beauty in interviews, and later said that she battled shyness and insecurity after years in

which her grandmother repeatedly told her she was unattractive. (“If it weren’t for the way I dress,” Ms. Hardy said in 1968, “no one would notice me.”) She had little interest in an acting career, although she appeared poised for movie stardom after director Roger Vadim — who married Brigitte Bardot and launched her to fame — cast her in a 1963 comedy called “Nutty, Naughty Chateau.”

“I was very naive and a well-brought up young woman,” Ms. Hardy told the *New York Times* in 2018. “I couldn’t see how I could turn down offers by well-known film directors,” including John Frankenheimer, who cast her in the 1966 racing drama “Grand Prix” after seeing her walk down a street in London. “However, I far preferred music to cinema. Music and chanson allow you to go deep into yourself and how you feel, while cinema is about playing a part, playing a character who might be miles away from who you are.”

Ms. Hardy stopped performing at concerts in 1968, focusing instead on recording albums such as “La question” (1971), a collaboration with the Brazilian guitarist Tuca that drew some of the best reviews of her career.

She later immersed herself in astrology, writing books and hosting a daily radio show on the subject, and collaborated with musicians including Iggy Pop, the “Godfather of Punk,” with whom she recorded the jazz standard “I’ll Be Seeing You.”

“It has always been a big surprise to me that people, even very good musicians, were moved by my voice,” she told the *Observer* newspaper in 2018. “I know its limitations, I always have. But I have chosen carefully. What a person sings is an expression of what they are. Luckily for me, the most beautiful songs are not happy songs. The songs we remember are the sad, romantic songs.”

Drawn to American rock

The older of two daughters, Françoise Madeleine Hardy was born in Nazi-occupied Paris on Jan. 17, 1944.

Her mother was a bookkeeper’s assistant who “lived the life of a nun,” Ms. Hardy said; her father was an older, wealthier married man who managed an adding-machine company. They ended their affair when Ms. Hardy was a child, and she was raised by her mother in the Ninth Arrondissement, where her neighbors included future rock star Johnny Hallyday.

Ms. Hardy studied at a convent school and listened obsessively to Radio Luxembourg, which broadcast transatlantic pop and rock-and-roll by musicians including Elvis Presley, Brenda Lee, Cliff Richard and Billy Fury. When her father offered to buy her a gift as a reward for acing her high school exams, she selected a guitar. Soon, she was writing three or four songs a week.

“I was astonished to find that I could make so much from just three chords,” she told the *Observer*. “Really, those three chords produced most of my songs for the next 10 years.”

Ms. Hardy began auditioning for record labels and in 1961 landed a contract with Disques Vogue, which released her self-titled debut album the next year. *AllMusic* reviewer Stewart Mason described it as “the ‘60s pop equivalent of Shaker furniture: free of ornamentation and exquisitely simple.”

Yet Ms. Hardy was largely disappointed with the record, and astonished by the glowing

reaction to its most popular song. “‘Tous les garçons?’ Tiny voice, trite little melody, inconsequential song,” she told the *Daily Telegraph* in 2005. “Of course, I am pleased with what it did for me, but I am not remotely proud of it.”

Taking the advice of French singer Richard Anthony, she worked for several years in England, where she said she was able to find better session musicians — including guitarist Jimmy Page — and could exercise more control over her music.

In 1981 she married her long-time partner, actor and singer Jacques Dutronc. They had a son, Thomas, and later separated, though they never divorced. Information on survivors was not immediately available.

Ms. Hardy released her last studio album, “Personne d’autre” (“No One Else”), in 2018, two years after being hospitalized for a coma. Her health had declined, and doctors thought she would never wake up. But she managed to return to the recording studio to reflect on her mortality in songs such as “Train spécial,” about taking a one-way trip out of the world.

That same year, she published an English translation of her memoir, “The Despair of Monkeys and Other Trifles,” in which she wrote about her mother’s painful nerve disease and decision to die by euthanasia; her sister’s paranoid schizophrenia; and her father’s murder by a younger male lover. The book’s title referenced the monkey puzzle tree, which has pointed, scalelike leaves that reminded her of “men who have caused me despair.”

In a 2021 interview with the magazine *Femme Actuelle*, Ms. Hardy argued in favor of assisted suicide, which is illegal in France, as a way to avoid additional pain following her years of radiation and immunotherapy treatments. But she also sounded at peace.

“Life is an initiatory school where we learn through mistakes and trials that try to make us better understand what we had not understood until then,” she said. “The moments when I behaved badly were due to obliviousness, ignorance, selfishness... Remembering the happy moments with Jacques and Thomas does me a lot of good. I long for it.”

BROTHER MARQUIS, 57

A mischievous mainstay of unabashedly raunchy rap group 2 Live Crew

BY HARRISON SMITH

Brother Marquis, a foundational member of the rap group 2 Live Crew, the raunchy Miami-based outfit whose sexually explicit lyrics delighted fans and dismayed local prosecutors, sparking a national debate over freedom of expression, died June 3 at his home in Gadsden, Ala. He was 57.

His death was confirmed by 2 Live Crew’s manager, DJ Debo, who said the cause was not known. The group announced his death on social media Monday but did not share details.

Well before the emergence of rap provocateurs such as Ludacris, Lil’ Kim and Megan Thee Stallion, 2 Live Crew honed a sound that was unabashedly coarse and crude, dancing across the bounds of good taste while incorporating dirty words and titillating descriptions of sex in songs such as “We Want Some P---y,” “Hoochie Mama” and “One and One,” a filthy reinterpretation of the Kinks’ “All Day and All of the Night.”

Ignoring critics who deemed the group’s lyrics sexist and misogynistic, Brother Marquis (born Mark Demetrius Ross) provided some of its most mischievous rhymes, helping anchor a core lineup that included DJ Mr. Mixx (David Hobbs) and fellow rappers Fresh Kid Ice (Christopher Wong Won) and Luke Skywalker (Luther Campbell).

“I’m like a dog in heat, a freak without warning,” Marquis rapped on one of 2 Live Crew’s biggest singles, “I have an appetite for sex, ‘cause me so horny.”

Featuring dialogue sampled from the Stanley Kubrick film “Full Metal Jacket,” “Me So Horny” became the group’s first Top 40 hit, topping the Bill-



RAYMOND BOYD/GETTY IMAGES

Rappers Brother Marquis, right, and Luke Skywalker of 2 Live Crew perform at Chicago’s International Amphitheatre in 1990.

board rap chart and opening 2 Live Crew’s third album, “As Nasty as They Wanna Be” (1989), with a bang — or rather a moan.

The album horrified conservatives, evangelicals and anti-pornography crusaders, and in 1990 it became the first record to be declared legally obscene by a federal court. U.S. District Judge Jose Gonzalez wrote in his opinion that the record appealed “to dirty thoughts and the loins, not to the intellect and the mind.”

Days later, a Fort Lauderdale record store owner was arrested for selling the album to an undercover officer. After performing songs from the album at a show in Hollywood, Fla., Marquis and the group’s two other rappers were also arrested on misdemeanor obscenity charges. (Mr. Mixx, who had been manning the turntables, avoided the charges, which carried a maximum sentence of a year in prison and a \$1,000 fine.)

While the store owner’s con-



FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES

From left, 2 Live Crew’s Mr. Mixx, Luke Skywalker and Brother Marquis at the 2007 Soul Train Music Awards in Pasadena, Calif.

viction was overturned on appeal, the 2 Live Crew rappers were acquitted after a trial that included expert testimony from literary scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr., then a professor at Duke University.

“These young artists are acting out, to lively dance music, a parodic exaggeration of the age-old stereotypes of the oversexed black female and male,” Gates wrote in an opinion piece for the *New York Times*, defending the group against accusations of obscenity. He added that in 2 Live Crew’s music, “parody reigns supreme, from a take-off of standard blues to a spoof of the black power movement; their off-color nursery rhymes are part of a venerable Western tradition.”

A federal appeals court overturned the initial obscenity ruling in 1992. The U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear additional arguments in the case, although in 1994 it ruled on

behalf of 2 Live Crew in a separate dispute, concluding that the group’s parody of “Oh, Pretty Woman,” the Roy Orbison hit, constituted fair use rather than copyright infringement.

The group split up a few years later, although for a time its members’ legal issues only enhanced the group’s appeal. In the wake of their obscenity conviction, they released “Banned in the U.S.A.” (1990), their highest-charting single, which reached No. 20 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 and sampled Bruce Springsteen’s “Born in the U.S.A.,” as well as a news report discussing the obscenity case.

“The First Amendment gave us freedom of speech,” Marquis rapped in the song, “so what you sayin’, it didn’t include me? I like to party and have a good time/ There’s nothin’ but pleasure written in our rhymes.”

Sources vary on his date of birth, but according to DJ Debo

he was born April 2, 1967. He grew up in Rochester, N.Y., and as a teenager he moved to Riverside, Calif., where he started making rap records in high school and met Mr. Mixx, a founder of 2 Live Crew.

The group began as a trio without Marquis, who joined when he was about 19, after one of the original members dropped out. He was featured on the group’s 1986 debut album, “The 2 Live Crew Is What We Are,” which helped pioneer and popularize the booming sound known as Miami bass.

Information on survivors was not immediately available.

After the release of the 1998 album “The Real One,” Brother Marquis left 2 Live Crew and worked on solo projects, later reuniting with Fresh Kid Ice, who died in 2017. Away from the group, Marquis also rapped on the 1993 song “99 Problems” with Ice-T. The rapper credited Marquis with coining the song’s classic hook — “I got 99 problems, but a b--- ain’t one” — which was further popularized by Jay-Z in a song of the same name.


Long after 2 Live Crew’s core lineup split up, Marquis distanced himself from some of the group’s lyrics, telling a *VladTV* interviewer in 2022, “I really wasn’t comfortable with all the profanity that we were putting into the music, but when you see the reaction in the community and everyone’s loving it, you know, you kind of go with it.”

He was proud, he said, of the role that he and the group played in promoting free expression. “No one can ever take away from me what we did,” he told the magazine *Heat Seekers*. “I can take that to the grave that we made a difference.”

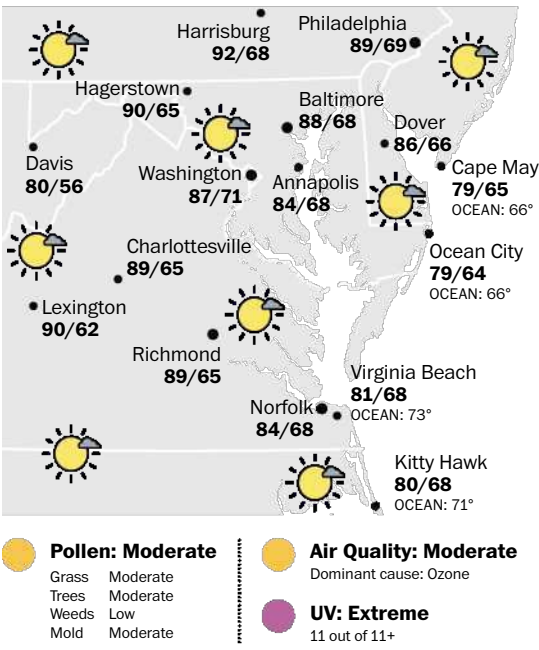
THE WEATHER

WASHINGTONPOST.COM/WEATHER • X: @CAPITALWEATHER • FACEBOOK.COM/CAPITALWEATHER

Hot, with isolated rain chances

 Sunshine dominates much of the day. Some clouds bubble up in the midday and afternoon heat as highs end up mainly in the upper 80s to around or a hair above 90. Isolated showers or storms could dot the area in the afternoon, with most spots staying dry. Winds blow from the south and southwest around 10 mph.

REGION









Blue Ridge: Today, mostly sunny; very warm in northern parts. High 70 to 80. Winds southwest 6–12 mph. Tonight, mainly clear. Low 58 to 62. Winds west-southwest 6–12 mph. Friday, partly sunny; a strong thunderstorm in spots in northern parts.

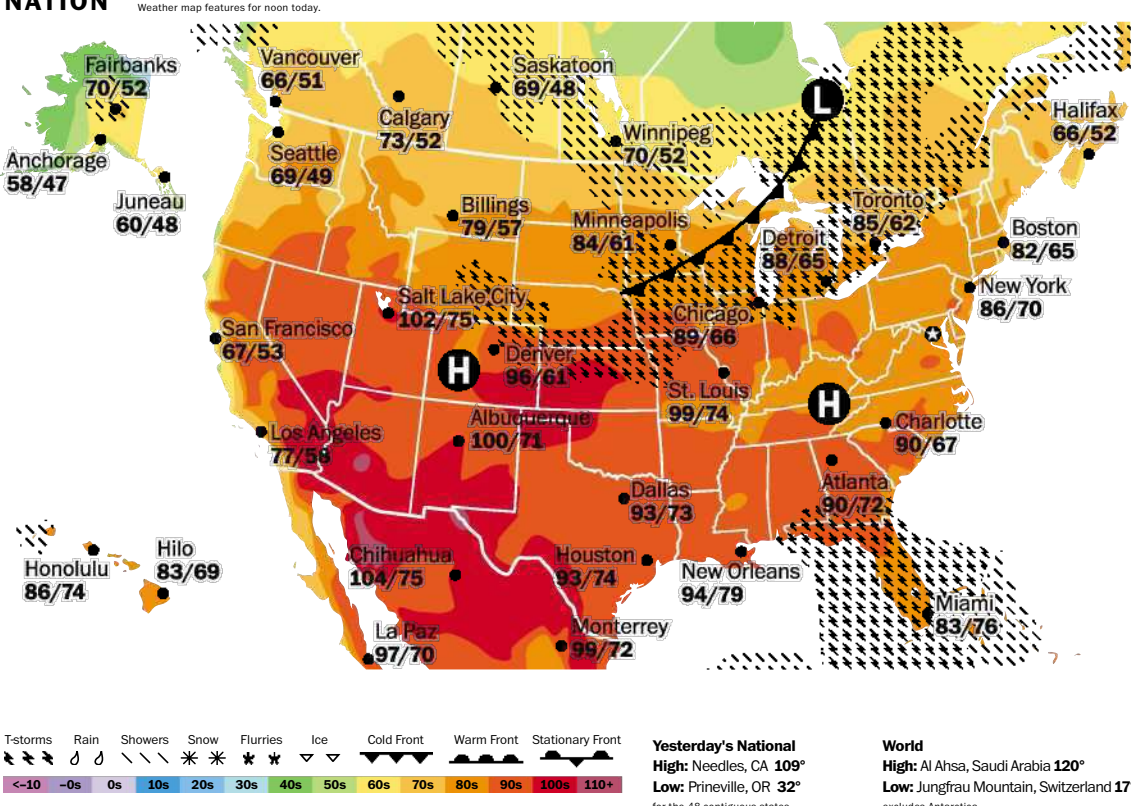
Atlantic beaches: Today, mostly sunny; humid in the north. High 79 to 84. Winds south 7–14 mph. Tonight, mainly clear. Low 64 to 68. Winds south 7–14 mph. Friday, mostly sunny. High 79 to 85. Winds south 8–16 mph. Saturday, sunny. High 80 to 84.

Waterways: *Upper Potomac River:* Today, mostly sunny. Wind south 6–12 knots. Waves less than a foot. Visibility unrestricted. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay:* Today, partly sunny. Wind south 7–14 knots. Waves 1–2 feet on the Lower Potomac and the Chesapeake Bay. • *River Stages:* The stage at Little Falls will be around 3.20 feet today, with no change of 3.20 Friday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

Today's tides (High tides in Bold)				
Washington	2:01 a.m.	8:35 a.m.	2:06 p.m.	8:59 p.m.
Annapolis	4:57 a.m.	11:03 a.m.	5:37 p.m.	none
Ocean City	1:05 a.m.	7:38 a.m.	1:36 p.m.	7:46 p.m.
Norfolk	3:01 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	3:41 p.m.	9:58 p.m.
Point Lookout	1:06 a.m.	7:11 a.m.	1:53 p.m.	8:09 p.m.

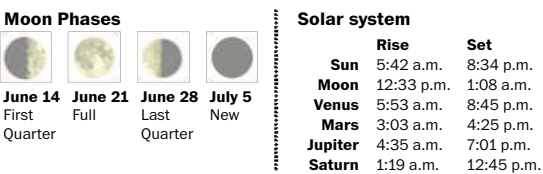
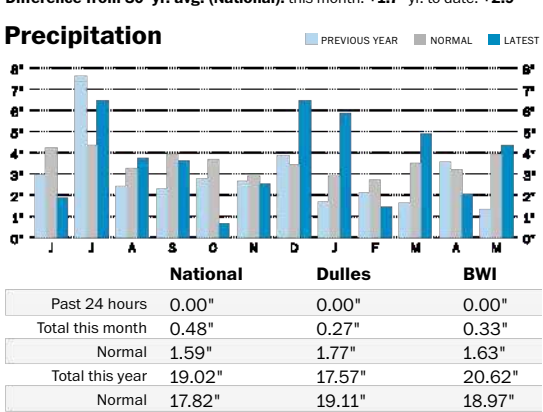
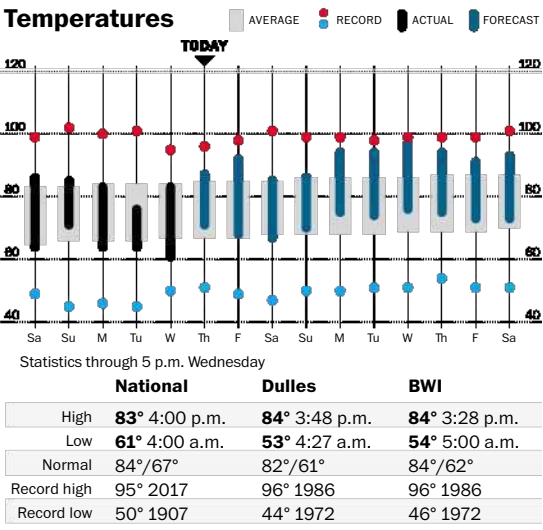
Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Mostly sunny	T-storm	Sunny, breezy	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny
					
87° 71°	92° 68°	85° 67°	86° 70°	94° 75°	94° 74°
FEELS*: 92°	FEELS: 98°	FEELS: 86°	FEELS: 89°	FEELS: 97°	FEELS: 97°
CHNCE PRECIP: 0%	P: 40%	P: 0%	P: 10%	P: 20%	P: 20%
WIND: S 7-14 mph	W: WSW 8-16 mph	W: NNW 10-20 mph	W: SE 6-12 mph	W: S 8-16 mph	W: S 7-14 mph
HUMIDITY: High	H: High	H: Moderate	H: Moderate	H: High	H: Very High

NATION



NATIONAL	Today		Tomorrow		Des Moines		90/62/t	89/66/s	Oklahoma City	93/70/s	94/69/s	WORLD	Today		Tomorrow	
					Detroit	88/65/t	80/57/s	Omaha	92/61/t	88/65/s	Abidjan		74/55/r	76/55/s		
Albany, NY	87/67/pc	75/59/t	El Paso	109/82/s	106/76/s	Orlando	91/73/t	89/74/t				Amsterdam	64/55/c	66/55/c		
Albuquerque	100/71/s	85/63/pc	Fairbanks, AK	70/52/c	74/53/pc	Philadelphia	89/69/s	93/66/t				Athens	99/74/ta	94/74/ta		
Anchorage	58/47/c	64/52/s	Fargo, ND	82/55/s	82/65/pc	Phoenix	108/84/s	107/81/s				Auckland	62/56/pc	63/51/sh		
Atlanta	90/72/s	95/75/s	Hartford, CT	89/65/s	87/64/t	Pittsburgh	87/65/pc	78/56/t				Baghdad	113/87/t	116/88/r		
Austin	95/71/pc	95/70/s	Honolulu	86/74/sh	85/75/sh	Portland, ME	77/62/pc	78/59/t				Beijing	97/82/pc	98/81/t		
Baltimore	88/68/s	94/64/t	Houston	93/74/pc	96/75/s	Portland, OR	77/52/s	71/53/pc				Bangkok	96/72/c	94/67/t		
Billings, MT	79/57/s	87/58/t	Indianapolis	90/68/s	84/61/t	Providence, RI	81/64/s	80/63/t				Berlin	65/48/pc	71/55/c		
Birmingham	93/74/s	97/72/s	Jackson, MS	90/66/s	93/67/t	Raleigh, NC	91/64/s	96/71/s				Bogota	68/50/r	68/51/s		
Bismarck, ND	82/50/s	80/62/pc	Jacksonville, FL	92/71/t	92/69/t	Reno, NV	97/61/s	92/55/s				Buenos Aires	65/55/pc	67/54/r		
Boise	93/61/s	85/57/s	Kansas City, MO	96/69/t	88/67/t	Richmond	89/65/s	92/66/s				Buenos Aires	76/61/c	66/54/r		
Boston	82/65/s	81/64/t	Las Vegas	106/80/s	107/82/s	Sacramento	85/56/s	92/55/s				Cairo	105/80/s	110/82/s		
Buffalo	82/65/pc	74/56/t	Little Rock	92/67/s	96/72/s	St. Louis	99/74/pc	91/69/t				Caracas	78/67/c	78/67/t		
Burlington, VT	83/65/pc	78/56/t	Los Angeles	77/58/pc	78/60/pc	St. Thomas, VI	90/80/t	90/79/c				Copenhagen	60/52/sh	64/57/c		
Charleston, SC	88/69/pc	93/74/s	Louisville	91/69/s	90/64/t	Salt Lake City	102/75/s	96/73/pc				Dakar	85/75/pc	86/78/ta		
Charlotte, NC	88/61/s	86/60/t	Memphis	90/69/s	96/75/s	San Diego	70/61/c	69/61/pc				Dublin	60/50/r	60/46/r		
Charlotte, WV	90/67/pc	94/74/s	Miami	83/76/t	82/75/s	San Francisco	67/53/pc	71/54/pc				Edinburgh	64/50/r	61/43/sh		
Cheyenne, WY	83/58/t	77/59/t	Milwaukee	88/63/t	72/57/s	San Juan, PR	91/80/t	90/78/t				Frankfurt	68/51/pc	68/58/c		
Chicago	91/66/t	79/60/s	Minneapolis	84/61/pc	82/63/c	Seattle	69/49/t	62/47/sh				Geneva	71/53/pc	67/57/sh		
Cincinnati	88/67/s	84/61/t	Nashville	93/66/s	94/70/c	Spokane, WA	80/55/s	71/50/pc				Ham, Bermuda	82/76/c	82/76/c		
Cleveland	90/68/pc	77/58/t	New Orleans	94/79/s	94/78/s	Syracuse	89/66/pc	77/56/t				Helsinki	63/45/s	63/44/pc		
Dallas	93/73/s	94/73/s	New York City	86/70/s	87/64/t	Tampa	91/78/t	90/80/t				Ho Chi Minh City	97/80/r	96/80/t		
Denver	96/61/pc	82/61/t	Norfolk	84/68/s	85/72/s	Wichita	100/73/s	95/72/s				Hong Kong	91/83/c	91/81/r		

OFFICIAL RECORD



Amabul	107/80/c	107/80/c	Rio de Janeiro	81/68/s	84/70/s
anad	90/74/pc	88/69/pc	Riyadh	112/84/pc	110/84/s
usalem	99/75/s	100/75/s	Rome	77/57/s	77/56/s
annsburg	67/39/s	68/41/s	San Salvador	82/71/s	84/70/t
guston, Jam.	89/63/s	88/62/c	Santiago	55/45/s	60/38/s
akata	91/81/t	88/81/t	Sarajevo	75/65/sh	78/52/sh
os	99/84/pc	98/85/s	Seoul	90/63/s	91/68/s
os	71/58/t	71/58/t	Shanghai	88/72/c	87/72/c
on	88/77/t	84/75/c	Singapore	90/79/t	90/80/t
on	68/60/pc	69/62/pc	Stockholm	57/44/c	63/47/sh
don	76/59/s	76/58/pc	Sydney	62/51/c	61/54/s
nrida	62/55/s	66/50/pc	Taipei City	94/78/t	96/79/t
nrida	81/58/s	86/60/s	Tehran	94/73/c	92/71/pc
ntreal	93/81/t	92/80/t	Tokyo	83/73/s	87/71/s
ntreal	86/59/pc	85/60/c	Toronto	85/62/t	76/54/pc
mbai	80/66/t	77/52/t	Vienna	66/48/pc	72/52/c
mbai	92/56/sh	73/56/pc	Warsaw	68/50/s	69/53/c
robi	77/55/s	77/56/s			
Delhi	113/91/pc	109/90/s			
awawa	63/47/sh	63/49/pc			
awawa	79/62/t	75/50/c			
gue	69/54/s	71/51/s			
gue	63/45/sh	71/54/pc			

Key: s= sunny, pc= partly cloudy, c= cloudy, sh= showers, t= thunderstorms, sf= snow flurries, sn= snow, h=

Source: [AccuWeather.com](#). US Army Centralized
Allergies Extract Lab (pollen data) airmowr.org
(last updated); National Weather Service.

* **AccuWeather's RealFeel Temperature™**
combines over a dozen factors for an accurate
measure of how the conditions really "feel."

Prominent D.C. defense attorney is acquitted on sexual assault charges

CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK



ILLUSTRATION BY ALINA SPATZ/THE WASHINGTON POST; PHOTO OF TOMMY RICHMAN BY JESSE GRANT/GETTY IMAGES FOR IHEARTRADIO; PHOTO OF SABRINA CARPENTER BY ANDY KROPA/INVISION/AP

SUMMER'S HARMONY

The simpatico 'Espresso' and 'Million Dollar Baby' are top contenders to be this year's song of the season

BY CHRIS RICHARDS

Somewhere in the disorienting swirl of the past decade — an era of American life that has felt not unlike the fated flushing of some cosmic toilet — the “song of the summer” stopped being something worth talking about. As a concept, it had been made obsolete by our siloed smartphone culture diets, by our conflicted national mood, by our mounting despair over climate change, by our irreconcilable polarization over Drake. Pretty soon, nobody was having any fun making inherently unwinnable arguments about which pop song might best characterize the collective human temperament on an overheating blue-green dot.

There were still plenty of bright, new hit singles decorating the air, of course. We still heard them at block parties and ballparks, boardwalks and barbecues. Summer of 2020

aside, the music never stopped. But now, on the other side of the pandemic, too many of us are choosing to experience public life through our phones, where it's easy to wonder whether the algorithm is offering everyone different sno-cone flavors. That makes the summer's rising temperatures feel like the most concrete aspect of our consensus reality, even as the boundaries of summer itself bleed into the adjoining seasons. Is there a song big enough to encompass all that?

Against all odds this summer, at least two are going for it: Sabrina Carpenter's “Espresso” and Tommy Richman's “Million Dollar Baby.” Both are levitating near the top of the Billboard Hot 100, surrounded by other respectable SOTS candidates with disparate backstories. Over here we have Kendrick Lamar's “Not Like Us,” a highly danceable evisceration of Drake from the archrivals'

historic springtime beef. Over there, outsider country smashes from Post Malone (“I Had Some Help”) and Shaboozey (“A Bar Song (Tipsy)”), both of whom leapfrogged Beyoncé after guesting on her hyper-ballyhooed “Cowboy Carter” album back in March. The story around Carpenter and Richman is much tidier: *Ta-dah*. They're suddenly up here, too. And since nobody really saw them coming, nobody really knows how far they'll go.

“Espresso” might go forever. Carpenter is a 25-year-old, medium-voiced Disney Channel alum who sounds like she's trying to conjure infinity by roller skating figure eights in the hot-pink shadow of last summer's “Barbie” soundtrack. (To her great credit, she somehow doesn't wipe out while singing the phrase “dream-come-trueed” as a compound verb in the past tense.) Her backing track is

SEE CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK ON C2

The meaning of ‘mother,’ and why Jill is Hunter’s



Monica Hesse

Jill Biden entered the Delaware courthouse just after Hunter Biden's guilty verdict was announced on Tuesday morning. In video footage, she can be seen walking quickly and purposefully, eyes

ahead. When she emerged a short while later, it was with the newly convicted Hunter. On his left, he clasped hands with his wife, Melissa. On his right, he clasped hands with his — now, how should we refer to Jill?

It is, apparently, a complicated question for some people. Last week, I wrote a column that got a lot of reader feedback, and not in the way I'd expected. The column was about Hunter Biden's trial, and in it I had briefly referred to Jill Biden as Hunter's mother. She wasn't, readers informed me; I had gotten it wrong.

The simplest reading is that those readers were correct. Jill Biden is not Hunter's biological mother. His biological mom, Neilia, died in the same car accident that killed Hunter's younger sister and seriously wounded Hunter and his brother, Beau, when Hunter was only 2. Jill began dating his father a few years after that and married him when Hunter was 7. Ergo, she is Hunter's stepmother.

The thing is, I knew all of that when I referred to Jill Biden as Hunter's mother. It wasn't an unthinking error. It was a choice, based on other things I knew.

I knew, for example, when, during the investigation into Hunter's gun purchase, Jill Biden in 2022 told reporters, “I'm his mom,” and, “I love my son.”

I knew that in Joe Biden's 2007 memoir, he recalled an incident in which a magazine fact-checker called

SEE HESSE ON C4

BOOK WORLD

The women who helped revolutionize French fashion

BY HILARY DAVIDSON

Three incredible women — Juliette Récamier, Térézia Tallien and Marie Joséphe Rose Tascher de La Pagerie (who became Joséphine Bonaparte) — converged in Paris in the years leading up to the French Revolution. Known as the “Three Graces,” after goddesses popular as beauty ideals, they sailed through the upheavals that roiled France in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, battered by events but in fine personal style.

Anne Higonnet celebrates these women in “Liberty Equality Fashion,” a triple biography that examines how they emerged as unlikely leaders of French fashion from their outsider origins in Lyon, Spain and the French Caribbean. Weaving together tales of family, fortunes, clothes and friendship, the book is a breathless, sensationalist read, racing through twists and turns of their improbable yet true experiences.

All three women used clothes to transform themselves at a time when women's clothing itself was transforming. The fashionable silhouette moved rapidly from geometric structured lines created by stays, petticoats and enormous skirts in crisp European silks, to lighter, softer, washable cotton fabrics, especially imported Indian muslin, worn with narrower skirts and increasingly higher waistlines. This style, which Higonnet terms “revolutionary dress,” became the dominant look for two decades.

Myriad cultural and economic influences came together to create a perfect storm in 1790s fashion: centuries of imported Asian textiles and their mutual influence on European luxury goods; colonization of Caribbean and Indian areas, leading to increasingly accessible cotton production; dress practices of colonial, Indigenous and enslaved people in warmer climates; neoclassical reappreciations of the ancient world; and more. This complex global story has fascinated dress and textile historians for decades, and there is a great deal of excellent scholarship on it, including Sonia Ashmore's 2012 book, “Muslin,” Beverly Lemire and Giorgio Riello's ongoing work, and

SEE BOOK WORLD ON C2

No franks: Nathan's bans champ Chestnut over endorsement

BY TIM CARMAN

Joey “Jaws” Chestnut, widely considered the greatest professional eater in history, won't be allowed to compete at the Nathan's Famous hot dog eating contest after signing an endorsement deal with plant-based company Impossible Foods.

The deal with Impossible, which is trying to attract more meat eaters with its new plant-based hot dog, does not prohibit Chestnut from entering eating competitions, including Nathan's Famous International Hot Dog-Eating Contest on July 4. “We love Joey and support him in any contest he chooses. It's OK to experiment with a new dog. Meat eaters shouldn't have to be exclusive to just one wiener,” the California-based company said in a statement.

But Nathan's demands loyalty from its competitors — at least when it comes to hot dog brands, said George Shea, chair and co-founder of Major League Eating, the governing body for numerous competitive eating contests, including Nathan's. A key agreement for all competitors at the Nathan's contest — where



2023 PHOTO BY BRENDAN MCDERMID/REUTERS

Joey Chestnut won't be competing in this year's Nathan's Famous International Hot Dog-Eating Contest because of his affiliation with Impossible Foods.

people compete for the “Mustard Belt” and prize money in front of ESPN's cameras — is to “not represent a rival hot dog brand,” Shea told The Washington Post.

The latest contract between Chestnut and Nathan's had expired, Shea said, and the two sides were negotiating a new one when Chestnut announced he had signed a deal with a “plant-based firm.” Nathan's didn't know then that it was with Impossible.

Shea said Nathan's had asked Chestnut for a potential carve-out: Could he represent all other products in the company's line, except for its plant-based hot dogs?

“And they said no, and that was where we got to an impasse,” Shea said. “We just got surprised by this.”

It wouldn't be the only surprise for Shea and Nathan's. Chestnut also has a mano-a-mano eating contest with Takeru “Kobi” Kobayashi scheduled for Labor Day on Netflix, the streaming service announced Wednesday.

Impossible Foods wouldn't comment on its deal with Chestnut. But in signing

SEE HOT DOG ON C4

The call and response of two of summer’s hottest songs



ANDY KROPA/INVISION/AP



JESSE WENSING/ANP/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



BRETT CARLSEN/GETTY IMAGES FOR SPOTIFY

CRITIC’S NOTEBOOK FROM C1

congenial disco fluff — presumably, the same pillow fill they use to make the clouds in heaven — but Carpenter opts to play the cool jerk throughout, flaunting her coffeelike ability to keep some hopeless boy tossing and turning at night. “Is it that sweet?” she asks about her smitten insomniac, then rolls her eyes. “I guess so.” This is a song that invokes a

scalding beverage via fructose and fizz, but really, it’s a paean to the joys of being a little mean.

With its tensile strength being tested around-the-clock on TikTok, Richman’s “Million Dollar Baby” feels casually indomitable in different ways. This is a song about desire — a sketch of a thirst spasm, a snippet of a pickup routine, a chorus-verse-chorus of a half-tune where the nubby bass line creeps up on us from some

forgotten ’80s electro jam, smothered in the funk of forty thousand years. As for Richman, he comes from Woodbridge, Va., and in addition to having previously collaborated with Maryland singer Brent Faiyaz, his father was the original drummer in the thrashy D.C. hardcore band Malefice. It’s all in there. When the 24-year-old sings in his shrieky falsetto about how he “could clean up good for you,” the

desperation in his yelp will make you hope he keeps it funky in perpetuity.

Here’s the fun part. As superb and distinct as these two pop hits feel right now, are they ultimately in some kind of codependent, coinkydink dialogue with each other? Think about it. “Espresso” is a song about how good it feels to feel wanted. “Million Dollar Baby” is a song about how good it feels to want. That “one boy

Clockwise from top left, the artists whose songs are racing up the Billboard charts include Sabrina Carpenter (“Espresso”), Shaboozey (“A Bar Song (Tipsy)”) and Kendrick Lamar (“Not Like Us”).

[who] won’t stop calling” in “Espresso” sounds a lot like the guy grousing about how “you still don’t notice me” in “Million Dollar Baby.” Or flip it the other way. The “diva” in “Million Dollar Baby” could easily be the very same person in “Espresso” who’s “working late ‘cause I’m a singer.” What if these two songs don’t need to be the biggest, hottest songs on this big, hot planet? What if they just need each other?

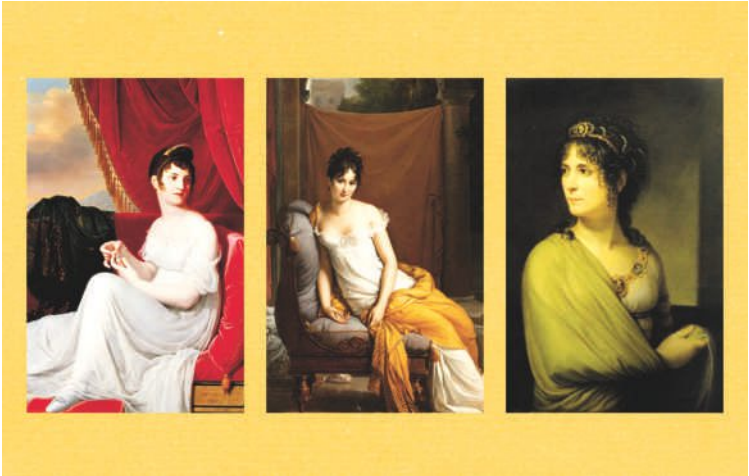
Some revelations in book about French fashion history aren’t very revelatory

BOOK WORLD FROM C1

exhibition catalogue books such as “Revolution in Fashion: European Clothing, 1715-1815” (1989), edited by Jean Starobinski.

Higonnet, a professor of art history at Barnard, traces some of these same interconnections while examining how fashion changed and the role each of the Three Graces played. Part of the book’s breathlessness comes from excited discovery of material new to Higonnet. Within fashion history fields though, her finds are well known.

For instance, what Higonnet cites as “crucial missing evidence” whose “loss had misled historians for more than two centuries” are 499 costume plates in the Morgan Library collection in New York, from the magazine *Journal des Dames et des Modes*. These plates, scattered decoratively in full color throughout Higonnet’s book, include many well-known images that have been used to illustrate fashion histories since at least 1965, especially Aileen Ribeiro’s 1988 book, “Fashion in the French Revolution” (which doesn’t feature in Higonnet’s source notes). Many plates were online long before the National Library of France digitized its complete collection by 2019. Describing these images as “a lost treasure trove” and the period as “a radical movement history had forgotten” is therefore a stretch.



HEALEY PURCHASE FUND B; MUSÉE CARNAVALET, PARIS; WIKIMEDIA COMMONS; PRIVATE COLLECTION

From left, Térézia Tallien, Juliette Récamier and Joséphine Bonaparte, whom Anne Higonnet celebrates in her new book.

Statements like this undermine Higonnet’s claim that the book offers a “startling vision of fashion.” Instead, the book trips on its own conceptual hems. Higonnet’s argument is full contradictions and bold assertions that aren’t backed by evidence.

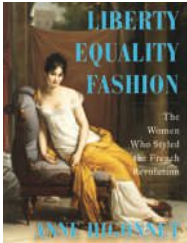
Central to the problem is that Higonnet mistakes correlation as causation. Yes, Juliette, Térézia and Joséphine wore the new style. They certainly didn’t concoct it “in one stroke” in 1794 and then spread it everywhere else. All the elements were long in place — as the earlier chapters show. The larger group of extreme female fashionistas dubbed the *Merveilleuses* also helped the style’s popularity

within France. They get a single mention here. Higonnet falls into what could be called the Beau Brummell trap. Over the decades this Regency dandy has been cited as the cause of nearly every major contemporary menswear development. But he and the Three Graces are better used as exemplars. It would be more fruitful and accurate to consider why and how their style successfully encapsulated the wider fashion shifts of their age and the nature of their influence, instead of insisting they began it all.

Moreover, Higonnet’s narrow French focus ignores other cultural influences, especially the changes created and spread

by Britain’s tastemakers, Caribbean colonies and the East India Company. For example, while Higonnet touches on the long history of Indo-European textile cultural exchange, her argument forces the heroines’ Indian dress elements to be a singular innovation, not a product of centuries-old two-way traffic. Similarly, Orientalism influenced 18th-century fashion for decades; these three women didn’t suddenly adopt turbans inspired by one Parisian visit by Indian dignitaries in 1788. Higonnet further leaps to make masculine tailored elements long used in women’s woolen jackets and riding habits a new kind of androgynous gender challenge.

The evidence cited is sparse, used like steppingstones of facts joined by long jumps of conjecture, misinterpretation, exaggeration and speculation to mold them into the predetermined thesis. For instance, Higonnet asserts that “the revolutionary dress felt like miraculous relief. You were suddenly freed from constriction, load, and drag. You felt weightless and mobile [c]ompared to what you had been obliged to wear before.” Maybe, but we only have the author’s word for it, although there are plenty of firsthand accounts where women talk about their thoughts on these dress changes. The modern judgments and opinions on



**LIBERTY
EQUALITY
FASHION**
**The Women
Who Styled the
French
Revolution**
By Anne
Higonnet
W.W. Norton.
304 pp. \$35

the clothing examined, combined with lack of subject familiarity, reinforce many tired fashion myths while claiming to destroy them.

Juliette, Térézia and Joséphine were gutsy, powerful women who survived and thrived in the most interesting of times with outstanding intelligence and style. They rightly deserve a biography that highlights them as strong individuals rather than accessories to men. To look at their intertwined lives together is an innovative and productive approach, and they couldn’t ask for a more passionate champion than Higonnet.

However, these women are compelling enough without recasting them as super-modern girl bosses. The claims of fashion liberation are made so insistently they deny agency to the masses of other women at the time also individually making choices about what clothing to wear. The dominant perspective of 21st-century assumptions further drowns out what history relates about women’s encounters with dress. It’s a joy to get to know the Three Graces better, but as fashion history, this book is as flimsy as muslin.

Hilary Davidson is a dress, textile and fashion historian and curator. Her books include “Dress in the Age of Jane Austen” and “Jane Austen’s Wardrobe.”

He pays rent, she does chores. Now she worries he views her as a sex maid.



Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

Dear Carolyn: My boyfriend and I both are in our mid-20s and moved in together this summer. He makes more money than I do and also gets help from his family, while I have student loans and get no help. He suggested that he pay the rent while I do the laundry, cooking and cleaning. I was okay with this deal, since I’d been doing all that stuff anyway, but I’ve started to worry about how he sees me because of it.

Since moving in, I found out he wanted me to do that stuff because he’s never done any of it. His parents did everything for him. Literally everything, including his laundry, making all appointments for him and paying all his bills — providing the

money and sending it off, too. His dad even put gas in his car every time it needed it.

Now my boyfriend acts like gassing up his own car and paying his own bills is such a big, stressful deal. Also, he hasn’t made one appointment since we moved in together. He recently asked whether I would book his haircuts and dental appointments for him. When I said no, he got really upset and brought up how he pays the rent.

My best friend says he views me as a maid he has sex with. Do you think this is true? Is our relationship doomed?

— *Treated Like His Secretary/Maid*

Treated Like His Secretary/Maid: Please tell your boyfriend that not being a complete jackhole isn’t as hard as he makes it seem.

And as soon as you’re making more money, sign up your best friend for a chocolate-of-the-



ILLUSTRATION BY NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

month subscription as a reward for general excellence in the role.

For funsies, though, let’s say your boyfriend doesn’t see you as just a sex maid. Let’s say he (also) loves you for who you are.

Then you’d still have the problem of his petulance, helplessness and petulant helplessness. That is not just an “Oh, his parents did everything”

problem. Because:

- He is not goo.
- Sometimes parents who try to do everything get shut down by their kids, who actually want to take care of themselves.
- Sometimes parents do everything and then, when the kids are set loose on the world, the kids say: “Whoa! I never learned this thing that my entire age

cohort knows how to do!” And the kids set about learning the thing ASAP — often embarrassed and hoping no one else notices they have the skills of an oblivious 8-year-old. Some of these newly free-standing people never look back and become self-reliant globe-trotting laundry-slayers.

Therefore, when someone raised in a cave sees daylight for the first time when he’s in his 20s, and his response is to flood you with shame and assignments as he races back into the darkness, you can say the problem originated with his parents, sure — but he put his sentient adult stamp on it.

Or did he make you do that for him, too?

Re: Maid: Start small. Your boyfriend should do ONE chore, something, anything: sweeping, toilet cleaning, dusting, unloading the dishes. That is still “fair” in a he-pays-more, you-do-

more split. If he can’t do even one chore, then, yes, you’re the maid, and you should leave.

— *Anonymous*

Anonymous: Yeah, no. The ONE chore is for the letter writer — to pack up and get the hmph out.

Re: Maid: Don’t “start small”! It is NOT YOUR JOB to teach him to be an adult [head on desk]. Dump him!

— *[Head on Desk]*

[Head on Desk]: Y’okay? I’ve found a cold beverage pressed to the forehead can help. (Briefly — don’t want to bruise a good drink.)

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.

Now a civilian, BTS singer wants to salute fans with hugs

K-pop superstar Jin says he was ‘the mood maker’ for his military unit

BY ADELA SULIMAN AND JINTAK HAN

Jin, the oldest member of the South Korean pop sensation BTS, completed his mandatory national service on Wednesday, leaving a military barracks in fatigues — free to resume his musical career.

Jin, 31, whose legal name is Kim Seok-jin, is the first of the seven-person K-pop group to complete his military service in South Korea. He stepped out of a military base in Yeoncheon, in the country’s north, and gave a final salute to his cohort before being met by some of his fellow bandmates. RM, wearing a blue overshirt and navy hat, played their hit song “Dynamite” on a saxophone.

“It’s been such a long time since I was last on camera,” Jin told fans in a live chat later Wednesday, adding that his eyes were swollen from crying during his military discharge ceremony.

BTS announced a hiatus in group activities in June 2022 to focus on solo projects and later extended the break until



JUNG YEON-JE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

K-pop boy band BTS member Jin, left, is greeted by fellow BTS member RM after being discharged from his mandatory military service outside a military base in Yeoncheon, South Korea.

“around 2025” so they could complete their military service. The remaining six members — Suga, RM, J-Hope, Jimin, V and Jungkook — are currently completing their national service.

Earlier this week, the band’s record label, BigHit Music, advised fans not to show up at Jin’s military base on Wednesday to

prevent “overcrowding.” Instead, it urged fans in a statement to “please convey your warm regards and encouragement in your hearts.”

BigHit added that on Thursday, Jin will attend a fan event and give out free hugs to 1,000 people there. He is also planning to release a solo album later this

year, it said.

“I am back after a year and six months, everyone,” Jin, still wearing his military uniform, told fans in a live chat on Wednesday after leaving the barracks.

“I feel weird saying this myself, but I did really well in the military ... I was the mood

maker for our company. We got along so well that they all cried when I left,” he said.

Fans online congratulated Jin using the hashtag #Welcome-BackJin. “My family is back,” tweeted one fan. “Congratulations Jin, proud of you Jin,” wrote another. One simply said: “I’m crying.”

Even the U.S. Embassy in Seoul weighed in, saying: “Congratulations on completing your military service, Jin. We look forward to seeing [BTS] continue to make a positive impact in [South Korea] and around the world.”

Under a conscription system established to counter threats from North Korea, South Korea requires all able-bodied men in the country to serve at least 18 months in the armed forces by age 28. Conscripts serve for 18 months in the army and the marines, 20 months in the navy and 21 months in the air force.

Men with physical limitations or health concerns are allowed to perform alternative services, such as holding administrative roles in the community. Fellow BTS band member Suga is carrying out a social service role to complete his duties, reportedly due to a shoulder injury.

The band said in 2022 that all eligible BTS members would fulfill their military obligations. At the time, the decision ignited a social debate in South Korea

about whether pop stars should be excused from military service because of their artistic achievements. K-pop stars are not usually exempt, though South Korea does give exceptions to some athletes and award-winning artists — mostly classical and traditional, which do not include BTS.

The band’s legion of super-fans — somewhat aptly known as the “Army” — had called for exemptions for the group, arguing that the K-pop group had through its work heightened South Korea’s reputation as a cultural powerhouse and contributed to the country’s economy.

Jin had deferred his conscription until age 30 and began his 18-month stint in December 2022, unveiling at the time a military buzz cut.

BTS debuted in 2013 and has since been nominated for several Grammy awards and sold tens of millions of records with popular hits including “Stay,” “Fake Love” and “Butter.”

It has also collaborated with Western musicians including Nicki Minaj, Coldplay and Halsey and has taken on soft power roles addressing the United Nations and meeting with President Biden and other world leaders.

Min Joo Kim and Bryan Pietsch contributed to this report.

MONICA HESSE

It’s clear to me who Jill Biden is to Hunter, no matter what the sticklers say

HESSE FROM C1

him, confused. The fact-checker had asked young Beau and Hunter questions about their “stepmother,” but the boys had responded that they didn’t have a stepmother. “Neillia would always be *Mommy*,” Joe writes, “but Jill was *Mom*.”

She was the one, he wrote, who showed up at the boys’ school to volunteer at concession stands or the library, while Senate votes kept Joe in Washington late into the night. She was the one to cook for the boys, wash their clothes, drive them to sports practices, take them home.

I knew that when Hunter gave a deposition to Congress earlier this year, he talked about how, in the midst of his addiction, he’d made plans to rent an office space that could house the Biden Foundation: “It was a way that I was going to redeem myself, is that I was going to show everybody that I was okay, that I wasn’t out of my mind in the midst of addiction, and that what I was going to do is ... get my mom this beautiful corner office that was there, and she would love it, and we’d all be okay.”

At the risk of pointing out the obvious: Jill Biden, in this telling, is not merely a woman bound to Hunter via the legality of his father’s marriage. She is the woman whose presence signified that the family was going to survive.

None of this mattered to some of the readers who emailed me, disagreeing with my use of “mother” even after I laid out the points above. Some of them were simply sticklers, concerned with factual accuracy. “Did Jill legally adopt him?” one man asked. Some of them seemed weighed down by

their own experiences with their own blended families. But for others, the question was about something bigger than semantics. It was about the experiences that shape us and the wounds that never heal.

The death of Neillia Biden, they argued, was a catastrophic, formative experience for Hunter, a horrific origin story for the whole family. There may have been no drug addiction if Neillia hadn’t died; there may have been no trial. To refer to Jill as Hunter’s “mother” was to falsely imply that Hunter had grown up with a stability that he did not actually have. It was to deny him his rightful identity as a man who was broken by what he lost as a boy.

The relationship between parents and children can break a thousand times over, and it is the job of a parent to go searching for the pieces.

It’s a fair point, and it’s one that Hunter has wondered about, too. In 2021, he told CBS News that his battle with addiction came from a “feeling of never fitting in. It’s that hole,” he said, adding that “trauma is at the center of it.” The interviewer asked whether the trauma was the loss of Neillia, and Hunter replied: “Absolutely. And I don’t know why I had such a hard time ever admitting that.”

The U.S. Sun once reported

on what it described as text messages Hunter sent in 2018, including angry missives that he had written about Jill. In one alleged text, to his uncle, he called her a “vindictive moron.” In another, to his brother’s widow, Hallie, he reportedly wrote, “F--- my step mother,” referring to Jill as “selfish” and “silly.”

Reading those alleged texts, you wonder which of these words would have hurt Jill the most. I can’t imagine it was “selfish” or “silly,” but I do wonder whether it was the only other word that started with an “s.”

The first lady’s office did not comment on the authenticity of the alleged texts when I reached out this week, but it’s worth noting that, if authentic, they were sent on the heels of Jill leading the family’s charge to get Hunter into rehab after another drug relapse. You could read them as a window into his true feelings about the woman who has been an integral part of his life for 49 years, who had cared for him as her own because she thought of him as her own. Or you could read them as the words of a man in the thralls of a monstrous disease, lashing out against anyone who was trying to intervene. “I lashed out at my mother for deceiving me,” Hunter wrote in his memoir.

Regardless of what Jill and Hunter went through at the time, I presume they came to understand what many of us have come to understand: We are often cruellest to the people we love the most. We are often at our worst in front of people we know will love us no matter how wretched we are. The relationship between parents and children can break a thousand times over, and it is



JOE LAMBERTI FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Hunter Biden leaves federal court in Wilmington, Del., on Tuesday with his mother, Jill Biden, left, and his wife, Melissa Cohen-Biden. “We don’t say ‘step,’” Jill once wrote in her own memoir.

the job of a parent to go searching for the pieces, searching for the glue.

“I consider her to be my mother as much as one can possibly imagine,” Hunter wrote, a few years after those text messages, in his memoir, “Beautiful Things.”

“We don’t say ‘step,’” Jill wrote in her own memoir, explaining that it bothered her when others presumed to define her family’s relationships for them. “Intended or not, when people displayed their unwillingness to let us set the terms of our own family, it felt like a judgment, a dividing line between what they counted as true family versus mere

proximity.”

So. Was I incorrect in referring to Jill Biden as Hunter’s mother?

Here’s how I see it: Hunter Biden had a mommy, who was his mother, and she did the things that mommies do for the children they unconditionally love. She was the one who had birthed him, fed him, changed his diapers, taught him to sleep through the night. Her last name, Hunter, became his own.

And when she died, another woman arrived to care for him, in the way that every mother wishes her children be cared for, should something awful happen that would make it impossible for her to do the job

herself. This woman was the one to show up to Hunter’s trial, day after day. This woman was the one to cross oceans to get there, to ferry herself back and forth from France, or to leave behind her husband in Washington. She returned, day after day, to a courtroom in Wilmington to sit behind the man she had raised, who had said he loved her, who had called her names, who had been a source of agony and a source of joy.

When he left the courtroom on the final day, he reached for her hand.

Maybe Jill Biden isn’t Hunter’s mother. But if she’s not, then I don’t know the meaning of the word.

Chestnut’s deal with Impossible Foods prompted ban from Nathan’s contest

HOT DOG FROM C1

with Impossible, Chestnut apparently walked away from a lucrative deal with Nathan’s, which was prepared to offer the 16-time winner an annual \$300,000 appearance fee over four years, said one source who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the negotiations.

“I was very disappointed to learn from the media today that after nearly 20 years I am banned from the Nathan’s 4th of July Hot Dog Eating Contest,” Chestnut said in an Instagram post. “I love competing in that event, I love celebrating America with my fans all over this great country on the 4th and I have been training to defend my title.”

Chestnut could not immediately be reached for comment.

Chestnut’s absence will mean that a new champion will be crowned on July 4, when 35,000 people are expected to gather at the corner of Surf and Stillwell

avenues in Coney Island to watch the most advanced eaters in the world try to pound down more than 60 dogs in 10 minutes. Chestnut has not lost since 2015 when Matthew Stonie took home the trophy. Chestnut still holds the Nathan’s record: In 2021, he wolfed down 76 hot dogs and buns in 10 minutes.

As part of its new brand campaign to attract more meat eaters into its fold, Impossible Foods may have landed the world’s most famous carnivore.

“Listen up, America, meat has problems,” says one meathead in Impossible’s lead campaign commercial. “And it’s going to take us meat-eaters to solve them.” The solution, the ad suggests with tongue firmly planted against cheek, is to eat more meat — plant-based meat. One study suggests that plant-based meats have, on average, 50 percent lower environmental impacts than proteins raised with traditional animal agriculture.



YUKI IWAMURA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Joey Chestnut, right, pictured at the 2022 Nathan’s Famous hot dog eating event, hasn’t lost the annual contest since 2015.

At age 40, Chestnut may be the ideal person to lead carnivores to a plant-based diet, at least some of the time. He’s ranked No. 1 in the world among competitive eaters. He holds 55 world rec-

ords. Chestnut, along with his former rival Kobayashi, who had retired, has transformed a competition widely seen as a form of gluttony into a sport demanding discipline and training. (Chest-

nut has also probably shaved many months off his life.)

But that mission — if it is indeed his mission — has cost Chestnut the chance to compete in the world’s most famous eating contest — at least for now. Major League Eating had agreed to let Chestnut compete in a rival hot-dog eating contest on Labor Day — one with “unbranded” dogs, Shea said. It was a sign the governing body wasn’t trying to restrict Chestnut’s opportunities, he added.

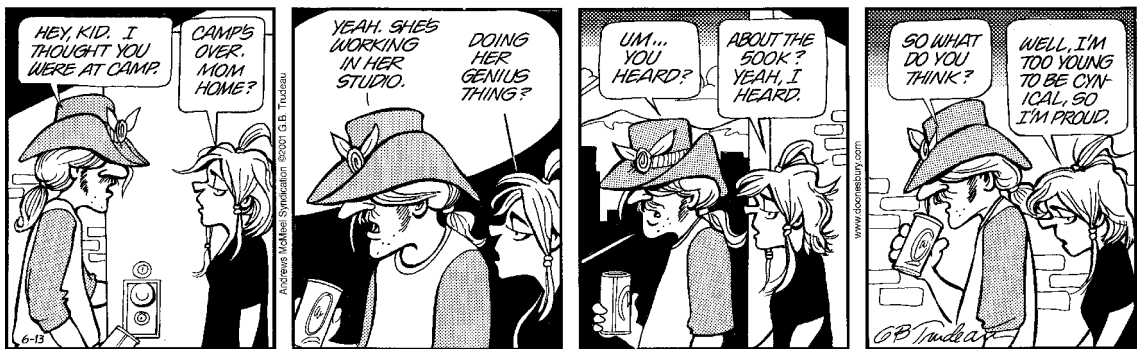
That Sept. 2 contest, it turns out, is a live-steaming event on Netflix featuring just Chestnut and Kobayashi. Dubbed “Chestnut vs. Kobayashi: Unfinished Beef,” Netflix is pitching the contest as a “showdown [that] will settle a 15-year rivalry between the two competitive eaters.” And despite the new deal with Impossible Foods, Chestnut isn’t officially banned from ever appearing at the Nathan’s contest again, Shea said.

“It might be a semantic issue, but to me, banning means, he’s out. We’re done. We’re done with Joey. That’s not the case. We love Joey. If he could resolve this issue of representing a rival brand, we’d love to have him on the Fourth. We’d love to have him next year,” Shea said.

This wouldn’t be the first time that Major League Eating has had a contract dispute with one of its prized competitors. Kobayashi stopped appearing at the annual Nathan’s contest after he refused to sign a contract with MLE. Kobayashi felt the terms of the contract were too restrictive, preventing him from competing in contests not under the MLE banner.

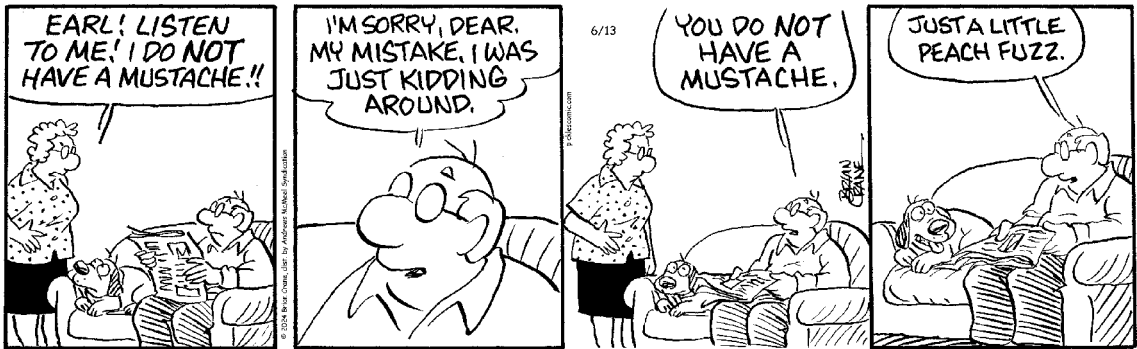
With Chestnut out, the leading candidate to win at Nathan’s this year is Geoffrey Esper, currently ranked No. 2 in the world among competitive eaters. Esper finished second last year, devouring 49 dogs in 10 minutes, 13 less than Chestnut.

CLASSIC DOONESBURY



GARRY TRUDEAU

PICKLES



BRIAN CRANE

BRIDGE

N-S VULNERABLE

NORTH		EAST	
♠ A J		♠ Q 7 4 2	
♥ Q 10 3		♥ K J	
♦ A 10 9 8 5 2		♦ K 3	
♣ J 10		♣ 9 8 7 5 4	

SOUTH (D)			
♠ 10 9 6 3			
♥ 8 5 4			
♦ Q J 6			
♣ A K Q			

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
1 NT(!)	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Opening lead — ♥ 6

Since Wendy, my club's feminist, arrived, she and Cy the Cynic have had only one argument — lasting about five years. Wendy says men are like commercials; you can't believe a word they say. Cy maintains that it's possible to understand women if you know how — but nobody knows how.

The two were today's East-West in a penny game, and Wendy led a heart against 3NT. Dummy played the 10, and Cy took the jack and king. Wendy followed with the nine. The Cynic next led the nine of clubs. South won, lost a diamond finesse and had nine tricks.

"Thank you, partner," Wendy growled. "My nine of hearts was suit preference, suggesting an entry in spades, the high-ranking suit."

"I think Cy sometimes has a mental block," I told Wendy in the lounge later.

"The man has a chauvinist's block," Wendy sniffed. "He won't send a woman to get a job done."

To beat 3NT, Cy leads the queen of spades at Trick Three. A low spade won't do. Cy can create an entry to Wendy's hearts.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold:

♠ K 8 5 ♠ A 9 7 6 2

♦ 7 4 ♠ 6 3 2

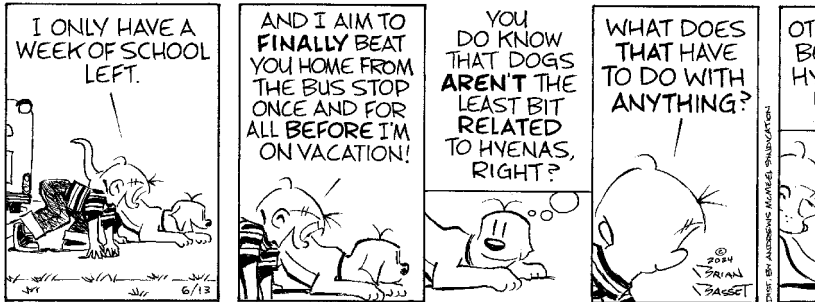
Your partner opens one diamond, you respond one heart and he bids one spade. The opponents pass. What do you say?

ANSWER: Though a chance for game exists — your partner might have as many as 18 points — the odds do not favor that, and you lack a satisfactory second bid anyway. Pass. Partner's (opener's) minimum bid in a new suit is not forcing, and one spade should be a reasonable contract.

— Frank Stewart

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RED AND ROVER



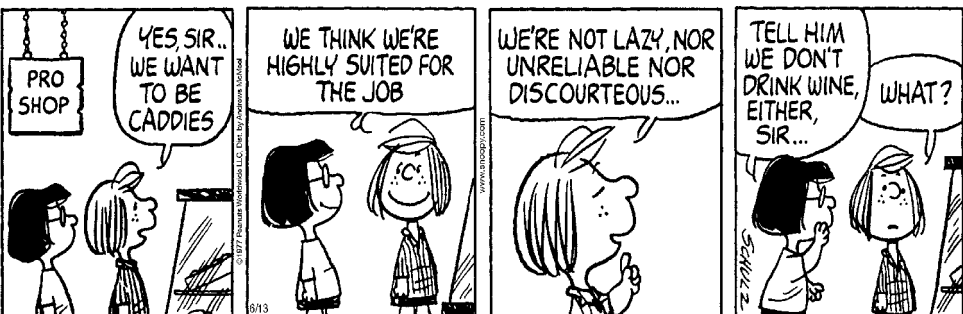
BRIAN BASSET

FRANK AND ERNEST



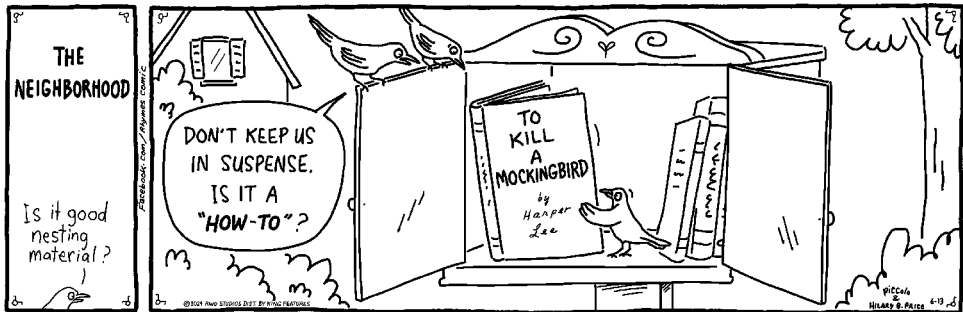
TOM THAVES

CLASSIC PEANUTS



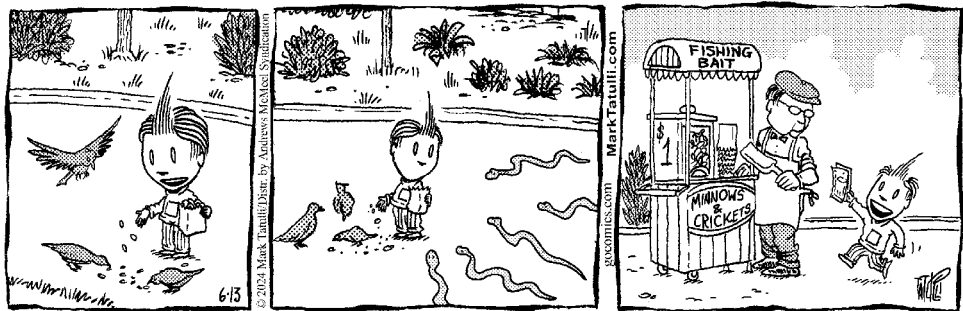
CHARLES SCHULZ

RHYMES WITH ORANGE



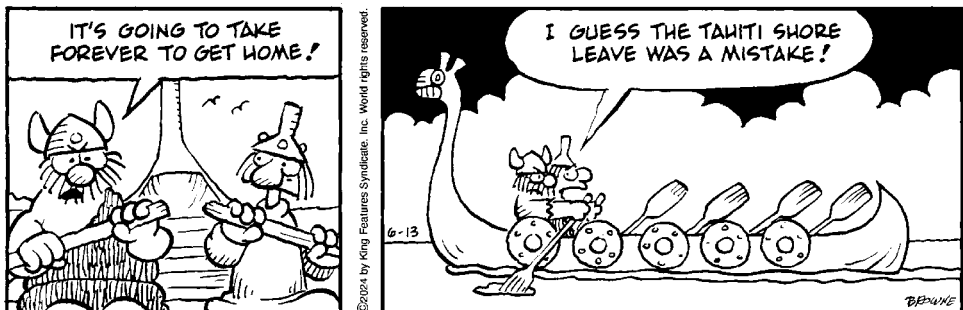
HILARY PRICE

LIO



MARK TATULLI

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



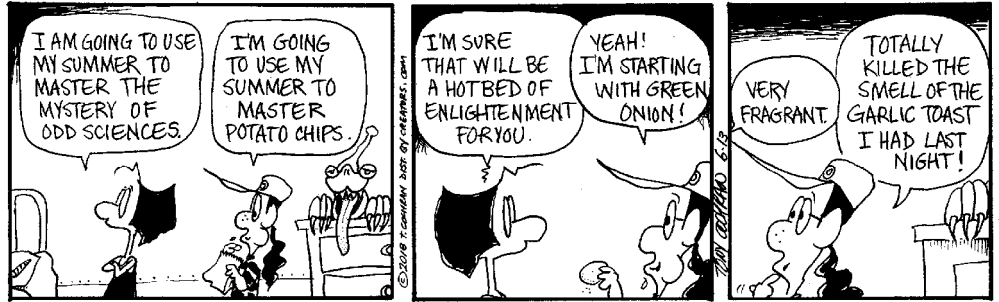
CHRIS BROWNE

BLONDIE



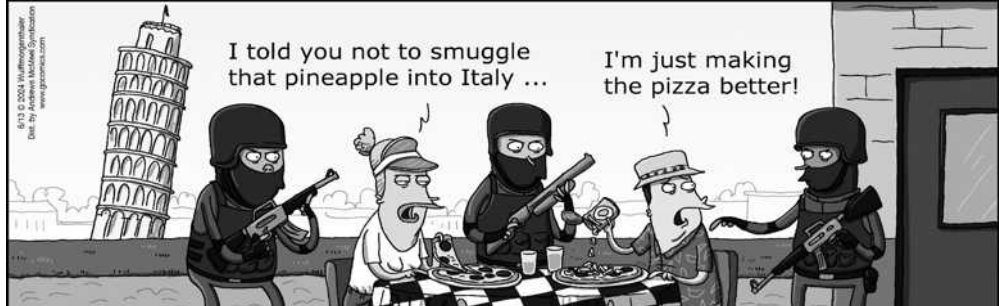
DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

AGNES



TONY COCHRAN

WUMO



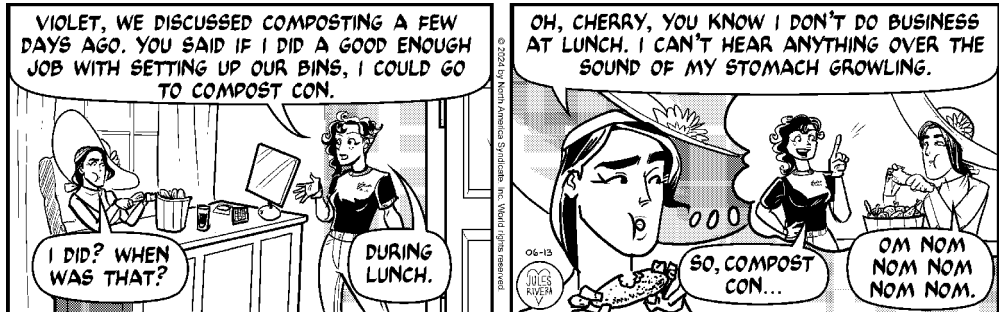
MIKAEL WULFF & ANDERS MORGENTHAER

MIKE DU JOUR



MIKE LESTER

MARK TRAIL



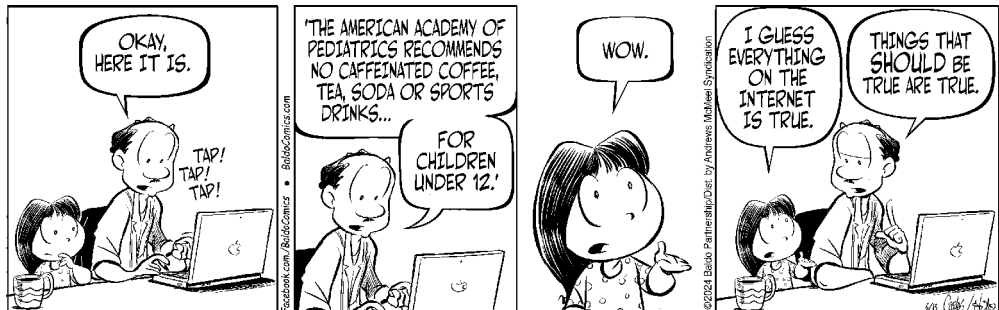
JULES RIVERA

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



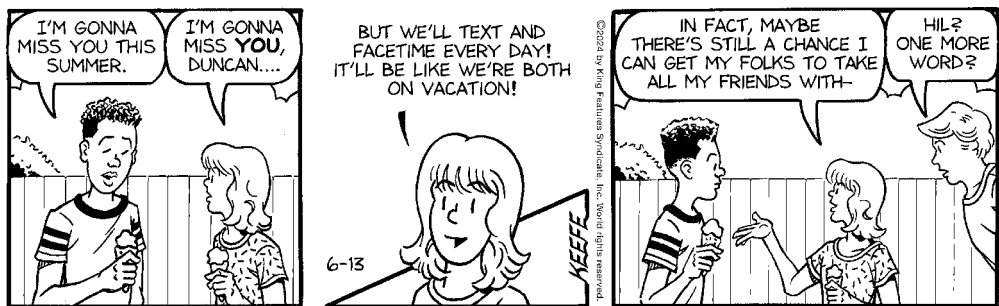
MIKE PETERS

BALDO



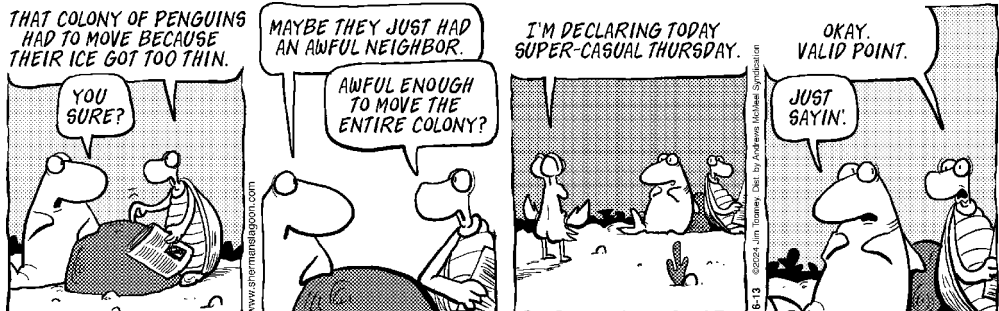
HECTOR CANTU & CARLOS CASTELLANOS

SALLY FORTH



FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

SHERMAN'S LAGOON



JIM TOOMEY

CURTIS



RAY BILLINGSLEY

BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!



TIM RICKARD

SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

		8	4		6			
7		3		1		2	9	
		6			9			
6				9			7	
		4	5		7	9		
	7			6				3
			4			5		
	4	5		3		7		1
		8		5	6			

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

ACROSS

1. Atomic number 29

5. Feed on, nibble

6. ... station

7. Bud

DOWN

1. Young swan

2. ... of Paris

3. Raise

4. Hocked

ANSWER

EOPCRP

RGEAZ

NTRIA

REIDFN

ANSWER

NYTCEG

LSRPAET

EEVELA

DANLEWP

SCRABBLE G R A M S

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I	O	O	V	R	C	T	
E	E	R	X	L	P	P	
O	U	M	T	R	S	C	
A	O	O	L	H	P	W	

PAR SCORE 150-160

BEST SCORE 244

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@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgams@gmail.com

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt

How to play

Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

BONUS

CLUE: The area that makes up the is about 500 miles east to west and 2,000 miles north to south.

ANSWERS: A-Copper, D-Graze, E-A-Tra, F-Friend, G-Crater, H-Plaster, I-3D-Printer, J-Crater, K-Friend, L-Crater, M-Friend, N-Crater, O-Friend, P-Crater, Q-Friend, R-Crater, S-Friend, T-Crater, U-Friend, V-Crater, W-Friend, X-Crater, Y-Friend, Z-Crater

MUTTS



PATRICK McDONNELL

ZITS



JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN

HOROSCOPE



BIRTHDAY | JUNE 13

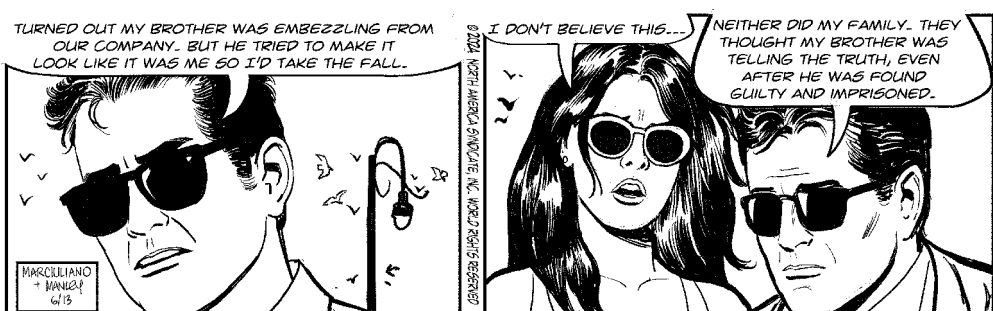
You have a wild streak. You live according to your own rules, and you don't like routine. This year is the final year of a nine-year cycle for you, which means you're completing things. Take inventory of your life. Focus on being compassionate, loving and giving.

HEART OF THE CITY



STEENZ

JUDGE PARKER



FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY

Moons Alert:

There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Virgo.

ARIES

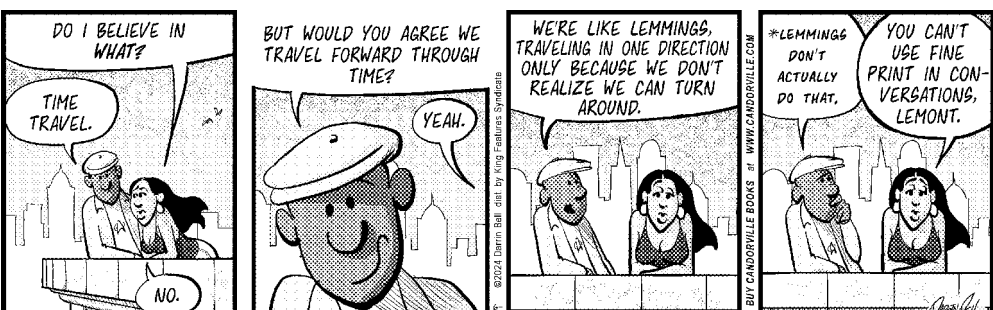
(MARCH 21-APRIL 19). This might be a challenging day dealing with co-workers, customers and issues related to your job. Likewise, with respect to your health, you might have problems with your teeth or aching joints. No fun!

FRAZZ




JEF MALLET

CANDORVILLE



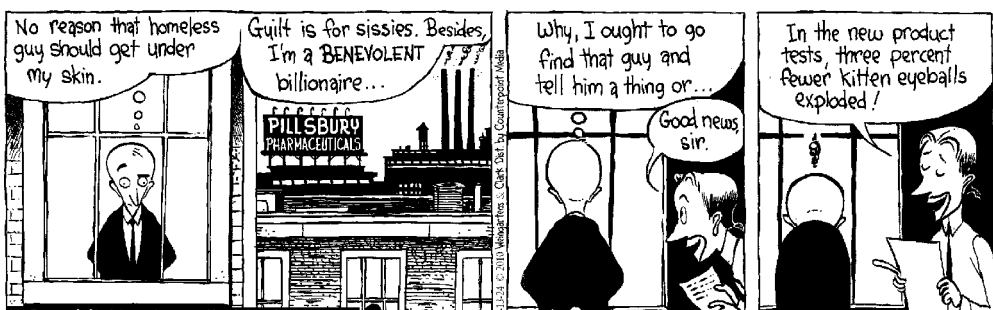
DARRIN BELL

GARFIELD



JIM DAVIS

BARNEY AND CLYDE



WEINGARTENS & CLARK

TAURUS

(APRIL 20-MAY 20). Dealing with children might be a challenge today. You might have increased responsibilities with them or demanding issues. Likewise, romance might be difficult. In fact, most social situations will feel awkward or stiff because it's hard to go with the flow today.

GEMINI

(MAY 21-JUNE 20). Be patient with family members today, especially authority figures or older family members. In fact, this is a challenging day talking to anyone who is older, more experienced or in a position of influence.

CANCER

(JUNE 21-JULY 22). Today it's easy to fall into worry mode, which is something I do myself. But worry is primarily a habit. And remember what Mark Twain said, "I've had a lot of worries in my life, most of which never happened."

LEO

(JULY 23-AUG. 22). Money worries might be a problem today. You might feel a financial squeeze, as so many of us do. You might be concerned about payments or covering some particular costs. Perhaps the hoped-for help from another source is disappointing.

VIRGO

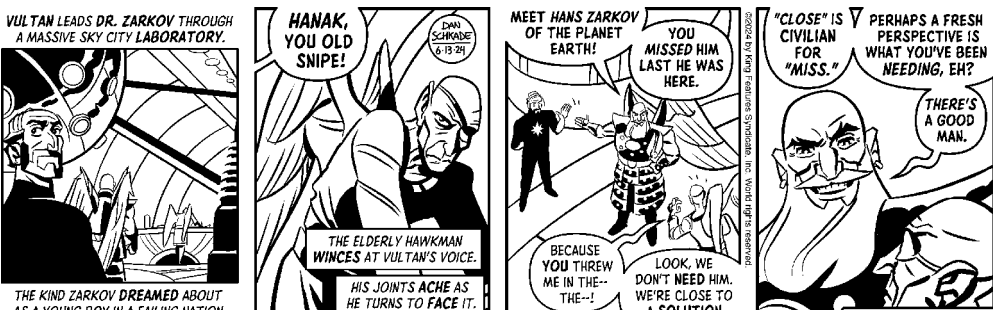
(AUG. 23-SEPT. 22). Today the Moon is in your sign at odds with stern Saturn. This can make you feel lonely, isolated and cut off from others. In fact, you might send out signals unconsciously to people that you want to be left alone. (A misunderstanding.)

DUSTIN



STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER

FLASH GORDON



DAN SCHKADE

PRICKLY CITY



SCOTT STANTIS

LOOSE PARTS



DAVE BLAZEAK

LIBRA

(SEPT. 23-OCT. 22). You are the most sociable sign in the zodiac, and today will be a challenging day for you because you feel a bit isolated and cut off from others. You might not be aware that you are subconsciously contributing to this situation.

SCORPIO

(OCT. 23-NOV. 21). A friend might disappoint you today. This can happen, no question. It doesn't mean you have to end the friendship. Or perhaps you're disappointed with a member of a group and because of this you feel unappreciated or ignored.

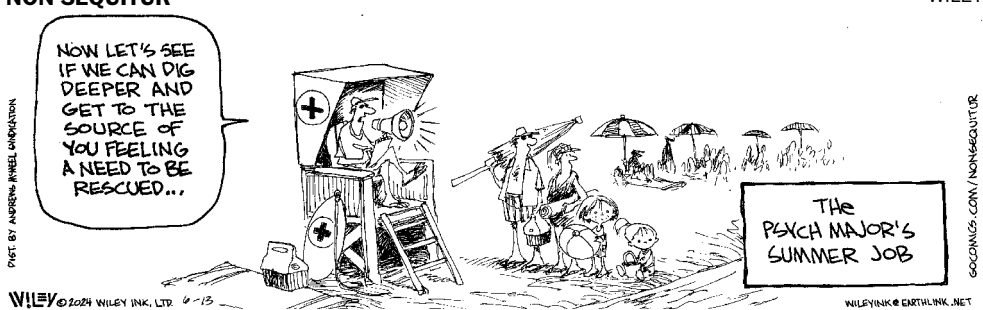
SAGITTARIUS

(NOV. 22-DEC. 21). Relations with parents and authority figures are dicey today. No matter what you do to try to please someone, their response will be, "Talk to the hand."

CAPRICORN

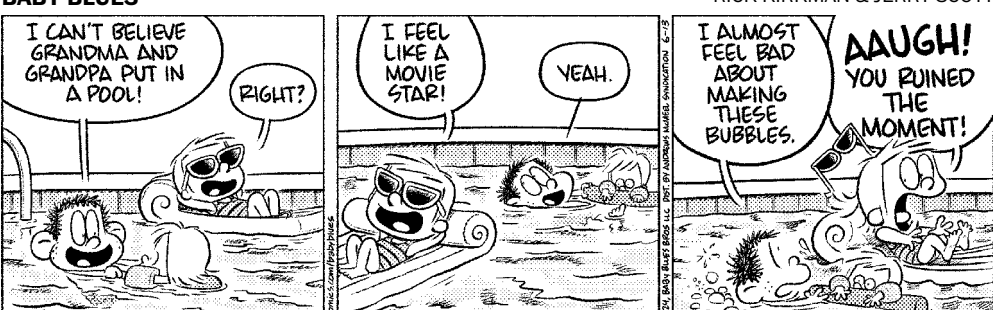
(DEC. 22-JAN. 19). Steer clear of controversial topics, because conversations will be challenging today. Likewise, if you reach out to people from other cultures or different countries, you might feel that you're getting the cold shoulder.

NON SEQUITUR



WILEY

BABY BLUES



RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT

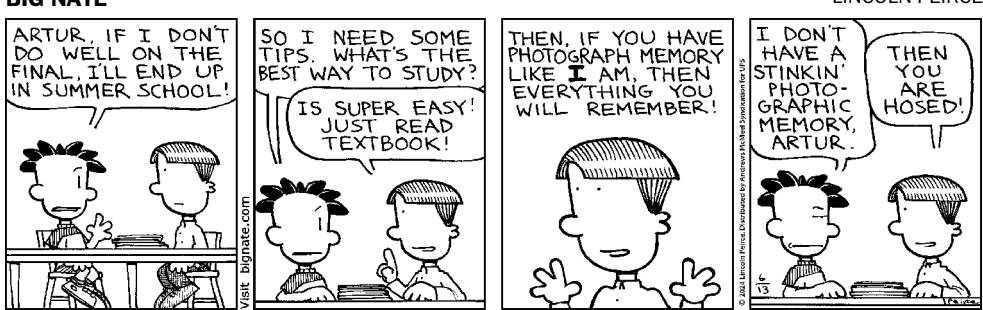
AQUARIUS

(JAN. 20-FEB. 18). This is a poor day for important discussions about how to divide or share something, perhaps an inheritance or something to do with jointly-held property. Even discussions about taxes, debt and credit will be challenging.

PISCES

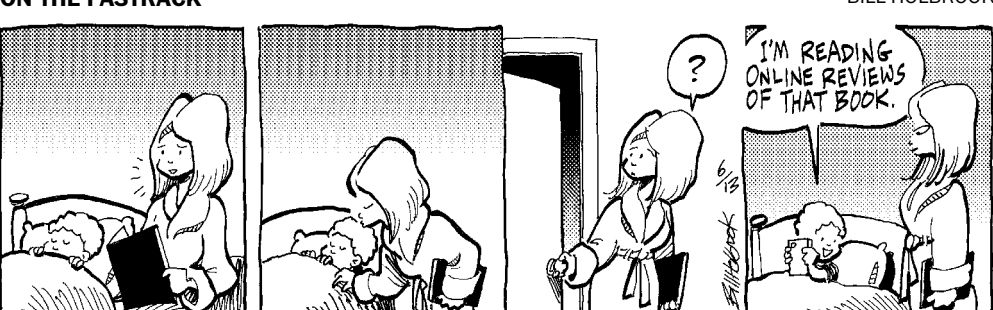
(FEB. 19-MARCH 20). Relations with those who are close to you might be difficult today. You might subconsciously send out signals to others declaring that you don't want to be bothered. They might assume you want to be left alone. Meanwhile, you feel that you're being ignored!

BIG NATE



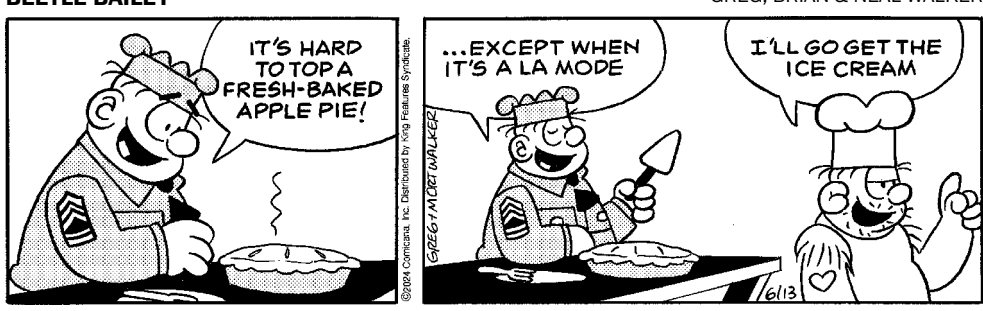
LINCOLN PEIRCE

ON THE FASTTRACK



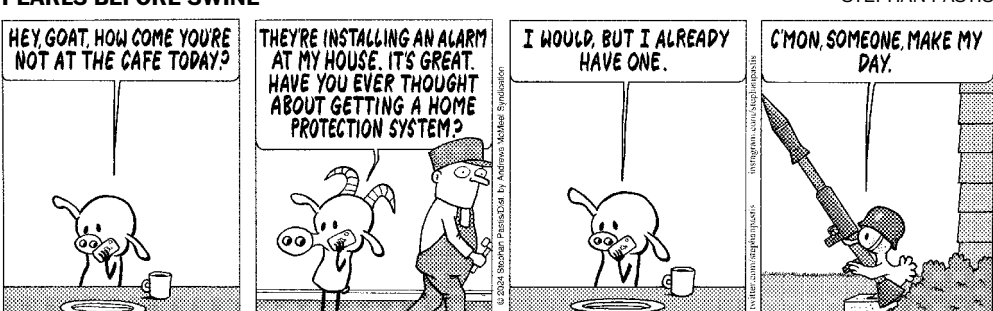
BILL HOLBROOK

BEETLE BAILEY



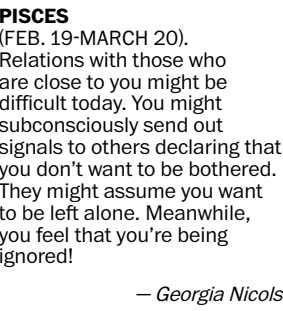
GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



STEPHAN PASTIS

REPLY ALL LITE



DONNA A. LEWIS

PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

9	2	7	4	1	5	3	6	8
6	1	5	2	8	3	9	4	7
3	8	4	6	7	9	1	2	5
1	7	3	9	5	4	2	8	6
4	9	2	1	6	8	7	5	3
8	5	6	7	3	2	4	9	1
5	4	1	8	2	7	6	3	9
2	6	8	3	9	1	5	7	4
7	3	9	5	4	6	8	1	2

PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

E	I	N	V	E	L	O	P
W	H	I	S	T	L	E	
B	S	E	L	I	H	O	P
C	R	I	L	S	P	Y	

RACK 1 = 62

RACK 2 = 76


RACK 3 = 70

RACK 4 = 13

PAR SCORE 155-165

TOTAL 221

SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY

DENNIS THE MENACE



H. KETCHAM

FAMILY CIRCUS

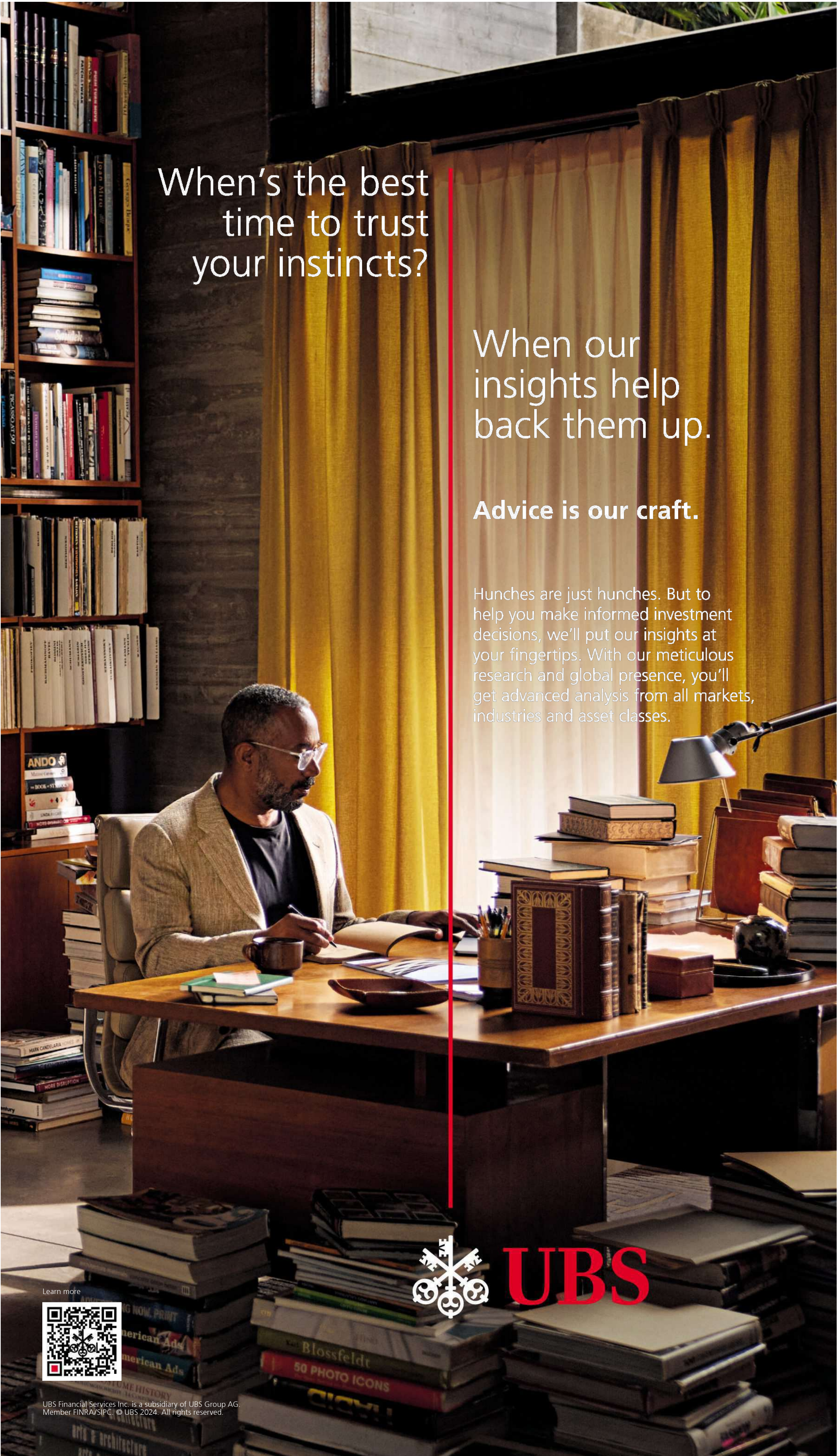


BL KEANE

REPLY ALL LITE



DONNA A. LEWIS



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time to trust
your instincts?

When our
insights help
back them up.

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UBS

NBA will determine WNBA's windfall

With new broadcast deal, women's league will reap rewards of recent boom

BY BEN STRAUSS

The good news for the WNBA can't stop. The league's TV ratings are setting records seemingly every night. Players, long shunted to the background of popular sports culture, have shoe deals and starring roles in commercials. Caitlin Clark is the most-talked-about athlete in America (for better or worse, but mostly better).

And there's more to come.

The league is set to receive a windfall for its broadcast rights, which expire next season and are valued at around \$60 million per year, according to people familiar with the figures. The NBA, which owns roughly 60 percent of the women's league, is in the process of negotiating that deal, which Bloomberg and the Wall Street Journal reported will be worth more than \$7 billion per year for both leagues, up from the roughly \$2.7 billion the NBA gets per year in its current deal.

The WNBA's share could be transformative, with several media executives predicting the league could triple its annual rights revenue to somewhere between \$180 million and \$200 million or more. But there's a quirk: Media companies won't decide how much the WNBA's media rights are worth. The NBA will.

The NBA is soliciting one total bid from media companies that does not separate the values of the NBA rights and the WNBA rights, according to people familiar with the process, and some media companies involved in the bidding are not assigning a specific figure to the WNBA rights. That means the NBA's massive deal could be rocket fuel for the WNBA — or that the WNBA's increased popularity is more of an afterthought. It also could be a bit of both.

"If you're not getting a number from the media companies, then you are hanging on to the NBA," said Laura Gentile, an industry consultant and ESPN's former chief marketing officer. "You're saying it's a rounding error in the grand scheme of business. Maybe that's the case, but it doesn't help the ecosystem grow. Women's sports wants accountability; they want their growth projections to matter."

The concern is not necessarily that the NBA will undervalue the WNBA's rights. One media executive with knowledge of the talks suggested media companies

SEE WNBA ON D5



STACY REVERE/GETTY IMAGES

Jayson Tatum scored a team-high 31 points and needs just one more win for his first ring after the Celtics prevailed on the road to take a 3-0 lead in the NBA Finals.

Green monsters

Conflicted, driven and never tired, West was the eternal influencer



Jerry Brewer

during his first preseason as general manager of the Memphis Grizzlies. After a practice, he stood in front of a basket and chatted with a young Earl Watson about his shooting form.

Watson, just 23 and trying to develop his game, had signed

DALLAS — I remember the first time I saw Jerry West, the Logo, Mr. Clutch, beholder of great talent, builder of dynasties. It was October 2002 with Memphis because of West. And there they were, in a nondescript gym, representing a nondescript franchise, working through the subtleties of a jump shot. West grabbed a basketball, stood with Watson two feet from the hoop and used only his right hand to shoot. Everything was meticulous: elbow placement, the way he held the ball in his fingertips, the release, the follow-through. West would take several shots and give the ball to Watson. Then they would make a correction and shoot again.

SEE BREWER ON D5

Boston nearly blows a 21-point lead but moves within one win of 18th title

CELTICS 106, MAVERICKS 99

BY BEN GOLLIVER

DALLAS — The Boston Celtics showed no mercy as they pulled away from the Dallas Mavericks, then showed little composure as they gave their opponents a hearty helping of false hope.

In the end, the sharp second-half swings of fortune amounted to an unnecessary flirtation with disaster. After a buzz saw of a

third quarter that left the American Airlines Center crowd stunned and a near disaster down the stretch, the Celtics escaped with a 106-99 victory over the Mavericks in Game 3 of the NBA Finals on Wednesday night to move to the cusp of their first championship since 2008.

This was, simply put, torture for both sides. First, the home fans, watching their team's season slip away in methodical fashion, could only manage long, low moans as the Celtics mixed crisp ball movement and quality

SEE NBA FINALS ON D5

Jerry West, 1938-2024: The Lakers' "Mr. Clutch" dominated on the court and off. A1 | NBA Finals, Game 4: Celtics at Mavericks, Friday, 8:30 p.m., ABC

Scheffler's shuffling feet help him perform remarkable feats

His technique isn't textbook but is highly effective

BY RICK MAESE

PINEHURST, N.C. — The best golfer on the planet has no interest in keeping his feet planted on said planet. Just watch Scottie Scheffler in the tee box. His Ruthian swing stands out among the game's best players not for its beauty or its artistry but because of his busy feet. Scheffler's size 11½ Nikes are sliding all over the place. It looks as though he might roll an ankle or possibly take a tumble.

There's nothing textbook about the Scheffler shuffle, but it's a key part of what separates him from the field. The world's top-ranked golfer, who has won five times this season, enters this week's U.S. Open as the overwhelming favorite.

It starts in the tee box, where Scheffler's unconventional footwork is noticeable on nearly every visit, as well as most of his long

iron shots. His front (left) foot turns and follows his shot, with the left ankle rolling along with the momentum of the swing. His back foot begins moving at contact, sliding backward and often lifting off the ground entirely — a sprightly flair that no club pro would dare teach.

He looks like a bowler sliding near the foul line or a dancer finishing a twirl. But Scheffler's motion is about power, not grace.

"All you need to do with Scottie Scheffler is just listen to the strike," said John Fields, Scheffler's coach at the University of Texas, "and then watch the golf ball go where it goes. Never mind what it all looks like physically."

Scheffler was 12 when Fields

SEE U.S. OPEN ON D3

U.S. Open, first round

At Pinehurst No. 2
6:30 a.m., USA Network

Two-back sets may be Commanders' new wrinkle

BY SAM FORTIER

How will the Washington Commanders use their new running back tandem of Austin Ekeler and Brian Robinson Jr.?

It's a question worth digging into because Ekeler is a new arrival and one of offensive coordinator Kliff Kingsbury's main spring experiments seems to be using two-back sets.

In his four seasons as Arizona's coach, Kingsbury rarely used sets with multiple backs; the Cardinals never used such sets in more than 3.1 percent of their snaps in a season, per TruMedia. But this spring, Kingsbury regularly has deployed split-back formations with Ekeler, Robinson and others.

Kingsbury, who is expected to major in three-wide-receiver sets, could use two-back looks as a change-up in the same way he historically has used sets of multiple tight ends.

Ekeler (5-foot-10, 200 pounds) and Robinson (6-1, 225) are complementary. The Commanders could manipulate opposing defenses with different alignments and presnap motions. Ekeler said he sees himself and Robinson less as competitors and more as "different assets."

"He's a big guy," Ekeler said during Wednesday's second day of

SEE COMMANDERS ON D3



JOHN MCDONNELL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Recent arrival Austin Ekeler said he sees himself and holdover Brian Robinson Jr. as "different assets."

BASEBALL

CJ Abrams homers and doubles to power a 7-5 win at Detroit, the Nationals' fifth in a row. D3

SOCCER

The U.S. men go toe-to-toe with mighty Brazil, earning a 1-1 draw in their final Copa América tuneup. D6

THE DAY IN SPORTS

SWIMMING

CAS denies Thomas in rules challenge

Transgender swimmer **Lia Thomas** failed in her challenge of rules that stop her from competing in elite women's races because judges ruled she did not have standing to bring the case. The Court of Arbitration for Sport panel of three judges dismissed Thomas's request for arbitration with the World Aquatics governing body in a ruling released Wednesday. World Aquatics banned transgender women who have been through male puberty from competing in women's races. It also created an "open" category that transgender athletes are eligible for. Thomas had asked the sports court in Switzerland to overturn the rules, approved in 2022, that she said were invalid, unlawful and discriminatory. Thomas swam for the University of Pennsylvania and won an NCAA title in meets that are outside the World Aquatics competitive system, in which she was not registered. The world swimming body argued to CAS that Thomas was not a member of USA Swimming when the legal case started. She also had not competed in female events "for the purpose of qualification or selection" for World Aquatics competitions, such as the Olympics and world championships. "The panel concludes that she lacks standing to challenge the policy and the operational requirements in the framework of the present proceeding," the court said in its ruling.

PRO FOOTBALL

Saleh changes his tone on Rodgers's absence

Aaron Rodgers's absence is no big deal as far as **Robert Saleh** and the New York Jets are concerned. The quarterback not being present for the team's two-day minicamp made headlines when the coach announced Tuesday that neither Rodgers nor edge rusher **Haason Reddick** would attend and both were unexcused absences that were subject to fines. Saleh said Rodgers was away for a previous commitment that "is very important to him" — and something he told the team about ahead of time. Reddick's absence appears to stem from a contract issue. On Wednesday, Saleh was asked specifically whether Rodgers was aware the team would term his absence as "unexcused."

"I talked about it yesterday, but Aaron and I are on the exact same page," Saleh said. "There's no issue between Aaron — or his teammates, for that matter. So, like I said, we addressed it yesterday. It's more of an issue for everyone outside the building than it is inside. "And that's about it." ... **Tom Brady** brought the New England Patriots endless memories and six Super Bowl trophies during his two-decade run with the team. The Patriots made sure his induction to the franchise's Hall of Fame was a celebration unlike it had thrown before. Dozens of Brady's former teammates and coaches, spanning multiple eras of Patriots history, joined thousands of fans and celebrities including **Jay-Z** and **Bon Jovi** to salute Brady as the 35th person to be enshrined in the team's Hall of Fame. Team owner **Robert Kraft** brought Brady to tears when he announced his No. 12 would never be worn by another Patriots player. Kraft also announced that a 12-foot bronze statue of Brady will be placed outside the Hall of Fame this year.

SOCCER

Messi says he'll finish his career with Miami

Lionel Messi said he thinks Inter Miami will be "my last club." The 36-year-old World Cup champion isn't thinking about joining an Argentine club to write the last chapter of his playing career. "I think Inter Miami is going to be my last club. Today I think it is going to be my last club," the Argentina captain said in an interview with ESPN. Messi is preparing with his national team to compete in Copa América. Argentina is the defending champion. The former Barcelona star has nothing left to prove and filled the only significant unchecked

box on his résumé by leading Argentina to the World Cup title in 2022. He has won a record eight Ballon d'Or awards and left European soccer last year to join the MLS club. Messi's contract with Inter Miami is set to expire at the end of the 2025 season. "It was a difficult step to leave Europe to come here," he said. "Having become a world champion helped a lot, and also to see things differently. But I don't think about it. I try to enjoy. That's why I enjoy everything much more, because I am aware that there is less and less to go and I have a good time." ... **Thiago Motta** was announced

as Juventus's coach, replacing the fired **Massimiliano Allegri**. Juventus said Motta signed a three-year contract with the Bianconeri, having just steered Bologna to a Champions League finish. Allegri was fired last month after his ugly outburst toward the referee and others in the Italian Cup final. ... Slovenia forward **Benjamin Sesko** turned down interest from Arsenal and other English Premier League clubs to extend his stay at Leipzig. The German Bundesliga club said the 21-year-old extended his existing contract by a year to 2029. Arsenal, Chelsea and

Manchester United were reportedly interested in signing the prolific forward. **OLYMPICS** **Nadal, Alcaraz to form doubles team in Paris** **Rafael Nadal** and **Carlos Alcaraz** will play doubles together for Spain at the Paris Olympics, the Spanish tennis federation said. The announcement came three days after the 21-year-old Alcaraz won the French Open for the first time, earning his third Grand Slam trophy. The same courts used for the French Open each year will host

Olympic tennis. Nadal has won the French Open a record 14 times. Alcaraz, who will play in his first Olympics, is widely seen as the heir to Nadal in Spanish tennis and frequently has said that Nadal was his childhood hero. Alcaraz has set winning an Olympic medal for Spain as one of his top career goals. He said after winning at Roland Garros that this year he would prefer a gold medal at the Paris Olympics over successfully defending his Wimbledon title. "The Olympic Games are every four years, and it's a special tournament where you're not only playing for yourself but for a

country, representing every Spaniard," the second-ranked Alcaraz said. "I think this year I'd choose Olympic gold." The 38-year-old Nadal, who also is slated to play singles, already owns Olympic gold medals in singles (2008) and doubles (2016 with Marc López) to go alongside his 22 Grand Slam titles. Nadal, who lost to eventual runner-up **Alexander Zverev** in the first round at Roland Garros, said this is likely his last year on tour after a series of injuries. ... While Salt Lake City is cruising toward being named the 2034 Winter Olympics host next month, the French parliamentary elections suddenly called by President **Emmanuel Macron** created a bump in the road for the 2030 edition that the French Alps bid is expected to win. Voting to confirm both expected Winter Games hosts is still the plan July 24 in Paris, on the eve of the Summer Games, the International Olympic Committee said. However, Macron's surprise announcement Sunday of two rounds of national elections June 30 and July 7 — and a possible change of government, if not the presidency — is delaying the signing of paperwork that the IOC demands. Macron acted after far-right opponents made gains in European parliamentary elections. The IOC's long-scheduled executive board meeting that opened Wednesday aimed to lock down putting forward the 2030 and 2034 candidates for rubber-stamp votes in Paris. Instead, financial and organizational guarantees sought from national and regional levels of government will have just over two weeks to be completed before the IOC holds its annual meeting for about 100 members.

TRACK AND FIELD

Duplantis wins a title but misses the record

Armand Duplantis still has some work to do before extending his pole vault world record again. The American-born Swede known as "Mondo" missed three attempts at clearing 6.25 meters at the European Championships in Rome. But the Olympic and two-time world champion still claimed a third European title and extended his championship record to 6.10 feet. And he has the Paris Olympics in less than 50 days to look forward to. Duplantis has set the world record eight times, the last coming when he cleared 6.24 at the season-opening Diamond League meet in China in April.

COLLEGES

Southern Mississippi player is fatally shot

Marcus "MJ" Daniels Jr., a defensive back at Southern Mississippi, was fatally shot Tuesday night at an apartment complex in Hattiesburg, Miss., a coroner said. Daniels's body was sent to a medical examiner for an autopsy, Forrest County Coroner **Lisa Klem** told news outlets. Daniels, 21, was a starting cornerback for Southern Mississippi last season. He tied for the team lead in interceptions with three and had 29 tackles in 12 games. The 6-foot-2, 195-pound senior moved to safety for the 2024 season and was expected to start again, the Hattiesburg American reported. WDAM-TV reported that Southern Miss Coach **Will Hall** and other university officials joined police and emergency workers who responded to the scene of the shooting. Daniels played his first two college seasons at Mississippi before transferring to Southern Mississippi in 2023. ... Retired Duke sports radio play-by-play announcer **Bob Harris** died.

He was 81. Former radio analyst **Wes Chesson** announced Harris's death in an update on a GoFundMe page that had been created to raise money for Harris's care. He had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and was in hospice care, and the site had raised more than \$100,000 from more than 500 donations since its launch in early 2023. Chesson posted that Harris died with his wife, **Phyllis**, "at his side, holding his hand." Harris spent 41 years as the Blue Devils' radio voice for men's basketball and football before retiring in 2017. — From news services



ADAM HUNGER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

India's Mohammed Siraj throws the ball toward the stumps to run-out Jasdeep Singh during the T20 World Cup matchup.

Top-ranked India stops Americans' progress

BY CHRIS LEHOURITES

It started with an "lbw" for a "golden duck," got a little worse before it got a little better and then finished as widely expected for the U.S. cricket team, which lost to India at the T20 World Cup. The Americans entered Wednesday's match on a huge high after beating powerhouse Pakistan in their previous game. But India, the highest-ranked team in the tournament, showed its depth and made sure it avoided becoming another upset victim at Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in Westbury, N.Y. India, which advanced to the next round with the victory, won by seven wickets — meaning it eclipsed the 110-run total put up by the U.S. team and still had seven more players who didn't

'Golden duck' sets the tone for the U.S. team, which still can advance with a win Friday

have to bat. The Americans still have one more Group A match to play; that comes Friday against Ireland in Florida. With a victory, they could advance to the next stage, known as the Super 8 for the top eight teams. "We're just going to revamp right now and then we're traveling later and then we're going to have a few meetings," U.S. captain Aaron Jones said. "And we're going to come hard against Ireland for sure."

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB	
1 p.m.	Washington at Detroit » MASN2, WJFK (106.7 FM), WDCN (87.7 FM)
1 p.m.	Atlanta at Baltimore » MASN, WYII (97.9 FM), WSNB (630 AM)
2 p.m.	New York Yankees at Kansas City » MLB Network
7 p.m.	Philadelphia at Boston » MLB Network
9:30 p.m.	Los Angeles Angels at Arizona » Fox Sports 1
STANLEY CUP FINALS	
8 p.m.	Game 3: Florida at Edmonton » WJLA (Ch. 7), WMAR (Ch. 2)
WNBA	
7 p.m.	Seattle at Dallas » ESPN

GOLF	
6:30 a.m.	U.S. Open, first round » USA Network
3 p.m.	LPGA Tour: Meijer LPGA Classic, first round » Golf Channel
TENNIS	
5 a.m.	ATP/WTA: Libema Open, early rounds; ATP: Stuttgart Open, early rounds; WTA: Rothesay Open, early rounds » Tennis Channel
PROFESSIONAL SOFTBALL	
6 p.m.	Athletes Unlimited: Team Leach vs. Team Warren » ESPN
8:30 p.m.	Athletes Unlimited: Team Wiggins vs. Team Warren » ESPN

Abrams helps Nats to longest winning streak since 2021

NATIONALS 7, TIGERS 5

BY ANDREW GOLDEN

DETROIT — CJ Abrams was bound to return to form at the plate.

In April, he was one of the top shortstops in baseball. In May, he was anything but. The version of Abrams that showed up at Comerica Park on Wednesday night was closer to the one that started the season — the type of player who could pull a no-doubter into the seats in right field in one at-bat, lace a double into left-center gap in the next and race around the bases to score a few batters later.

When Abrams is in a rhythm at the plate, as he was in the Washington Nationals’ 7-5 win over the Detroit Tigers, his presence can be felt. Batting atop the lineup, he finished 2 for 5 with that 404-foot homer in the third inning and an RBI double in the fifth as the Nationals won their fifth in a row for their longest winning streak since 2021.

“We’re going out there and competing every day, carrying a good vibe,” Abrams said. “Things are going well for us. We’re getting guys on, getting them in and our pitchers are doing their thing. So let’s keep rocking.”

Abrams is hitting just .242 in June (8 for 33), but six of those eight hits have been for extra bases.

“He’s starting to get a little bit more patient, which we’ve been harping on for a while now,” Manager Dave Martinez said. “He’s getting better. He’s got to get the ball in the strike zone, just like everybody else. When we do that and we’re patient and



CARLOS OSORIO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

After struggling in May and dealing with a shoulder injury, CJ Abrams has six extra-base hits in June.

we get guys on base, there’s a reason why we’re scoring some runs.”

Abrams began the month dealing with a shoulder injury that sidelined him from May 31 to June 4. Before that, he endured a dismal May (.205 with just one walk). Pitchers attacked Abrams with breaking balls out of the strike zone, and too often

he would chase. At times, he looked lost.

A new month, however, has brought a reset. After Matt Vierling hit a leadoff home run off Jake Irvin in the bottom of the first to give the Tigers the lead, Abrams answered in the third, blasting a curveball from Reese Olson about five rows into the bleachers in right field. The ball

exited at 104.3 mph. In his previous at-bat, he grounded out on a curveball.

“Yeah, I missed it the first time,” Abrams said. “But I got the second one. Adjustments, it’s a game of adjustments.”

Keibert Ruiz hit a sacrifice fly in the fourth inning to give the Nationals a 2-1 lead before Abrams sparked a three-run rally

NATIONALS ON DECK		
at Detroit Tigers		
Thursday	1:10	MASN2
vs. Miami Marlins		
Friday	6:45	MASN2
Saturday	4:05	MASN2
Sunday	1:35	MASN2
vs. Arizona Diamondbacks		
Tuesday	6:45	MASN2
Wednesday	4:05	MASN2
June 20	1:05	MASN2

Radio: *WJFK (106.7 FM), WDCN (87.7 FM)*

in the fifth with a ground-rule double that drove in Jacob Young. Abrams worked a five-pitch at-bat and connected on a fastball in the zone.

Two batters later, Jesse Winker drove Abrams in with the first of three straight singles. Luis García Jr, who had the third single, stole second, and when the throw skipped away from the shortstop, Winker scored. García’s stolen base was the Nationals’ 100th of the season in their 67th game, making the Nationals the quickest team to steal that many bases since 2009.

Even Abrams’s outs were loud — in the seventh, he hit a grounder at 103.7 mph with an expected batting average of .560, but first baseman Mark Canha make a diving stop to rob him.

Irvin settled in after a rocky first. He allowed three hits to the first four batters he faced and put runners on the corners but stranded them. After that, Irvin faced 21 more hitters, allowing three singles and a walk. By the time he exited in the sixth, his

ERA was down to 3.00.

The Nationals’ four-run lead shrunk to one in the eighth when Detroit rattled off four straight hits — one against Robert García and three against Dylan Floro, including an RBI single by Colt Keith and a two-run double by Gio Urshela. But Hunter Harvey entered and retired the next three batters.

Washington tacked on a pair of runs in the ninth as insurance, and Kyle Finnegan earned his 19th save.

“We’re being really consistent,” Irvin said. “The vibes are just high. We trust each other. We’re getting to know each other and our games a lot better. And it’s really cool when all facets of the game are clicking.”

Injury notes

The Nationals placed Joey Gallo on the 10-day injured list with a strained hamstring after he came up limping in the seventh inning of Tuesday night’s win. Utility man Trey Lipscomb was recalled to fill his place, his third stint with the parent club. Martinez said he will play a variety of positions, including first base.

Gallo hadn’t gotten an MRI exam as of Wednesday afternoon, so the severity of his injury was unknown. But the hope is that he can come back and contribute sooner rather than later — the 30-year-old first baseman was hitting .262 with a .762 OPS in his past 15 games. ...

Patrick Corbin will start Thursday’s series finale against the Tigers instead of MacKenzie Gore, who will start Friday. Gore is dealing with what Martinez described as an issue with a fingernail on his throwing hand. The problem developed after his last start, but he was able to pitch through it.



ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID D. ROBBINS JR./THE WASHINGTON POST; PHOTOS BY SAM HODDE/GETTY IMAGES

Scottie Scheffler’s odd footwork has not stopped him from becoming the top-ranked golfer in the world.

Scheffler’s happy feet yield big swings

U.S. OPEN FROM D1

started recruiting him. The golfer was just 5 feet tall and about 100 pounds, and he already had developed happy feet in the tee box. Because he was so small, a young Scheffler would overcompensate and take mighty swings to find extra distance.

“And then as he got bigger and taller, his footwork got more, shall we say, aggressive,” said Randy Smith, Scheffler’s longtime coach. Notah Begay III, an NBC golf analyst, started watching Scheffler around that time. It was the young golfer’s stellar short game that really stood out, but the footwork was hard to miss. To Scheffler, it was a natural part of his swing, and Begay credits Smith for not trying to change it.

“I think it was very smart of them not to address the foot issue because as anybody will ever tell you ... if it’s not broken, don’t fix it,” he said.

Scheffler has tinkered, as golfers do. When he was younger, he tried to keep his right foot anchored to the ground. But it never felt right, and Smith encouraged him to work with what felt natural.

“I mess around with him a lot, but he really is kind of a savant when it comes to the swing,” Scheffler said this week. “He has such a good understanding of my swing and where I need to be.”

Smith said it’s a credit to Scheffler’s athleticism that he’s able to pull off his unconventional routine. The swing, after all, is an athletic movement, and Scheffler manages to put his whole body into it. On the takeaway, he begins pushing his back foot into the

ground, and on the backswing, he transfers all of his weight and power from the right side of his body to the left. The uncoiling of his 6-foot-3, 200-plus-pound frame can be ferocious, and the momentum carries Scheffler’s feet away from their starting position.

“I think my footwork was kind of how I was known to people,” Scheffler said recently. “I think a lot of people maybe viewed it as not that good of a trait in my golf swing. I think some people may have said that it would be hard for me to be consistent, hard for me to play under pressure with that much action going on in my swing.”

He doesn’t hear that much anymore. While his sliding feet might look out of control to the naked eye, slow-motion replays show almost all of the foot movement comes *after* the club makes contact with the ball, so it has no impact on the ball flight. Smith, who began working with Scheffler when the golfer was 7, said his balance has never been an issue.

“If you take a picture of it at impact, it’s dead on,” he noted.

Scheffler is among the most consistent long-ball hitters and ball-strikers the game has seen. He enters the U.S. Open ranked No. 1 in strokes gained tee to green by more than a full shot, a massive disparity. He averages more than 301 yards per drive and is the game’s 10th-most-accurate driver.

“It’s funny how we all get caught up in beautiful, stick-your-finish poses,” said Brandel Chamblee, a former pro and current Golf Channel analyst. “And while it is beautiful — Rory [McIlroy] does it, it is beautiful — nobody

ever talks about the perfect balance of home run hitters, because their feet are going everywhere. They’re knocking it out of the park. Golf has essentially home run hitters now.”

Chamblee can rattle off others who danced around the tee box — everyone from Walter Hagen and Johnny Miller to Greg Norman and Mark Calcavecchia — but Scheffler’s ball-striking separates him from the game’s other top players. Smith said because Scheffler’s legs and hips are generating so much power, the 27-year-old is able to rely on his hands for precision and skillful shot-making.

“Of all the players I’ve been around or seen, I don’t know of too many players who have a better feel for where the clubface is during the golf swing,” Smith said. “Even if it’s not exactly where he wants it, by the time it gets to impact, he finds a way to get the clubface back to where he can make something out of it.”

As unusual as it all looks, no one would argue with the results. In his past 16 starts, dating from August, Scheffler has finished outside the top 10 just once. He has won six tournaments and finished tied for second three times, meaning he has finished in the top two in more than half of his events. And no golfer is hotter entering the U.S. Open. Scheffler has won five of his past eight events and, as McIlroy joked this week, “The only thing that took him from winning a golf tournament was going into a jail cell for an hour.”

“Every week we play,” Xander Schauffele said, “he seems to build a bigger lead and somehow make the mountain even taller for all of us to climb.”



JOHN MCDONNELL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

“If you compare [Brian Robinson Jr.] to me, I’m a jitterbug out there,” new signee Austin Ekeler said.

Two-back sets get a look at minicamp

COMMANDERS FROM D1

mandatory minicamp. “He’s going to catch the ball. He’s going to be a strong runner coming downhill. Doesn’t mean he doesn’t have as much wiggle. But if you compare him to me, I’m a jitterbug out there. I’m probably going to be a little bit more maneuverable than he is.”

Washington wants Robinson to improve in the passing game. Even though he broke out as a pass catcher last year — he had 36 catches for 368 yards and four touchdowns — most of those big plays were not designed for him.

Coach Dan Quinn, who calls minicamp a “passing camp,” said Robinson has grown as a pass catcher this spring, in part because he has leaned on “somebody that’s as accomplished in the passing game as Austin.”

If Kingsbury sticks to one-back sets this season, the backs seem liable to fall into traditional roles: Robinson the early-down, between-the-tackles bruiser and Ekeler the passing-down receiver.

But if this spring experiment makes it to Sundays, the Commanders’ offense could have a new feature. Maybe Kingsbury could even dust off a play design from the Cardinals’ game against the Texans in Week 7 of the 2021 season, which came out of a two-back set and went for a 47-yard touchdown to tight end Zach Ertz, now with Washington.

Early risers

Jayden Daniels said he arrives at work every day around

5:45 a.m. That explains why interior offensive lineman Nick Allegretti, who gets in around 6:30, hasn’t beaten his quarterback to the building yet.

During rookie minicamp, Daniels said, wide receiver Luke McCaffrey asked him what time he got to the facility, and McCaffrey has showed up at 5:45 as well ever since.

“Just trying to prepare myself for the day,” Daniels said. “It’s kind of just that routine that I had when I was in college, but now I’m in there actually walking through because I’m still learning the playbook and trying to grasp everything. So just being comfortable for the day and being ready to go out there and go out and compete at practice.”

The play of minicamp

With a free rusher bearing down on him, quarterback Marcus Mariota lofted a flare pass over his head and up the field toward Ekeler. But safety Quan Martin saw it the whole way; he jumped the route, tipped the ball up with one hand and corralled the interception behind his back.

The amazing display of athleticism drew the biggest cheers of camp. Even some offensive players nodded in approval.

It’s no surprise that Martin, a second-year defensive back, looks comfortable in Washington’s scheme. With Quinn last year, Dallas played one of the highest rates of cover-one in the NFL, and when Martin was in college, Illinois had an extreme reliance on cover-one.

Havrisik has a day

Lucas Havrisik started the kicker competition strong.

The 24-year-old, who is with the team on a tryout basis, nailed each of his roughly 10 kicks Wednesday, including a 45-yarder in which the entire team crowded around, hollering and waving arms in an attempt to distract him.

He also nailed a “mayday” drill in which the field goal unit had about 16 seconds of running clock to rush in from the sideline, snap the ball and make a kick from about 30 yards.

Ramiz Ahmed remains the only kicker signed to the roster, at least for now.

Holdovers impress again

Dyami Brown and Cole Turner have had a few big plays this spring. But the young wide receiver and tight end have had promising offseason workouts in the past as well.

The holdovers from the previous regime are trying to show the new coaching staff they can be consistent and produce when it counts.

Injury report

Linebacker Frankie Luvu missed practice with a “very minor” ankle injury, according to a person with knowledge of the situation. The team is not concerned, that person said.

Two veterans, Ertz and wide receiver Jamison Crowder, did not participate in the workout, taking what appeared to be a rest day.

BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Philadelphia	46	21	.687	—	7-3	L-1
Atlanta	35	30	.538	10	3-7	L-5
Washington	32	35	.478	14	6-4	W-5
New York	29	37	.439	16½	6-4	W-1
Miami	23	44	.343	23	3-7	L-1

Nationals 7, Tigers 5

NATIONALS	AB	R	H	BB	SO	AVG
Abrams ss.....	5	2	2	2	0	.248
Thomas rf.....	4	1	1	0	1	.123
Winker lf.....	4	1	3	0	1	.262
Rosario dh.....	5	1	1	0	1	.187
García 2b.....	5	1	2	1	0	.268
Meneses 1b.....	4	0	2	1	0	.237
Ruiz c.....	3	0	1	1	0	.200
Senzel 3b.....	4	1	1	0	1	.238
Young cf.....	4	1	1	0	1	.262
TOTALS	38	7	13	6	5	—

TIGERS	AB	R	H	BB	SO	AVG
Vierling cf.....	5	1	1	1	0	.268
Greene dh.....	5	1	2	1	0	.1245
Pérez lf.....	4	1	3	0	1	.1258
Canha 1b-lf 1b.....	5	1	2	0	0	.237
Keith 2b.....	4	1	1	0	0	.1215
Urschela 3b.....	4	0	2	2	0	.1287
McKinstry ss-lf.....	4	0	0	0	0	.1198
Baddoo lf.....	2	0	0	0	0	.174
Ibáñez ph-1b.....	1	0	0	0	0	.258
Malloy ph.....	1	0	0	0	0	.1150
Kreidler ss.....	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Kelly c.....	4	0	0	0	0	.1228
TOTALS	39	5	12	4	1	—

WASHINGTON 001 130 002 — 7 13 1
DETROIT..... 100 000 031 — 5 12 2

E: Winker (2), Kelly (2), Keith (8). **LOB:** Washington 10, Detroit 8. **2B:** Meneses (8), Young (8), Abrams (13), Urschela (6). **HR:** Abrams (11), off Olson; Vierling (8), off Irvin; Greene (12), off Finnegan. **RBI:** Abrams 2 (34), Ruiz (18), Winker (30), García (28), Meneses (31), Vierling (29), Urschela 2 (18), Greene (29). **SB:** Thomas 2 (16), García (9).

CS: Thomas (4), Young (4). **SF:** Ruiz. **NATIONALS IP H R ER BB SO NPERA**
Irvin..... 6 1 1 1 5 983.00
García..... 1 2 1 1 0 224.43
Floro..... 0 3 2 2 0 0 91.62
Harvey..... 1 0 0 0 0 116.83
Finnegan..... 1 1 1 1 0 121.91

TIGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NPERA
Olson.....	5½	10	5	4	2	3	913.68
Wentz.....	1½	0	0	0	2	1	295.7
Englert.....	1	0	0	0	0	7	73.97
Vest.....	1	3	2	2	1	0	273.54

WP: Irvin (5-5); **LP:** Olson (1-8); **S:** Finnegan (19). Floro pitched to 3 batters in the 8th. **Inherited runners-scored:** Floro 1-1, Harvey 1-0, Wentz 2-0, Englert 3-0. **T:** 2:50. **A:** 20,645 (41,083).

HOW THEY SCORED

TIGERS FIRST
Matt Vierling homers. Riley Greene lines out. Wenceel Perez singles. Mark Canha singles. Wenceel Perez to third. Colt Keith called out on strikes. Gio Urshela flies out.

Tigers 1, Nationals 0
NATIONALS THIRD
Nick Senzel strikes out swinging. Jacob Young flies out. **CJ Abrams** homers. Lane Thomas walks. Jesse Winker walks. Lane Thomas caught stealing third.

Nationals 1, Tigers 1
NATIONALS FOURTH
Eddie Rosario strikes out swinging. Luis García singles. Gio Meneses doubles. Luis García to third. **Colt Keith** called out on a sacrifice fly. **Joe Mene**zes to third. **Luis García** scores. Nick Senzel grounds out.

Nationals 2, Tigers 1
NATIONALS FIFTH
Jacob Young doubles. **CJ Abrams** doubles. **Craig Young** scores. Lane Thomas strikes out swinging. **Jesse Winker** singles. **CJ Abrams** scores. Eddie Rosario singles. Jesse Winker to third. Luis García hits into a force out. Eddie Rosario out at third. **Throwing error** by Carson Kelly. **Luis García** steals second. **Jesse Winker** scores. **Jesse Winker** grounds out.

Nationals 5, Tigers 1
TIGERS EIGHTH
Wenceel Perez singles. Mark Canha singles. Wenceel Perez to second. **Colt Keith** singles. **Mark Canha** to third. **Wenceel Perez** scores. Fielding error by Jesse Winker. **Gio Urshela** doubles. **Colt Keith** scores. **Mark Canha** scores. Zach McKinstry lines out. Justin-Henry Malloy pinch-hitting for Andy Ibáñez (3). Justin-Henry Malloy called out on strikes. Carson Kelly pops out.

Nationals 5, Tigers 4
NATIONALS NINTH
Lane Thomas singles. Jesse Winker walks. Lane Thomas to second. Eddie Rosario hits into a force out. Wenceel Perez strikes out at second. **Lane Thomas** to third. **Luis García** singles. **Eddie Rosario** to second. **Lane Thomas** scores. **Meneses** singles. **Luis García** to second. **Eddie Rosario** scores. **Colt Keith** runs grounds out. **Joe Meneses** flies out. Luis García to third. Nick Senzel flies out.

Nationals 7, Tigers 4
TIGERS NINTH
Matt Vierling grounds out. **Riley Greene** homers. Wenceel Perez strikes out swinging. Mark Canha grounds out.

Nationals 7, Tigers 5

NATIONALS' LEADERS

Entering Thursday's game.

Batters	Avg	H	2B	RBI	BB	SB
Carr	.313	5	1	0	1	3
Vargas	.277	33	10	0	11	3
García	.268	55	11	5	28	11
Winker	.262	56	10	6	30	11
Young	.262	45	8	0	16	10
Lipson	.252	27	1	1	9	11
Abbrams	.248	62	13	11	34	10
Senzel	.238	35	9	6	16	2
Meneses	.237	49	8	2	31	7
Thomas	.223	33	3	4	18	15
Adams	.215	17	5	2	6	7
Ruiz	.200	34	4	4	18	5
Rosario	.187	34	9	7	23	13
Gallo	.164	23	7	5	11	21
Robles	.120	3	0	0	2	5
Millas	.077	1	0	0	0	1
Núñez	.000	0	0	0	0	2
Totals	.233	512	99	53	254	205

Pitchers	W	L	ERA	IP	ER	BB	SO
Flores	1	1	1.62	33.1	6	8	25
Finnegan	2	3	2.83	28.1	6	10	20
Williams	5	0	2.22	56.2	14	16	47
Adon	0	0	2.25	4.0	1	3	2
Law	3	1	2.70	40.0	12	13	40
Harvey	2	2	2.83	35.0	11	7	38
Urbina	5	5	3.00	81.0	27	15	69
Parker	4	3	3.21	61.2	22	15	46
Gore	5	5	3.44	68.0	26	22	81
J.Barnes	3	2	4.35	20.2	10	7	15
García	0	2	4.43	22.1	11	7	28
Corbin	1	7	6.15	71.2	49	27	44
Herz	0	1	6.48	8.1	6	5	8
M.Barnes	0	6	6.75	13.1	10	4	10
Weems	1	1	7.12	24.0	19	14	20
Rosario	0	0	8.44	16.5	13	10	1
Rutledge	0	0	9.00	1.0	0	1	2
Gray	0	2	14.04	0.1	13	5	9
Totals	32	35	3.93	593.2	259	192	523

NL leaders

Entering Wednesday's games.

BATTING	
Arraez, SD.....	.327
Proffar, SD.....	.324
Quina, ATL.....	.316
Ohtani, LA.....	.312
Betts, LA.....	.309
Contreras, Mil.....	.307

ERA	
Suárez, Phi.....	1.81
López, Atl.....	1.85
Imanaga, Chi.....	1.96
Wheeler, Phi.....	2.16
Sánchez, Phi.....	2.21
Assad, Chi.....	2.74

AL leaders

Entering Wednesday's games.

BATTING	
Witt, KC.....	.321
Soto, NY.....	.319
Judge, NY.....	.316
Rutschman, Bal.....	.301
Perez, KC.....	.296

ERA

Houck, Bos.....	1.91
Skubal, Det.....	1.92
Gil, NY.....	2.04
Burnes, Bal.....	2.08
Lugo, KC.....	2.37

Twins 17, Rockies 9

Willi Castro and Royce Lewis homered and Carlos Correa had a career-best five hits for Minnesota, which finished with 24 hits.

ROCKIES	AB	R	H	BB	SO	AVG
Blackmon dh.....	5	1	1	0	0	.257
Doyle cf.....	4	1	2	2	0	.265
Jones ph.....	1	0	0	0	0	.100
Tovar ss.....	3	1	1	1	0	.293
Trejo ph.....	1	1	1	0	0	.146
McMahon 3b.....	2	2	1	1	0	.267
Goodman ph.....	1	0	0	0	0	.156
Stallings c.....	5	1	2	2	0	.195
Toglia rf.....	4	1	1	1	0	.159
Cave lf.....	4	0	1	1	0	.238
Montero 1b.....	3	0	0	1	0	.203
Amador 2b.....	4	1	1	0	0	.143
TOTALS	38	9	12	7	3	—

TWINS	AB	R	H	BB	SO	AVG
Margot rf.....	3	2	2	1	0	.238
Kepler ph-rf.....	1	0	0	0	0	.250
Correa ss.....	6	3	5	1	0	.290
Lewis dh.....	5	3	2	0	0	.367
Miranda 3b.....	5	1	2	2	0	.1273
Burton cf.....	4	2	1	1	0	.230
Santana 1b.....	4	2	3	4	0	.230
Farmer 2b.....	5	1	3	2	0	.192
Castro lf.....	5	2	3	1	0	.160
Vázquez c.....	5	1	2	2	0	.189
TOTALS	44	17	24	17	2	—

COLORADO..... 100 101 231 — 9 12 1
MINNESOTA..... 500 302 07X — 17 24 2
E: Amador (1), Vázquez (4), Correa (3). **LOB:** Colorado 6, Minnesota 6. **2B:** McMahon (13), Cave (3), Tovar (21), Blackmon (14), Stallings 2 (6), Santana (9), Vázquez 2 (5), Margot (6), Miranda 2 (12), Lewis (2). **HR:** McMahon (12), off López; Castro (5), off Gombier; Lewis (5), off Chivilli.

ROCKIES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gombier.....	3½	11	8	8	1	4	2.26
Molina.....	4	1	2	2	0	0	0.693
Chivilli.....	1	2	2	2	0	0	10.3
Hartlieb.....	1	2	0	0	0	0	13.00
Mears.....	¼	4	5	5	1	0	17.31
Rogers.....	¾	3	2	2	0	0	6.75

TWINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
López.....	5	5	2	2	0	5	5.33
Alcala.....	1	1	1	1	0	0	0.225
Okert.....	0	1	2	2	0	0	3.27
Thielbar.....	0	1	3	1	2	0	8.04
Duran.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.408
Jackson.....	1	2	1	1	0	0	3.94

WP: López (6-6); **LP:** Gombier (1-4). Thielbar pitched to 4 batters in the 8th. **Inherited runners-scored:** Molina 1-1, Rogers 2-2, Duran 2-1. **T:** 3:08. **A:** 18,875 (38,544).

Brewers 5, Blue Jays 4

Rookie Tobias Myers won back-to-back starts for the first time, allowing one run and three hits over six innings to lead Milwaukee past Toronto for its sixth straight home win.

The 25-year-old Myers struck out four and walked one, exiting the game with a 5-1 lead.

BLUE JAYS	AB	R	H	BB	SO	AVG
Horwitz 1b.....	4	2	1	0	1	.389
Schneider lf.....	4	1	2	1	0	.1229
Bichette ss.....	4	0	1	1	0	.240
Vogelbach dh.....	1	0	0	0	0	.186
Jansen ph-dh.....	1	0	0	0	0	.262
Springer rf.....	4	0	0	0	0	.198
Kirk c.....	3	0	1	0	0	.1211
Varsho cf.....	2	0	0	0	0	.217
Turner ph.....	1	0	0	0	0	.232
Kennedy cf.....	4	0	0	0	0	.200
Giener-Phelps lf.....	1	0	0	0	0	.281
Kinner-Falefa 2b.....	3	0	0	0	0	.1266
Clement 3b.....	3	1	2	0	0	.243
TOTALS	31	4	7	4	2	—

BREWERS	AB	R	H	BB	SO	AVG
Turron 2b.....	5	1	1	0	0	.294
Contreras c.....	5	1	1	0	0	.305
Yelich dh.....	4	1	3	1	0	.325
Adames ss.....	4	1	2	1	0	.246
Frellick rf.....	3	0	2	1	0	.1259
Baers 1b.....	4	0	1	0	0	.209
Chourr 3b.....	0	2	0	0	0	.1222
Dunn lf.....	2	0	0	0	0	.1221
Perkins cf.....	3	1	1	0	0	.255
TOTALS	34	5	11	4	5	—

TORONTO..... 100 000 003 — 4 7 1
MILWAUKEE..... 000 005 00X — 5 11 0

E: Kirk (3). **LOB:** Toronto 3, Milwaukee 11. **2B:** Clement (6). **HR:** Schneider (8), off Myers; Adames (11), off Mayza. **BLUE JAYS IP H R ER BB SO NPERA**
Bassitt..... 5 5 0 0 4 53.56
Pop..... ½ 2 3 1 0 0.540
Gomes..... 1 0

WNBA keeps getting bigger, but NBA remains in command

WNBA FROM D1

recognize the increasing value of the WNBA regardless of whether they ascribe a specific figure to its rights. But some wonder what that strategy potentially says about the league's future growth.

"Even if the money is less, I would rather have independent money," said David Samson, the former president of MLB's Miami Marlins and host of the "Nothing Personal" podcast, "because then you have a real business. ... If a media company says we value the WNBA at X, that's a real value of what the WNBA's rights are. Otherwise, it's like buying social media followers: perceived value but not real."

In interviews, several WNBA executives said they did not share those concerns. As long as the money arrives, they said, it's not important how it gets there. And regardless of the accounting, there are other reasons the leagues should partner, many of those people said. The leagues share resources and cross-promote, and the NBA can leverage its larger fan base to demand more exposure, better time slots and other support for the WNBA.

"It's a huge advantage to us to go to market with the NBA," WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert told The Washington Post. "Especially with streaming ser-

vices who rely on a 12-month subscription model. If we're only there for 4½ months ... how attractive is that? But we and the NBA are maybe the only sports properties that can give 330 days of live programming — almost the entire year. That's hugely valuable to a subscription platform."

Added William Mao, senior vice president in the media rights consulting division at Octagon: "There is value to the leagues and the media companies to have this overall halo effect around pro basketball." He added that he expected the WNBA would "get the same multiple" of its current deal whether negotiating alone or with the NBA.

Independent of the media deals, the new burst of attention has plenty of stakeholders around the WNBA hoping to make sure its governing and business structures are ready to capitalize. Some of that has to do with how much to lean on the NBA, the benefits of which can be obvious. Joe Lacob, owner of the NBA's Golden State Warriors, recently paid a \$50 million expansion fee to secure the rights to a Bay Area WNBA team, which has used the Warriors' existing infrastructure to launch. The Golden State Valkyries, a reference to a female warrior of Norse mythology, start play next season.

That investment is also crucial



NOAH K. MURRAY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boosted by the Indiana Fever's Caitlin Clark and other young stars, the WNBA is in line to land a transformative broadcast rights deal.

when WNBA revenue still lags far behind that of other American sports leagues. It was between \$180 million and \$200 million, Bloomberg reported last year — a fraction of the more than \$10 billion the NBA earns. NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said in 2018 that the WNBA had lost an average of more than \$10 million per year since its founding, which means the NBA has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in the league since its inception. This year, the WNBA and its teams still are expected to lose around \$50 million, according to two people with knowledge of the figures, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the league's finances.

"The truth is, this league would

be hard-pressed to exist without the NBA," said one WNBA team executive, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the executive wasn't authorized to speak publicly about the league's finances.

What remains confusing, even to some around the league, is how the ownership structure of the WNBA works. The NBA's stake in the league includes its original investment in 1996, in addition to the owners who jointly own NBA and WNBA franchises. It also includes an additional percentage from a \$75 million capital raise in 2022 by the WNBA — investors included Nike, some NBA team owners and former secretary of state Condoleezza Rice.

The amount of equity the WNBA sold, which not all league

owners supported, was around 15 percent, people familiar with the figures said. That suggests the league was valued at around \$500 million. (Teams were not included in the valuation. The money, Engelbert said at the time, was used for player marketing and fan engagement.)

Now, the league is in line for more cash infusions in addition to the media rights deal. Toronto is also set to get an expansion team, and another city — possibly Portland, Ore. — could soon follow, with each new team paying the league a hefty expansion fee. Engelbert has said she wants the league to have 16 teams.

Multiple people connected to the WNBA, however, cautioned that only around 40 percent of WNBA revenue actually reaches the league's teams and players. The NBA gets around 40 percent, and the outside investors get a percentage, too. That, the people said, affects franchise valuations and the financial windfall from the new TV deal. (That's a different setup from the NBA, where revenue is distributed equally among its 30 teams. The disbursements in both leagues come after league office expenses are covered.)

The WNBA currently has a salary cap of around \$1.4 million for each team, which puts the average salary for each player at a little more than \$100,000. Also hanging over the league: the expectation that the players will opt out of the collective bargaining agreement next year. In the past, the players have been frustrated

by what they view as a lack of transparency about the league's finances.

Another lingering question in WNBA circles is how league decisions are made. When Engelbert announced the league would pay for charter flights ahead of this season, plenty were pleased but didn't understand what had changed or who ultimately signed off on the expense, which Engelbert said would cost \$25 million per year for the 12 teams. Others around the league believed it was Engelbert's call.

The same questions arise around expansion, with some around the league unsure who approves expansion groups: the WNBA or the NBA. Engelbert reports to Silver, and the marketing and communications departments for the WNBA report to the NBA as well. (A WNBA spokesman referred all questions for this story to the NBA. An NBA spokesman declined to comment.)

The point, these people said, wasn't that the relationship doesn't work but that building an infrastructure to support the WNBA's growth remains critical. The WNBA has taken some of those steps, such as appointing a chief growth officer.

Ultimately, the WNBA's growth is plain to see. And person after person who spoke with The Post had another prediction: The WNBA is likely to have its own media rights deals whenever they are next negotiated.

Kareem Copeland contributed to this report.



JEFF ROBBINS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jerry West takes on the Knicks in the 1973 NBA Finals, which New York won in five games. West played in nine Finals, winning once.

JERRY BREWER

On court, as GM, in the logo — an influence for the ages

BREWER FROM D1

Then they would move back a step. They didn't take a shot beyond about eight feet. It was a simple 30-minute instruction, but it was enthralling to witness West — whose longevity as an influential figure is unrivaled in basketball history — operate with so much care.

The Grizzlies had been in Memphis for one season after relocating from Vancouver. In its first seven seasons, the franchise had a 124-418 record, a .229 winning percentage. But now the Grizzlies had West, the legendary Los Angeles Lakers icon and executive who also coached for a few seasons. And even though he was featured more than the players in promotions throughout Memphis, he was still the humble perfectionist from Chelyan, WVa., who just wanted to do right by the game.

The sport celebrates his blessed life now. West died at 86 on Wednesday, on the morning before Game 3 of the NBA Finals. There is a particular poignancy to losing him during this event. It is the only thing he couldn't master as a player. He won one championship in nine Finals appearances. Six of those eight losses came to the indomitable Boston Celtics. His professional playing career, which lasted from 1960 to 1974, was a mélange of excellence, misery and doggedness. There was almost a valor to his determination because he had to battle the darkness within him to keep going. The title of his memoir captured him best: "West by West: My Charmed, Tormented Life."

In that book, West worked with author Jonathan Coleman to write an unsparing and honest self-examination. In his candor, you could feel his torture. You understood his genius, too. West was so aware of his flaws yet resolute about improvement. He kept getting up, whether it was to face the Celtics again — or himself.

He learned hard lessons about the limitations of individual greatness. In 1969, he was the Finals MVP, but the Lakers lost to the Celtics in seven games. He remains the only player to be the Finals MVP in a losing effort. West was awarded a car for his performance. It was a green Dodge Charger. It resembled the color of the Celtics' road jerseys.

In an old interview, he wore a dark suit and answered a few questions in front of the car as he accepted the MVP gift. Of the loss, he said, "I know that it's going to be particularly hard for me to understand this summer."

In his book, he wrote of that summer: "I was lost, and I was depressed. Wherever I went, I had a hard time making eye contact with people."

In 1969, the NBA also hired a branding agency to design a new logo that it still uses. It's a silhouette of West dribbling. The league has always been coy about that fact, but it's an open secret. Typical West — he was uncomfortable being the inspiration for one of the most recognizable emblems in sports.

"It almost feels like I have to apologize for that symbol," he once said. "It's not fun."

When West finally broke through and helped the Lakers secure the 1972 NBA title, he

struggled with his shooting, but that team — which finished 69-13 in the regular season and set a record with 33 straight victories — was too balanced to be denied. A champion for the first time, he still spent that offseason in deep thought.

"It was particularly frustrating because I was playing so poorly that the team overcame me," West said later. "Maybe that's what a team is all about."

That's West: conflicted, humbled but never tired. He took a lesson from every triumph and setback. West arrived in the NBA 14 years into the league's existence, and for the past 64 years, no one has had a more thorough impact on the sport. He's widely acclaimed as one of the top 20 players in history, and because he ended up influencing so many franchises, he is without peer as an executive. He sustained the "Showtime" Lakers and possessed the vision to pair Shaquille O'Neal with Kobe Bryant. In Memphis, he convinced a 69-year-old Hubie Brown to return to coaching after a 15-year absence to teach the Grizzlies how to win. In 2011, West came out of retirement to serve as an executive board member for Golden State and help the Warriors craft their dynasty. Since 2017, he had served in a similar role for owner Steve Ballmer and the Los Angeles Clippers, and while the Clippers have yet to play for a championship, they've forged a reputation as a sustainable contender.

As an executive, West contributed to eight championships. It just happens to be the same number of times

that the Lakers finished as a runner-up during his playing days. But for as much as we measure West by championships won and lost, he should be remembered as a scrupulous basketball savant who was concerned with every little thing, from a young backup point guard's shooting to the finest points of player evaluation. He was known for drafting and recruiting big stars, but even if you get granular about his track record as a GM, you realize he shot a preposterously high percentage on all of his decisions.

No one has ever seen the game as clearly — from so many angles and across so many different eras — as West did. We must hope that, amid all his self-abuse and modesty, West realized the soaring influence he had on his profession.

"Connie, my wife, called him my 'basketball dad,'" Ballmer said in a statement. "He was absolutely my basketball sage: wise, loyal and so much fun. If you were in his presence, you felt his competitiveness and his drive. He cared about everything and everyone. From the first day I met Jerry seven years ago, he inspired me with his intellect, honesty and enthusiasm. He never stopped. I spent a lot of time with him, some of the best times of my life."

With the Celtics leading the Dallas Mavericks in the Finals, perhaps West didn't want to risk seeing his old rivals win title No. 18 and break a tie with the Lakers for the most in league history. He gets to rest now — tormented no more, charmed forever.

Celtics' first title since 2008 is a victory away after road win

NBA FINALS FROM D1

shot-making to score on their first seven possessions after half-time, building a 21-point lead. Then, it was time for the scattered green shirts in the building to experience deep queasiness when the Mavericks countered with a 22-2 run to slice the Celtics' lead to one and set the stage for a high-pressure ending.

"We're just as vulnerable, if not more vulnerable, than they are," Celtics Coach Joe Mazzulla said, preaching against the type of complacency his team displayed in the fourth quarter. "We have to play that way. When you understand you're vulnerable and your back is against the wall, you fight. That's the mind-set we have to have."

But the prospect of a classic fourth-quarter Finals comeback fizzled when Mavericks star Luka Doncic fouled out with 4:12 remaining on a debatable blocking foul. Without its franchise player for the closing stretch, Dallas couldn't conjure enough offense to keep pace with Boston and failed to crack 100 points for the third time in three games against Boston's stifling defense.

"We had a good chance, and we were close," Doncic said. "We just didn't get it. I wish I was out there. [The series is] not over until it's over, so we've just got to believe."

The Celtics shook free from their agonizing dry spell on offense to seal the win with a group effort in the final three minutes: Jrue Holiday found Derrick White for a three-pointer from the top of the key, White found Jayson Tatum in the paint for a spinning dunk, and Jaylen Brown dribbled into a double-clutch jumper near the free throw line to stave off the Mavericks. Kyrie Irving, P.J. Washington and Tim Hardaway Jr. had opportunities to narrow the margin, but Dallas's offense sputtered in the closing minutes.

Hosting their first Finals game since 2011, the Mavericks came out of the gate with an urgency befitting their perilous position, going up 9-2 to force an early Celtics timeout before building their first double-digit lead of the series midway through the first quarter. Irving, coming off a pair of poor shooting games in Boston, hit four three-pointers in the first half to put Dallas up by as many as 13.

Knowing no NBA team has come back to win after facing a 3-0 deficit in a best-of-seven playoff series, Dallas pulled out all the stops. Dirk Nowitzki, Tyson Chandler, Shawn Marion, Jason Terry and other members of the Mavericks' 2011 championship team pumped up the crowd from a luxury suite, and Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes voiced a pregame motivational video.

Mavericks fans chanted "MVP!" as Doncic piled up 13

first-quarter points, but the Celtics, who were without center Kristaps Porzingis because of a left ankle injury, hardly flinched.

Mazzulla continued to start Al Horford at center and plugged Xavier Tillman into Porzingis's spot in the rotation. Tillman, acquired from the Memphis Grizzlies before the trade deadline, turned in a pair of hustle plays to buy time for Horford. Despite the result, Boston clearly missed Porzingis: Doncic and Irving found more room to attack going to the basket without his rim-protection ability, and the two guards combined for 62 of Dallas's 99 points. Irving scored a game-high 35 points, but only four Mavericks players finished in double figures.

Mazzulla revealed few details about Porzingis, who the Celtics said suffered "a torn medial retinaculum allowing dislocation of the posterior tibialis tendon in his left leg" during Game 2. Porzingis had wanted to play in Game 3 after missing 10 games during the postseason with a right calf strain, but Boston's medical staff mixed the idea, and he was officially ruled out roughly two hours before tip-off. His status for Game 4 and the rest of the series remains unknown.

"Porzingis didn't look right," Mazzulla said. "That was it. I wasn't involved in it. It was out of his hands. It was up to the medical team. They watched him through some testing and they said it didn't feel right, so you're not playing."

Without Porzingis to punish mismatches, Tatum looked to score more often than he had earlier in the series. Tatum had 20 points by halftime, and he helped stunt Dallas's momentum with a leak-out dunk to close the first quarter. Though his shot selection got looser in the fourth quarter, he posted a team-high 31 points to go with six rebounds and five assists. Brown added 30 points, eight rebounds and eight assists, scoring 15 points during Boston's 35-19 third quarter.

"[Brown] yearns to get better," Mazzulla said. "He's not afraid to face his weaknesses on the court. When you have that type of mind-set, you're just going to be able to take on every situation the game brings you. He puts himself in every situation he sees in a game. He uses six, seven or eight coaches a day. That's how you have to grow."

With a win in Friday's Game 4, Boston can become the first team to sweep the NBA Finals since the 2017-18 Golden State Warriors and the first Eastern Conference team to do so since the 1988-89 Detroit Pistons. That would qualify as a resounding grand finale for a 64-win regular season team that is now 15-2 in the playoffs. Hundreds of relieved Celtics fans stayed late after the buzzer, mugging for television cameras and fully expecting their faith to be rewarded.



snow day or school day?

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5/24/24

In final Copa tuneup, U.S. men draw with mighty Brazil

UNITED STATES 1, BRAZIL 1

BY STEVEN GOFF

ORLANDO — The U.S. men's national soccer team will head to Copa América feeling much better about itself.

Four days after a troubling performance against Colombia, Gregg Berhalter's squad completed a two-match tuneup for the massive summer tournament with a 1-1 draw against five-time world champion Brazil.

Christian Pulisic scored on a terrific free kick midway through the first half, offsetting Rodrygo's early goal before 60,016 at Camping World Stadium.

The outcome, though, was secondary to the U.S. performance, which was a marked improvement from Saturday's 5-1 defeat in Landover. The Americans played with heart, cohesion and composure against their famous yellow-clad foes, elements that were glaringly absent for much of the match at Commanders Field.

“We feel like we made a little step,” Berhalter said. “It’s not a huge step, but it’s a little step — to be able to play against an amazingly talented Brazil team and bend but not break and give them problems and push them as well. We think it’s a good end to our preparation campaign, and we’re ready for Copa América.”

After a slow start, the Americans created several quality scoring chances and, if not for two sterling saves, could have come away with the upset.

The draw ended Brazil’s 11-game winning streak in the 20-game series and was the first deadlock between the teams. The only U.S. victory came in 1998.

Berhalter is expected to name his 26-man Copa América roster Friday. With 27 players in camp, the fitness of forward Josh Sargent and midfielder Tyler Adams will affect final decisions.

Copa América, South America’s treasured tournament dating from 1916, is the most important

test for the Americans before a 2026 World Cup is staged at U.S., Mexican and Canadian venues.

U.S. group play will begin June 23 against Bolivia, South America’s lowest-ranked team, in Arlington, Tex., followed by Panama on June 27 in Atlanta and group favorite Uruguay on July 1 in Kansas City, Mo.

Two teams will advance to the quarterfinals. If the United States is not one of them, Berhalter would be in grave danger of losing his job less than a year into his second term.

Despite the lopsided loss to Colombia — and the inconsequential nature of friendlies — Berhalter made just two lineup changes. Ricardo Pepi replaced Folarin Balogun at striker, and Yunus Musah stepped in for Johnny Cardoso at defensive midfield.

Twelve days before Brazil’s tournament opener vs. Costa Rica, Brazil Coach Dorival Júnior was not messing around. His starters included Vinícius Júnior and Rodrygo, Real Madrid’s forwards fresh off the UEFA Champi-

ons League championship June 1. Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson, Paris Saint-Germain defender Marquinhos and Barcelona forward Raphinha also were in the lineup.

The Americans were not intimidated, taking the game to Brazil in the early moments. Musah drove a 30-yard screamer off the crossbar, and Pulisic tested Alisson from 25 yards after making an assertive run.

Brazil shrugged. In the 17th minute, Bruno Guimarães headed U.S. goalkeeper Matt Turner’s short clearance to Raphinha in an acre of space. With U.S. defenders stretched, Raphinha’s silky diagonal pass set up Rodrygo for a 10-yard finish to the far corner.

The Americans answered seven minutes later. João Gomes took down Pulisic at the edge of the penalty area. On the ensuing free kick, Brazil’s wall was misaligned. Pulisic took advantage of a wide gap and placed a low shot into the left corner for his 29th goal in 68 international matches.

A halftime tie was a 45-minute victory for the U.S. team.

Brazil set the tone in the second half, but U.S. defenders closed space and made smart tackles in shielding Turner. The goalkeeper was still tested plenty but made 11 saves — the most by a U.S. goalkeeper since Tim Howard’s 15-stop performance vs. Belgium at the 2014 World Cup.

A breakthrough moment for the United States presented itself in the 68th minute. Right back Joe Scally crossed to Weston McKennie, who set up Pulisic alone in the penalty area for a 12-yard one-timer. Alisson got down quickly, fully extending himself and slapping the ball with his left glove.

Turner took his turn in the 74th minute on Rodrygo’s angled threat.

Adams, the 2022 World Cup captain hampered by injuries, made his first appearance in the two-game set, entering in the 75th minute. Eight minutes later, Pulisic set up substitute Brenden Aaronson at the doorstep, but Alisson intervened.

Back and forth the game went

— elevating a harmless friendly into a tense finish. Turner made another standout save, and his team dodged threats in stoppage time for a much-needed draw.

“When I saw the guys in the locker room after the game, they’re exhausted,” Berhalter said. “They gave everything, and that’s all you can ask for. So we’ll use that little bit of momentum to head into Copa América.”

Note: Should the Americans win their 2026 World Cup first-round group, they would remain on the West Coast for the round of 32, FIFA announced. That game would take place at Levi’s Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif.

A second-place finish would send the Americans to Arlington, Tex. By being one of the top third-place teams, they would end up in any of eight venues.

Inglewood, Calif. (two games) and Seattle will stage U.S. group matches, FIFA previously said.

Copa América: Bolivia at U.S.

Group C in Arlington, Tex.

June 23, 6 p.m., Fox, Univision

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA playoffs

CONFERENCE FINALS

Best of seven

EASTERN CONFERENCE

CELTICS ELIMINATED PACERS, 4-0

Game 1: at Boston 133, Indiana 128 (OT)
Game 2: Dallas 109, at Minnesota 108
Game 3: at Dallas 116, Minnesota 107
Game 4: Boston 114, at Indiana 111
Game 5: at Boston 107, at Indiana 102

WESTERN CONFERENCE

MAVERICKS ELIMINATED TIMBERWOLVES, 4-1

Game 1: Dallas 108, at Minnesota 105
Game 2: Dallas 109, at Minnesota 108
Game 3: at Dallas 116, Minnesota 107
Game 4: Minnesota 105, at Dallas 100
Game 5: Dallas 124, at Dallas 103

NBA FINALS

Best of seven; x-if necessary; all games on ABC

CELTICS LEAD MAVERICKS, 3-0

Game 1: at Boston 107, Dallas 89
Game 2: at Boston 105, Dallas 98
Game 3: Boston 106, at Dallas 99
Friday’s game: Boston at Dallas, 8:30
x-Monday’s game: Dallas at Boston, 8:30
x-Thursday, June 20: Boston at Dallas, 8:30
x-Sunday, June 23: Dallas at Boston, 8

Celtics 106, Mavericks 99

Boston 30 20 35 21 — 106
Dallas 31 20 19 29 — 99

BOSTON MIN FG FT O-T A PF PTS
Brown 41:28 12-22 4-5 1-8 3 30
Tatum 41:50 11-26 5-5 0-4 5 2 31
Gafford 16:17 3-3 0-0 1-3 1 2 6
Holiday 41:35 4-9 0-0 0-6 5 4 9
White 41:36 4-10 4-4 0-5 4 1 16
Hauser 14:19 3-4 0-0 1-3 1 1 9
Tilman 11:13 1-1 0-0 1-4 0 2 3
Pritchard 0:41 0-0 0-0 0-1 1 2 0
TOTALS 240 38-82 13-14 6-36 26 19 106

Percentages: FG .463, FT .929, 3-Point Goals: 17-46, 37.0 (White 4-9, Tatum 4-13, Hauser 3-4, Horford 2-5, Brown 2-9, Tilman 1-1, Holiday 1-3, Pritchard 0-2). **Team Rebounds:** 7, **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 6 (Tilman 2, White 2, Brown, Horford). **Turnovers:** 9 (Brown, 3, Horford, 2, Tatum, 2, Tilman, White). **Steals:** 4 (Horford 2, Holiday, 2, Tatum). **Technical Fouls:** None.

DALLAS MIN FG FT O-T A PF PTS
Jones Jr. 15:47 1-2 0-0 1-3 1 0 2
Washington 38:50 3-9 4-6 1-8 2 3 13
Gafford 16:17 3-3 0-0 1-3 1 2 6
Doncic 37:43 11-27 4-4 0-6 6 2 27
Irving 45:15 13-28 5-5 0-3 0 6 35
Lively II 29:59 5-6 1-1 3-13 1 0 11
Green 22:14 1-2 0-0 1-3 2 2 3
Hardaway Jr. 19:25 1-2 0-0 0-3 0 1 0
Kleber 8:04 0-2 0-0 0-1 0 0 0
Haley 3:48 0-1 0-0 0-0 0 0 0
Exum 2:35 1-1 0-0 0-0 0 0 2
TOTALS 240 38-86 14-16 7-43 15 17 99

Percentages: FG .442, FT .875, 3-Point Goals: 9-25, 36.0 (Irving 4-6, Washington 3-6, Green 1-1, Doncic 1-2, Jones Jr. 0-1, Kleber 0-1, Hardaway Jr. 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 9, **Team Turnovers:** 1. **Blocked Shots:** 1 (Gafford). **Turnovers:** 3 (Doncic 2, Irving 2, Washington 2, Haley). **Steals:** 5 (Lively II 2, Doncic, Green, Jones Jr.). **Technical Fouls:** None. A: 20,311 (19,200).

WNBA

EAST W L Pct GB
Connecticut 11 1 .917 —
New York 11 2 .846 ½
Atlanta 5 5 .500 5
Chicago 4 7 .364 6½
Indiana 10 23 .31 8
Washington 1 12 .077 10½

WEST W L Pct GB
Minnesota 9 3 .750 —
Seattle 8 4 .667 1
Phoenix 6 5 .500 3
Las Vegas 5 5 .500 3
Los Angeles 4 8 .333 5
Dallas 3 7 .300 5

TUESDAY’S RESULTS

Washington 87, at Atlanta 68
at Seattle 95, Los Angeles 79
Minnesota 100, at Las Vegas 86

WEDNESDAY’S RESULTS

Connecticut 83, at Chicago 75

THURSDAY’S GAMES

Atlanta at Indiana, 7
Seattle at Dallas, 7
Las Vegas at Phoenix, 10

FRIDAY’S GAMES

Chicago at Washington, 7:30
Los Angeles at Minnesota, 7:30

SATURDAY’S GAMES

Connecticut at Dallas, 1
New York at Las Vegas, 3

Sun 83, Sky 75

Connecticut 20 20 23 — 85
Chicago 22 16 17 20 — 73

CONNECTICUT MIN FG FT O-T A PF PTS
Bonner 33:46 4-16 8-9 0-8 3 16
Thomas 40:00 9-13 2-2 1-7 4 20
Jones 24:38 7-12 4-5 3-4 4 18
Carrington 24:51 2-7 4-4 1-2 1 2 9
Harris 31:51 4-7 3-4 2-4 7 2 13
Mitchell 21:45 1-3 1-2 0-4 0 3 3
Nelson-Ododa 15:22 1-3 2-2 1-3 0 1 4
Jefferson 4:26 0-0 0-0 0-0 1 0 0
Burton 3:21 0-1 0-0 0-0 2 0 0
TOTALS 200 28-62 24-28 8-28 21 14 83

Percentages: FG .452, FT .857, 3-Point Goals: 3-14, 21.4 (Harris 2-3, Carrington 1-2, Burton 0-1, Mitchell 0-1, Bonner 0-7). **Team Rebounds:** 10. **Team Turnovers:** 1. **Blocked Shots:** 2 (Carrington, Nelson-Ododa). **Turnovers:** 14 (Thomas 6, Bonner 2, Burton, Carrington, Harris, Jones, Mitchell, Nelson-Ododa). **Steals:** 13 (Thomas 6, Harris 2, Nelson-Ododa 2, Bonner, Jones, Mitchell). **Technical Fouls:** None.

CHICAGO MIN FG FT O-T A PF PTS
DeShields 23:02 3-7 1-2 0-2 1 1 9
Reese 36:28 8-10 4-4 4-10 1 5 20
DeSousa 20:51 3-7 4-4 3-9 0 2 10
Evans 23:02 2-4 0-0 0-1 5 2 5
Mabrey 34:38 3-13 2-3 1-6 5 3 10
Allen 16:58 1-3 0-0 0-0 3 2 2
Carter 16:58 5-11 0-0 0-1 3 2 10
Harrison 11:28 3-3 2-2 0-0 1 1 9
Onyewere 5:22 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0
Turner 2:13 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0
TOTALS 200 28-63 13-15 8-29 19 18 75

Percentages: FG .483, FT .867, 3-Point Goals: 6-13, 46.2 (DeShields 2-4, Mabrey 2-7, Evans 1-1, Harrison 1-1). **Team Rebounds:** 3. **Team Turnovers:** 2. **Blocked Shots:** 7 (Cardoso 3, Mabrey 3, DeShields). **Turnovers:** 17 (Reese 4, Cardoso 3, Carter 3, Allen 2, Harrison 2, Mabrey 2, Evans 3). **Steals:** 8 (Carter 3, Reese 2, Burton, Carrington, Mabrey). **Technical Fouls:** coach Crystal Robinson, 8:17 second. A: 7,815 (10,387). T: 2:05.

HOCKEY

Stanley Cup playoffs

FIRST ROUND

Best of seven

EASTERN CONFERENCE

RANGERS ELIMINATED CAPITALS, 4-0

Game 1: at New York 4, Washington 1
Game 2: at New York 4, Washington 3
Game 3: New York 3, at Washington 1
Game 4: New York 4, Washington 2

HURRICANES ELIMINATED ISLANDERS, 4-1

Game 1: at Carolina 3, New York 1
Game 2: at Carolina 5, New York 3
Game 3: Carolina 3, at New York 2
Game 4: at New York 3, Carolina 2 (2OT)
Game 5: at Carolina 6, New York 3

PANTHERS ELIMINATED LIGHTNING, 4-1

Game 1: at Florida 3, Tampa Bay 2
Game 2: at Florida 3, Tampa Bay 2
Game 3: Florida 5, at Tampa Bay 3
Game 4: at Tampa Bay 6, Florida 3
Game 5: at Florida 6, Tampa Bay 1

BRUINS ELIMINATED MAPLE LEAFS, 4-3

Game 1: at Boston 5, Toronto 1
Game 2: Toronto 3, at Boston 2
Game 3: Boston 4, at Toronto 2
Game 4: Boston 3, at Toronto 1
Game 5: Toronto 2, at Boston 1 (OT)
Game 6: at Toronto 2, Boston 1
Game 7: at Boston 2, Toronto 1 (OT)

WESTERN CONFERENCE

AVANLACHE ELIMINATED JETS, 4-1

Game 1: at Winnipeg 7, Colorado 6
Game 2: Colorado 5, at Winnipeg 2
Game 3: at Colorado 6, Winnipeg 2
Game 4: at Colorado 5, Winnipeg 1
Game 5: Colorado 6, at Winnipeg 3

OILERS ELIMINATED KINGS, 4-1

Game 1: at Edmonton 7, Los Angeles 4
Game 2: Los Angeles 3, at Edmonton 4 (OT)
Game 3: Edmonton 1, at Los Angeles 1
Game 4: Edmonton 1, at Los Angeles 0
Game 5: at Los Angeles 3, Edmonton 3

CANUCKS ELIMINATED PREDATORS, 4-2

Game 1: at Vancouver 4, Nashville 2
Game 2: Nashville 4, at Vancouver 1
Game 3: Vancouver 2, at Nashville 1
Game 4: Vancouver 4, at Nashville 3 (OT)
Game 5: Nashville 2, at Vancouver 1
Game 6: at Vancouver 5, Dallas 0

STARS ELIMINATED GOLDEN KNIGHTS, 4-3

Game 1: Vegas 4, at Dallas 3
Game 2: Vegas 3, at Dallas 1
Game 3: Dallas 3, at Vegas 2
Game 4: Dallas 4, at Vegas 2
Game 5: at Dallas 3, Vegas 2
Game 6: at Vegas 2, Dallas 4
Game 7: at Dallas 2, Vegas 1

SECOND ROUND

Best of seven

EASTERN CONFERENCE

RANGERS ELIMINATED HURRICANES, 4-2

Game 1: at New York 4, Carolina 3
Game 2: New York 4, at Carolina 3 (2OT)
Game 3: New York 3, at Carolina 2 (OT)
Game 4: at Carolina 4, New York 3
Game 5: Carolina 4, at New York 1
Game 6: New York 5, at Carolina 3

PANTHERS ELIMINATED BRUINS, 4-2

Game 1: Boston 5, at Florida 6
Game 2: Florida 6, Boston 1
Game 3: Florida 6, at Boston 2
Game 4: Florida 3, at Boston 2
Game 5: Boston 2, at Florida 1
Game 6: Florida 2, at Boston 1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

STARS ELIMINATED AVANLACHE, 4-2

Game 1: Colorado 4, at Dallas 3 (OT)
Game 2: New York 4, at Dallas 3
Game 3: Dallas 5, Colorado 4
Game 4: Dallas 4, at Colorado 1
Game 5: Colorado 5, at Dallas 3
Game 6: Dallas 2, at Colorado 1 (2OT)

OILERS ELIMINATED CANUCKS, 4-3

Game 1: at Vancouver 5, Edmonton 4
Game 2: Edmonton 1, at Vancouver 3 (OT)
Game 3: Vancouver 4, at Edmonton 3
Game 4: at Edmonton 3, Vancouver 2
Game 5: at Vancouver 3, Edmonton 2
Game 6: at Edmonton 5, Vancouver 1
Game 7: Edmonton 3, at Vancouver 2

CONFERENCE FINALS

Best of seven

EASTERN CONFERENCE

PANTHERS ELIMINATED RANGERS, 4-2

Game 1: Florida 3, at N.Y. Rangers 0
Game 2: at N.Y. Rangers 2, Florida 1 (OT)
Game 3: N.Y. Rangers 1, at Florida 4 (OT)
Game 4: at Florida 3, N.Y. Rangers 2 (OT)
Game 5: Florida 3, at N.Y. Rangers 1
Game 6: at Florida 2, N.Y. Rangers 1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

OILERS ELIMINATED STARS, 4-2

Game 1: Edmonton 3, at Dallas 2 (2OT)
Game 2: at Dallas 3, Edmonton 1
Game 3: Dallas 5, at Edmonton 3
Game 4: at Edmonton 5, Dallas 2
Game 5: Edmonton 4, at Dallas 1
Game 6: at Edmonton 2, Dallas 1

STANLEY CUP FINALS

Best of seven; x-if necessary; all games on ABC

PANTHERS LEAD OILERS, 2-0

Game 1: at Florida 3, Edmonton 0
Game 2: at Florida 4, Edmonton 1
Thursday’s game: Florida at Edmonton, 8
Saturday’s game: Florida at Edmonton, 8
x-Tuesday’s game: Edmonton at Florida, 8
x-Friday, June 21: Florida at Edmonton, 8
x-Monday, June 24: Edmonton at Florida, 8

PRO FOOTBALL

United Football League

XFL W L T Pct PF PA
St. Louis 7 3 0 .700 260 202
San Antonio 7 3 0 .700 192 153
D.C. 6 4 0 .400 209 251
Arlington 3 7 0 .300 247 249

USFL W L T Pct PF PA
Birmingham 9 1 0 .900 265 189
Michigan 7 3 0 .700 228 180
Memphis 2 8 0 .200 188 290
Houston 1 9 0 .100 158 233

PLAYOFFS

USFL CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY’S RESULT

at Birmingham 31, Michigan 18

XFL CHAMPIONSHIP

SUNDAY’S RESULT

San Antonio 25, at St. Louis 15

UFL CHAMPIONSHIP

SUNDAY’S GAME

IN ST. LOUIS

Birmingham vs. San Antonio, 5, Fox

SOCCER

MLS

EAST W L T Pts GF GA
Inter Miami CF 10 3 5 35 42 27
Cincinnati 10 3 3 33 23 16
New York City FC 9 5 2 29 24 17
New York 8 4 5 29 23 23
Charlotte FC 7 6 4 25 18 18
Toronto FC 7 3 2 24 26 26
Columbus 6 2 6 24 21 13
Philadelphia 4 8 20 27 23
Nashville 5 7 19 20 22
D.C. United 4 6 7 19 25 31
Orlando City 4 7 5 17 16 24
CF Montreal 4 7 5 17 23 35
Atlanta 4 8 4 16 22 21
Chicago 3 8 6 15 17 29
New England 3 10 1 13 12 27

WEST W L T Pts GF GA
Real Salt Lake 9 2 6 33 36 19
Los Angeles FC 9 4 3 30 28 19
Minnesota United 8 3 5 29 28 21
LA Galaxy 7 7 28 31 25
Vancouver 7 5 4 25 24 19
Austin FC 6 5 23 21 25
Houston 6 6 4 22 18 18
Colorado 6 7 4 22 29 31
Portland 6 6 12 24 32
Seattle 4 7 6 18 20 21
St. Louis City SC 4 9 18 23 25
Sporting KC 3 9 5 14 26 32
FC Dallas 3 8 5 14 18 25
San Jose 3 11 2 11 24 39

SATURDAY’S RESULTS

at New England 1, New York 0
at Sporting KC 2, Seattle 1
FC Dallas 1, at Minnesota 1
Portland 1, at St. Louis City SC 0

FRIDAY’S MATCH

Columbus at New York City FC, 7:30
Los Angeles FC at Portland, 7:30



Trustee Sales
202-334-5782

**mypublicnotices.com/
washingtonpost/
PublicNotice.asp**

Biz Ops/Services: 202-334-5787

840 Trustees Sale - DC

UNIT BUILDING UNIT

ry 28, 2020 as Instrument No. [REDACTED]
Columbia (the "Land Records")
and creates a security interest in
trust, a default having occurred
covenants contained therein
holder"), and following mailing
on May 21, 2024 as Instrument

may 21, 2024 as instrument
ge Foreclosure recorded with
212985, and the recordation
ent of New Substitute Trustee
at No. 2024026421 and at the
ndersigned Substitute Trustee
ER AUCTIONEERS, INC., 4910
C. on

Thousand Thirty-Three (3033),
Quez, Jr. as per plat recorded in

improvements or appurtenances without limitation, all equipment forming a part of said buildings

ture, furnishings, equipment in, upon or about the above-
 arly described in the aforesaid

ERTY

ent Assignment of Rents and

No: 20201609227 among the
ult thereunder, the Noteholder
t and lien on all of the tangible
n on the same date and at the
D INTANGIBLE PROPERTY, ETC
ect to the security interest and
d party.)

an entirety only. The bid which the Substitute Trustee (unless otherwise provided) shall accept is provisional until acceptance. The Trustee absolutely reserves the right to reject any bid if the auctioneer announces that the bid in content and form is received by the Trustee in the form of a cashier's check or money order. The deposit must be increased to

After the sale, which increased the bid, the successful bidder submitted a check and delivered to the trustee the Deed of Trust (or any related documents) and submitted any bidding deposit. The trustee will accept all potential bidders except the successful bidder. The retained deposit of the successful bidder to the successful purchaser's account. If the successful purchaser fails to complete the sale as herein provided, such

ed. The terms of sale must be within 5 days from day of sale unless the TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. The deposit, with interest thereon and though the date of receipt of the identified funds; and if not so paid to and resell the Property at the assessment and on such terms as may involve and the Noteholder of any

in possession, if such rights, claims, demands, conditions, restrictions, or other interests in the property will be sold "WHERE IS THE PROPERTY?" No limitation, condition, express or implied, and no restriction on the use of the information furnished by the seller to the buyer or any party and without any other limitation, restriction, or condition, the generality of the foregoing shall apply to the property.

the generality of the foregoing, (i) title to the Property, (ii) the particular use of any improvements on the Property, (iii) the environmental conditions on the Property, (iv) compliance with federal, state and local laws and regulations, (v) hazardous substances, (vi) compliance with applicable codes, similar law, or (v) compliance with applicable codes and all applicable safety codes. The purchaser shall constitute a party to the titleholder concerning any of the foregoing.

tenement or warranty, express or implied, to the Property from and after the date hereof and subject to all taxes, ground rents and other public improvements

holder and Substitute Trustee. The Seller shall be responsible for operating charges accrued prior to the date of the purchase and the Buyer shall be responsible for the purchase and conveyancing including the recording taxes and charges, all other taxes, settlement fees and all other fees payable by the successful purchaser. If the Buyer fails to complete the purchase, the remedy is a return of deposit. For further information please

0012461694

WELL+BEING

Tips and guidance on food, fitness and mental health.

washingtonpost.com/wellbeing

840

Trustees Sale - DC

840

Trustees Sale - DC

PARDO & DRAZIN, LLC
Jason A. Pardo, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY**
7407 9th Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20012
(Lot 48 in Square 2963)

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust and Security Agreement ("Deed of Trust") in the original principal amount of \$732,950 dated November 8, 2022 and recorded on November 10, 2022 as Instrument No. 2022112272 among the Land Records of the District of Columbia from Lennox Properties Development LLC, as Grantor, to Brian P. Donegan and William F. Leahy, Trustees, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and following the mailing and recordation in the Land Records of a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustees appointing Jason A. Pardo as Substitute Trustee under the Deed of Trust ("Substitute Trustee"), an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property, at the request of the current noteholder, the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

JUNE 18, 2024 AT 10:30 A.m.

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as 7407 9th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012 (Lot 48 in Square 2963), and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same — except those encumbrances of record that are released by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust.

Purchaser will take title to the property subject to all taxes, water and sewer charges, and other utility charges, if any. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$50,000.00 by cash, cashier's check, or wire transfer will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale. **TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER AND DELIVERY OF THE PURCHASE PRICE TO TRUSTEES.** Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the rate provided by the debt instrument. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.

The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute 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. Any remaining balance of the forfeited deposit shall be applied against the outstanding balance of the debt secured by the Deed of Trust. Purchaser shall pay all attorneys' fees and costs, and all other damages of any kind or nature, incurred by Substitute Trustee and the secured party, and their respective agents, employees, successors and assigns, in connection with any such default. Substitute Trustee may resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property.

If the Substitute Trustee does not settle as required herein, 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 whatsoever.

The Substitute 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. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to the Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Jason A. Pardo, Substitute Trustee



Jun 5,7,11,13,17 2024

0012461209

840

Trustees Sale - DC

840

Trustees Sale - DC

Pardo & Drazin, LLC
Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY**
1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Lot 0078 in Square 0158

Under a power of sale contained in that certain Refinance Deed of Trust, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing ("Deed of Trust") dated July 1, 2015 and recorded on July 2, 2015 as Instrument No. 2015066510 from 1776 Mass Ave RE LLC, as grantor, to Nikolaus F. Schandlbauer and Diane Shapiro Richer ("Original Trustees"), as trustees, for the benefit of People's United Bank, National Association, as beneficiary, securing that certain Promissory Note dated July 1, 2015 in the original principal amount of \$34,000,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and following the mailing and recordation of a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee removing Original Trustees as trustees under the Deed of Trust and appointing Russell S. Drazin ("Substitute Trustee") as successor trustee under the Deed of Trust, an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure, and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit, at the request of the current noteholder, Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

JUNE 21, 2024 AT 11:00 AM

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (if any) situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036 (Lot 0078 in Square 0158), and more fully described in the Deed of Trust, as well as any and all personal property encumbered by the Deed of Trust (collectively, the "Property").

The Property will be sold in an "AS-IS" and "WHERE-IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same — except those conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record that are extinguished by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust.

Any and all ground rents, taxes (general and special), and assessments due upon the Property at the time of sale will be adjusted to the time of sale and assumed thereafter by Purchaser. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the Property from the time of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$1,000,000.00 by cashier's check will be required of purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale. **TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER.** Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the applicable interest rate set forth in the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.

The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to Substitute Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including legal fees and costs, and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Substitute Trustee may resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the Property. Defaulting purchaser shall be liable to Substitute Trustee for legal fees and costs incurred by Substitute Trustee in connection with such default.

If Substitute Trustee is unable to settle as set forth herein, 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 whatsoever.

Substitute Trustee reserves the right, in Substitute Trustee's 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. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to Substitute Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Russell S. Drazin, Substitute Trustee



Jun 7,11,13,17,19 2024

0012461636

850

Montgomery County

850

Montgomery County

ORLANDS PC
1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**
14060 Berryville Rd
Germantown, MD 20874

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from IAN M. NANZ AND MARGITA O. NANZ, dated November 27, 2019 and recorded in Liber 58847, folio 12 among the Land Records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-15-CV-22-002273; Tax ID No.06-00400240) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

JULY 2, 2024 at 1:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY 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 \$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 MONTGOMERY 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 the rate pursuant to the Deed of trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. 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(s) are 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 # 22-004657)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE



Jun 13,20,27 2024

0012461231

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

TRUSTEE'S SALE
1317 Twig Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20905

Trustee's Sale of valuable fee simple property improved by premises known as 1317 Twig Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20905. By virtue of the power and authority contained in a Deed of Trust, dated June 2, 2004, and recorded in Liber 27694 at Page 690 among the land records of the **County of Montgomery**, in the original principal amount of \$236,250.00. Upon default and request for sale, the undersigned trustees will offer for sale at public auction at the Courthouse for the COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, at Judicial Center's Monroe Street Entrance, 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, on **June 26, 2024 at 1:00 PM**, all that property described in said Deed of Trust including but not limited to:

Tax ID# 05-02184166

Said property is in fee simple and is improved by a dwelling and is sold in "as is condition" and subject to all superior covenants, conditions, liens, restrictions, easement, rights-of-way, as may affect same, if any.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of 10% of the sale price, cash or certified funds shall be required at the time of sale. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 6.00% 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.

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.

If applicable, condominium and/or homeowners 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. 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 the return of the deposit. Trustee's File No. 23-293726.

William M. Savage, et al., Substitute Trustees.

LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP,
Mailing Address: 10130 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 400,
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216
(410) 769-9797



Jun 6,13,20 2024

0012458908

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

THE PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO AN IRS RIGHT OF REDEMPTION.

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 \$50,000.00 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 MONTGOMERY 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 the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute trustees. 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(s) are 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 # 23-013711)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE



Jun 13,20,27 2024

0012463203

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Montgomery County

850

Montgomery County

ORLANDS PC
1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**
11510 Idlewood Road
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from DARWIN KASEY BARRIOS AND ALEX DELGADO, dated December 5, 2019 and recorded in Liber 58729, folio 034 among the Land Records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-15-CV-24-001314; Tax ID No.13-01173976) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

JULY 2, 2024 at 1:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

THE PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO AN IRS RIGHT OF REDEMPTION.

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 \$35,000.00 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 MONTGOMERY 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 the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. 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(s) are 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 # 24-001440)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES



Jun 13,20,27 2024

0012462405

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

ORLANDS PC
1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
9710 Falls Road
Potomac, MD 20854

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from NASEEM AHMAD, dated July 22, 2005 and recorded in Liber 30526, folio 477 MODIFIED ON JANUARY 27, 2023 IN LIBER 66692 FOLIO 158; among the Land Records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-15-CV-24-000540; Tax ID No.10-00882183) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

JULY 2, 2024 at 1:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

THE PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO AN IRS RIGHT OF REDEMPTION.

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 \$50,000.00 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 MONTGOMERY 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 the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute trustees. 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(s) are 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 # 23-013711)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE



Jun 13,20,27 2024

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

ORLANDS PC
1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**
13303 Lydia St
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from ANDY B. VINH, dated March 5, 2012 and recorded in Liber 43620, folio 386 among the Land Records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-15-CV-23-000640; Tax ID No.13-01320278) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

JULY 2, 2024 at 1:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY 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 \$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 MONTGOMERY 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 the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. 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(s) are 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 # 22-009421)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE



Jun 13,20,27 2024

0012461223

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

ORLANDS PC
1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
6411 Earlharm Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from JONATHAN L. JUREWICZ AND CARLA M. ABREU, dated October 19, 2011 and recorded in Liber 42728, folio 87 among the Land Records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-15-CV-24-000769; Tax ID No.07-00631884) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

JULY 2, 2024 at 1:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY 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 \$35,000.00 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 MONTGOMERY 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 the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. 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(s) are 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 # 23-012221)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

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Montgomery County

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Montgomery County

Ballard Spahr LLP

111 S. Calvert Street, 27th Floor

Baltimore, MD 21202

410-528-5680

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE

THREE OFFICE BUILDINGS

KNOWN AS

STATION SQUARE

1010 Wayne Avenue, 1100 Wayne Avenue and 8484 Georgia Avenue

Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Under a power of sale contained in that certain Refinance Deed of Trust, Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement, and Fixture Filing from BOF MD Station Square LLC, a Delaware limited liability company dated August 15, 2022 (the "Deed of Trust") and recorded in Liber 66150, folio 415 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD (the "Land Records"), default having occurred under the terms thereof (Timothy F. McCormack, et al., Substitute Trustees, v. BOF MD Station Square LLC, Case No. C-15-CV-24-001807), and the holder of the Deed of Trust (the "Beneficiary") having appointed Timothy F. McCormack and Michelle M. McGeogh as the Substitute Trustees by instrument dated March 7, 2024 and recorded on March 11, 2024 among the Land Records at Liber 67809, folio 385, the Substitute 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 18, 2024 At 11:00 AM

All those lots or parcels of land, together with the improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, Maryland, and being more particularly described as follows:

Tract One known as 1010 Wayne Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910 and described as follows:

Lot 10, Block 1-B, as delineated on a plat of resubdivision of parts of Lots 1 thru Lot 9 inclusive, entitled "Lot 10 Block 1-B, E. Brooke Lee's Addition to Silver Spring", and recorded among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland in Plat Book 137 at Plat No. 15796.

Together with the rights reserved by the Owner, its successors and assigns, for an underground parking facility beneath the area dedicated containing 7,774 square feet or 0.1785 acres, more or less, pursuant to the aforesaid Plat.

Together with a non-exclusive, permanent easement and right of access for vehicular and pedestrian ingress and egress, on, over, across and through the Easement Area located on Lot 13, Block 1A, for the purpose of tractor-trailer, truck and other vehicle loading and unloading, pursuant to that certain Declaration of Easement by and between 8484 Georgia Avenue Associates Limited Partnership and 1010 Wayne Avenue Associates Limited Partnership, dated May 15, 1986 and recorded in Liber 7154 at Folio 500.

Note for informational purposes only: Tax I.D. No. 13-02621237

Tract Two known as 1100 Wayne Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910 and described as follows:

Lot 27, Block 2, as shown on the plat entitled "E. Brooke Lee's Addition to Silver Spring", and recorded among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland in Plat Book 115 at Plat No. 13596.

Together with a "non-construction easement" on the Lands of Montgomery County, Maryland, pursuant to a Grant of Easement dated January 29, 1982 and recorded in Liber 5828 at folio 887.

Together with an easement to keep and maintain improvements that encroach onto the Lands of Montgomery County, Maryland, pursuant to a Grant of Easement dated January 27, 1983 and recorded in Liber 6010 at folio 216.

Note for informational purposes only: Tax I.D. No. 13-02130381

Tract Three known as 8484 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910 and described as follows:

Lot 13, Block One-A, as shown on the plat entitled "E. Brooke Lee's Addition to Silver Spring", and recorded among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland in Plat Book 124 at Plat No. 14522.

Note for informational purposes only: Tax I.D. No. 13-02347238

The properties are comprised of three office buildings located in downtown Silver Spring, Maryland.

1010 Wayne Avenue is a 14-story building with approximately 197,190 square feet of net rentable area, which includes three levels of below-grade parking with 167 spaces. The building's land area is 25,892 square feet (0.59 acres) according to the Department of Assessments and Taxation.

1100 Wayne Avenue is a 12-story building with approximately 164,544 square feet of net rentable area, featuring three levels of above-grade parking on floors 3-5 with a total of 150 spaces. The land area of this building is 24,886 square feet (0.57 acres) according to the Department of Assessments and Taxation.

8484 Georgia Avenue is a 10-story "Class A" building with approximately 143,012 square feet of net rentable area. This building includes three levels of below-grade parking with a total of 130 spaces, and its land area is 22,568 square feet (0.52 acres) according to the Department of Assessments and Taxation.

Fixtures and Personal Property

Pursuant to the aforesaid Deed of Trust by BOF MD Station Square LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Debtor, recorded among the Financing Statement Records of the Delaware Department of State, as ID Number 20226868962, all among the records of the Delaware Department of State (collectively, the "Financing Statements"), and upon occurrence of a default thereunder, the Beneficiary, as the holder of a security interest and lien on all of the tangible and intangible assets (as identified as Collateral in the Deed of Trust) of Borrower, will sell at public auction on the same date and at the same time and place, all of the Fixtures (as defined in the Deed of Trust) and Personal Property (as defined in the Deed of Trust) of Borrower located on or about the Land (that is subject to the security interest and lien of Beneficiary and not owned by any third party).

TOGETHER WITH buildings, structures, fixtures, additions, enlargements, extensions, modifications, repairs, replacements and improvements now or hereafter erected or located on the Land (collectively the "Improvements"), and with all easements, rights-of-way or use, rights, strips and gores of land, streets, ways, alleys, passages, sewer rights, water, water courses, water rights and powers, air rights and development rights, and all estates, rights, titles, interests, privileges, liberties, servitudes, tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances of any nature whatsoever, in any way now or hereafter belonging, relating or pertaining to the Land and/or the Improvements and the reversions and remainders, and all land lying in the bed of any street, road or avenue, opened or proposed, in front of or adjoining the Land, to the center line thereof and all the estates, rights, titles, interests, dower and rights of dower, curtesy and rights of curtesy, property, possession, claim and demand whatsoever, both at law and in equity, of Borrower of, in and to the Land and the Improvements and every part and parcel thereof, with the appurtenances thereto all as more particularly described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust (collectively, with the Land, the Improvements, the Fixtures and the Personal Property, the "Property").

TERMS OF SALE

ALL CASH. The bid which yields the highest price for the Property will be accepted by the Substitute Trustees (unless the sale is postponed or cancelled) and all bids will be provisional until final acceptance. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Substitute Trustees absolutely reserve the right to postpone the sale and/or cancel the sale at any time until the auctioneer announces that the Property is "sold" and the deposit in the required amount and form is received by the Substitute Trustees. A deposit in the amount of One Million and No/100 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) will be required at the time of sale. Such deposit must be by cashier's check or certified check or in such other form as the Substitute Trustees may determine in their sole discretion. The successful bidder must increase the deposit to 10% of the purchase price no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, June 21, 2024, TIME BEING OF THE ESSENCE, at the office of the Substitute Trustees in the form of certified check or cashier's check or by wire transfer of immediately available funds to the specified account of the Substitute Trustees (the "Account"). The Beneficiary (or any related party) shall be exempted by the Substitute Trustees from submitting any bidding deposit, and the Beneficiary shall be allowed to credit bid at the sale. The Substitute Trustees will, as a condition of the sale, require all potential bidders except the Beneficiary to show their deposit before any bidding begins. The retained deposit of the successful purchaser shall be applied, without interest, to the successful purchaser's credit at settlement, provided, however, that in the event the successful purchaser fails to consummate the purchase in accordance with the terms of sale as herein provided, such deposit, at the option of the Substitute Trustees, will be forfeited. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid in immediately available funds within ten (10) business days after the final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County unless extended at the sole discretion of the Substitute Trustees. There shall be no abatement of interest caused by the delay. Taxes, water, sewer, condominium fees, and/or homeowners association dues, if applicable, will be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser(s). All other public charges and assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges will be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser(s). Cost of all documentary stamps, recordation taxes and transfer taxes shall be borne by the purchaser(s). The balance of the purchase price over and above the retained deposit, with interest thereon at applicable rate set forth in the Note secured by the Deed of Trust from the date of sale through the date of receipt of the balance of the purchase price, will be due at settlement by wire transfer of immediately available funds to the Account; and if not so paid, the Substitute Trustees reserve the right to retain all deposits and resell the Property at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser, after such advertisement and on such terms as the Substitute Trustees may deem proper, and to avail themselves and the Beneficiary of any legal or equitable rights against the defaulting purchaser.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE with regard to all of the purchaser's obligations. If the successful bidder fails for any reason to increase the deposit or complete settlement as provided above, the deposit shall be forfeited and applied to the costs of the sale, including Substitute Trustees' fees, and the balance, if any, shall be delivered to the Beneficiary to be applied by the Beneficiary against the indebtedness secured by, and other amounts due under, the Deed of Trust in accordance with the Deed of Trust or applicable law or otherwise as the Beneficiary shall elect. Forfeiture of the deposit shall not limit any rights or remedies of the Substitute Trustees or the Beneficiary with respect to any such default. If the Property is resold after any such default, such re-sale shall be at the risk and the cost of the failing bidder, and the failing bidder shall be liable for any deficiency between its bid and the successful bid at the resale as well as the costs of conducting such re-sale.

The Substitute Trustees reserve the right (i) to waive or modify the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder or final purchaser; (iii) to withdraw all or part of the Property from sale at any time prior to the termination of bidding; (iv) to keep the bidding open for any length of time; (v) to reject any or all bids; and (vi) to cancel or postpone the sale, all as the Substitute Trustees may determine in their discretion.

The Property is sold subject to the rights, if any, of parties in possession and to any and all covenants, dedications, conditions, restrictions, easements, rights of way, and limitations of record. The Property will be sold "WHERE IS" and in its "AS IS" condition without any warranty as to condition, express or implied, and without any representation or warranty as to the accuracy of the information furnished to prospective bidders by the Substitute Trustees or any other party and without any other representations or warranty of any nature. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Property will be sold without representation or warranty as to (i) title to the Property, (ii) the nature, condition, structural integrity, or fitness for a particular use of any improvements, fixtures or personal property included within the Property, (iii) the environmental condition of the Property or the compliance of the Property with the Americans with Disabilities Act or any similar law, or (iv) compliance of the Property with any zoning laws or ordinances and any and all applicable safety codes, and acceptance of the Substitute Trustees' Deed to the Property by the successful purchaser shall constitute a waiver of any claims against the Substitute Trustees or the Beneficiary concerning any of the foregoing matters. The successful purchaser recognizes that any investigation, examination or inspection of the Property is within the control of the owner or other parties in possession of the Property and not within the control of the Substitute Trustees or the Beneficiary.

Conveyance shall be by Substitute Trustees' Deed, without covenant or warranty, express or implied. The risk of loss or damage by fire or other casualty to the Property from and after the date of sale will be upon the successful purchaser. Obtaining possession of the Property shall be the sole responsibility of the successful bidder. The Property is sold subject to all taxes, ground rents, public charges, assessments, sewer, water, drainage and other public improvements whether assessments have been levied or not through date of closing. The Beneficiary and Substitute Trustees assume no liability for fuel, gas, electricity, utilities and other operating charges accrued before or after the sale and shall be the sole responsibility of the purchaser. All costs incident to the settlement and conveyancing including, without limitation, examination of title, conveyancing, all recordation taxes and charges, all transfer taxes and charges, title insurance premiums, notary fees, and settlement fees shall be at the cost of the successful purchaser. In the event the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title or in the event the borrower entered into a repayment plan, reinstated or paid the loan off prior to the sale, or if for any other reason, the undersigned Substitute Trustees did not have the right to sell, the sale is null and void and the purchaser is not entitled to any legal or equitable remedy other than return of the deposit without interest and any and all other claims of the purchaser are hereby released.

Additional terms and conditions may be announced at the time of sale.

Note: The information contained herein was obtained from sources deemed to be reliable, but is offered for information purposes only. The Auctioneer, the Substitute Trustees, the holder of the Deed of Trust and its affiliates do not make any representations or warranties with respect to the accuracy of the information contained herein. Prospective purchasers are urged to make their own inspection. For more information, contact Paul Cooper, Auctioneer paul@alexcooper.com or 410- 977-4707.

Timothy F. McCormack, Michelle M. McGeogh,
Substitute Trustees



May 30,Jun 6,13 2024

0012461696

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Prince Georges County

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Prince Georges County

Parker, Simon & Kokolis, LLC

110 N. Washington St., Suite 500

Rockville, MD 20850

301-656-5775

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE

SINGLE FAMILY PROPERTY

5718 BLACK HAWK DRIVE

OXON HILL, MD 20745

(Case No.: C-16-CV-23-000896 in The Circuit Court for Prince George's County)

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Indemnity Deed of Trust from Curtis Lee Johnson, Sr. dated June 7, 2019 and recorded in Liber 43955, folio 575 among the Land Records of Prince George's County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, 14735 Main St., Upper Marlboro, MD, 20772 (Duval Wing entrance, located on Main St.), on

JULY 2, 2024 At 11:10 AM

The following described property, thereon situated in Prince George's County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

Parcel 1: Being known and designated as Lot 12 in Block 106 in a subdivision known as Section 7, Forest Heights as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book BB 10 at plat 51 among the Land Records of Prince Georges County, Maryland.

Parcel 2: The north 30 feet by the full depth of lot 13 block 106 in the subdivision known as Section 7, Forest Heights, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book BB 10 at Plat 51 among the Land Records of Prince Georges County, Maryland. The property address being known as: 5718 Black Hawk Drive, Oxon Hill, MD 20745. Tax ID No. 12-1301407

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. The property will be sold subject to a prior Deed of Trust dated July 18, 2017 and recorded among the land records for Prince George's County at Book 39908, Page 410, in the original principal amount of \$228,480.00 with a payoff amount of \$236,434.53 as of March 22, 2024.

The property will be sold subject to a prior Financing Statement related to solar panels dated January 19, 2018 and recorded among the land records for Prince George's County at Book 40473, Page 306 and thereafter renewed on May 15, 2023 and recorded at Book 48824, Page 214, with a payoff amount of \$42,286.89 as of September 20, 2023.

Terms of Sale: A deposit in the amount of \$15,000 in the form of cashier's or certified check, or in any other form suitable to the Substitute Trustees in their sole discretion, shall be required at the time of sale, except no deposit shall be required of the secured party, its successors or assigns. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten (10) days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that the property will be resold and the entire deposit shall be retained by the Substitute Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting Purchaser. 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.

Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 11% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest. 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 current year's real property taxes are adjusted as of the date of sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Taxes due for prior years including costs of any tax sale are payable by the purchaser. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. Any deferred water and sewer charges that purports to cover or defray cost during construction of public water or wastewater facilities constructed by the developer and subject to an annual fee or assessment are to be paid by the purchaser to the lienholder and are a contractual obligation between the lienholder and the owner of the property, and is not a fee or assessment imposed by the county. Any right of prepayment or discount for early prepayment of water and sewer charges may be ascertained by contacting the lienholder. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All costs of recordation including but not limited to transfer taxes, recordation taxes, agricultural or other taxes or charges assessed by any governmental entity as a condition to recordation shall be paid by Purchaser, whether or not Purchaser is a First Time Maryland Homebuyer. 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. 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. The Substitute Trustees will convey either insurable or marketable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or 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. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at sale. The property will be sold subject to a 120-day right of redemption by the Internal Revenue Service.

Craig A. Parker and Thomas J. Kokolis
Substitute Trustees



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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE

REAL PROPERTY

13215 OYSTERCATCHER LANE

AND

OUTLOTS C & D OYSTERCATCHER LANE

BOWIE, MD 20720

(Case No.: C-16-CV-23-001797 in The Circuit Court for Prince George's County)

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Purchase Money Deed of Trust from Reginald Gayles dated September 25, 2015 and recorded in Liber 37574, folio 455 among the Land Records of Prince George's County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, 14735 Main St., Upper Marlboro, MD, 20772 (Duval Wing entrance, located on Main St.), on

JUNE 25, 2024 At 11:05 AM

ALL THOSE FEE-SIMPLE LOTS OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements, if any, thereon situated in Prince George's County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Purchase Money Deed of Trust as follows:

PARCEL #1 Beginning for the same at a point on the northwesterly right of way line of Mockingbird Lane, formerly known as the Washington Baltimore and Annapolis Electric Railroad Line, sixty-six (66) feet wide, said point being at the intersection of the 2nd or North 33 " West, 209.97' foot line, described in the aforesaid conveyance recorded in Liber 2146 at Folio 48, with said northwesterly right of way line, and running thence with the outline of the lands of James S. Brady, Jr. 1. North 33°00'00" West, 176.97 feet to a point; 2. North 57°00'00" East, 128.30 feet to a point; 3. South 79°19'00" East, 256.23 feet to a point on said northwesterly right of way of Mockingbird Lane; thence with said northwesterly line; and 4. South 57°00'00" West, 313.67' to the place of beginning, containing 39,101 square feet or 0.8976 of an acre of land. Assessed as 32,670 square feet.

BEING the same property described in a Deed dated August 20, 2010 from Brenda Duval and Glenda J. Stalnaker to B&G Brady, LLC and recorded in the Land Records of Prince George's County, Maryland in Liber 31970 at folio 560. The property being known as: 13215 Oystercatcher Lane, Bowie, MD 20720. Tax Account No.: 14-1586767

PARCEL #2 Outlots C and D in the subdivision known as "NAZARIO WOODS", as per the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book REP 194 at Plat 71 among the Land Records of Prince George's County, Maryland. BEING the same property described in a Deed dated August 20, 2010 from Brenda Duval and Glenda J. Stalnaker to B&G Brady, LLC, and recorded in the Land Records of Prince George's County, Maryland, in Liber 31970 at folio 560. The property address being known as: Outlots C and D, Oystercatcher Lane, Bowie, MD Tax Account No.: 14-3456050 and 14-3456068. (Collectively, the "Property")

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: The property will be offered as an entirety. A deposit in the amount of \$21,000 in the form of cashier's or certified check, or in any other form suitable to the Substitute Trustees in their sole discretion, shall be required at the time of sale, except no deposit shall be required of the secured party, its successors or assigns. 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. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that the property will be resold and the entire deposit shall be retained by the Substitute Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting Purchaser. 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.

Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 4.75% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest. 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 current year's real property taxes are adjusted as of the date of sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Taxes due for prior years including costs of any tax sale are payable by the purchaser. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. Any deferred water and sewer charges that purports to cover or defray cost during construction of public water or wastewater facilities constructed by the developer and subject to an annual fee or assessment are to be paid by the purchaser to the lienholder and are a contractual obligation between the lienholder and each owner of the property, and is not a fee or assessment imposed by the county. Any right of prepayment or discount for early prepayment of water and sewer charges may be ascertained by contacting the lienholder. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All costs of recordation including but not limited to transfer taxes, recordation taxes, agricultural or other taxes or charges assessed by any governmental entity as a condition to recordation shall be paid by Purchaser, whether or not Purchaser is a First Time Maryland Homebuyer. 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 forward. The Substitute Trustees will convey either insurable or marketable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or 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. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at sale. The property will be sold subject to a 120 day right of redemption by the Internal Revenue Service.

Craig A. Parker, Substitute Trustee
Thomas J. Kokolis, Substitute Trustee



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5431 Oleander Drive

Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

15000 NELSON PERRIE ROAD

Brandywine, MD 20613

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to RICHARD T. CREGGER, Trustee(s), dated July 27, 2005, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 22997 , folio 406 , 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 24, 2024 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:

PARCEL FIVE: BEING PART OF THE LAND CLAIMED BY THE HEIRS OF NELSON H. PERRIE AS DESCRIBED IN LIBER 4488 AT FOLIO 318 AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIPE SET IN THE EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF NELSON PERRIE ROAD (50 FEET WIDE) AS SHOWN ON PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY RIGHT OF WAY PLAT NO. 308, SAID PIPE LYING NORTH 99 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 27 SECONDS EAST, 1.23 FEET FROM A STONE FOUND MARKING THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE LAND CONVEYED TO JOSEPH N. PERRIE IN LIBER 5115, FOLIO 759 AND THENCE RUNNING WITH SAID EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF NELSON PERRIE ROAD, THE FOLLOWING FOUR COURSES: 1. 461.47 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE TO THE RIGHT WHOSE RADIUS IS 600.00 FEET WHOSE CENTRAL ANGLE IS 44 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 2.5 SECONDS AND WHOSE CHORD IS NORTH 43 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 31 SECONDS WEST, 450.18 FEET TO A POINT OF TANGENCY. 2. NORTH 21 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 30 SECONDS WEST, 528.23 FEET TO A POINT OF CURVATURE; 3. 220.32 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE TO THE LEFT WHOSE RADIUS IS 857.75 FEET WHOSE CENTRAL ANGLE IS 14 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 00 SECONDS AND WHOSE CHORD IS NORTH 29 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, 219.71 FEET TO A POINT OF TANGENCY; AND 4. NORTH 36 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 30 SECONDS WEST, 114.30 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE SET; THENCE LEAVING SAID NELSON PERRIE ROAD AND RUNNING WITH A STREAM THE FOLLOWING NINE COURSES: 5. NORTH 53 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 30 SECONDS EAST, 29.63 FEET; 6. SOUTH 79 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 22 SECONDS EAST, 188.35 FEET; 7. NORTH 73 DEGREES 11 MINUTES 23 SECONDS EAST, 121.31 FEET; 8. NORTH 89 DEGREES 08 MINUTES 44 SECONDS EAST, 91.36 FEET; 9. SOUTH 70 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 16 SECONDS EAST, 92.72 FEET; 10. NORTH 31 DEGREES 25 MINUTES 24 SECONDS EAST, 76.62 FEET; 11. NORTH 68 DEGREES 19 MINUTES 32 SECONDS EAST 78.00 FEET; 12. NORTH 41 DEGREES 22 MINUTES 24 SECONDS EAST 66.19 FEET; 13. SOUTH 88 DEGREES 11 MINUTES 51 SECONDS EAST, 33.14 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LAND OF JOSEPH N. PERRIE (LIBER 5115 FOLIO 759); THENCE RUNNING WITH THE WEST LINE OF JOSEPH N. PERRIE 14. SOUTH 00 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 27 SECONDS WEST, 1228.96 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 10.3904 ACRES.

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 \$20,500.00 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 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 2% 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. (15-21270)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN, JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLE, ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
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410-789-9797

Jun 6,13,20 2024

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Brock and Scott, PLLC

5431 Oleander Drive

Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

1008 7th Street

Laurel, MD 20707

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to PATRICK J. FLANAGAN, Trustee(s), dated September 15, 2006, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 26689 , folio 148 , 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 24, 2024 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 BLOCK LETTERED "E", IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "FAIRLAWN", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK WWW 19 AT PLAT 69 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND AND BEING IN THE 10TH ELECTION OF SAID COUNTY . WHICH HAS THE ADDRESS OF: 1008 7TH STREET, LAUREL , MARYLAND 20707 PROPERTY ID# 10-0993659

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 \$14,000.00 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 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 3.875 % 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. (22-07970)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN, JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLE, ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 6,13,20 2024

0012461610

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

6911 CIPRIANO WOODS CT

LANHAM, MD 20706

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated December 28, 2005, and recorded in Liber 24486, folio 286, of the land records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY , with an original principal balance of \$45,750.00, 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 17, 2024 at 2:00 PM

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# - 21-2307049

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 A§ 11-110 and A§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$4,500.00 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 9.500% 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 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. (22-077900)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
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May 30,Jun 6,13 2024

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5431 Oleander Drive

Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

6701 Redfield Ave

Hyattsville, MD 20784

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to ANDREW VALENTINE, trustee(s), dated January 25, 2007, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 27470 , folio 728 , 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 24, 2024 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 THIRTEEN (13) IN BLOCK LETTERED "C" IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "DEFENSE HEIGHTS", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK WWW 18 AT PLAT 62, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND, BEING IN THE 2ND ELECTION DISTRICT.

Property is subject to a IRS Right of Redemption.

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 \$18,500.00 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 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 2.948 % 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. (21-07880)

JOHN ANSELL, JEREMY B. WILKINS, ROBERT A. OLIVERI, AMANDA DRISCOLE, PAUL HEINMULLER, JOHN C. HANRAHAN, KRISTOPHER HAWKINS, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 6,13,20 2024

0012460731

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

10611 CAMPUS WAY S

UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20774

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated February 12, 2007, and recorded in Liber 27391, folio 612, of the land records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY , with an original principal balance of \$268,800.00, 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 17, 2024 at 2:00 PM

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# - 13-1488873

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 A§ 11-110 and A§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$26,500.00 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 7.3500% 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 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 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. (22-032512)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

May 30,Jun 6,13 2024

0012460793

851

Prince Georges County

851

Prince Georges County

Brock and Scott, PLLC

5431 Oleander Drive

Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

9601 Oakwood Avenue

Lanham, MD 20706

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY, Trustee(s), dated April 26, 2021, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 45513 , folio 582, MODIFIED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 IN BOOK 49072, PAGE 446, 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 24, 2024 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:

LOTS NUMBERED TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR (254) AND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE (255) IN BLOCK NUMBERED EIGHTEEN (18) IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "SHERMAN PARK", AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK JWB 5, PLAT NUMBERED 642, RE-RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK A, PLAT NUMBERED 103, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S 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 \$13,000.00 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 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 2.875 % 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. (22-07461)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN, JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLE, ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 6,13,20 2024

0012460513

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

7217 NIMITZ DR

DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MD 20747

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated November 8, 2006, and recorded in Liber 27495, folio 609, of the land records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY , with an original principal balance of \$180,000.00, 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 17, 2024 at 2:00 PM

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# - 06-0565671

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 A§ 11-110 and A§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$25,000.00 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 7.750% 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. (23-164914)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

May 30,Jun 6,13 2024

0012460190

851

Prince Georges County

851

Prince Georges County

Brock and Scott, PLLC

5431 Oleander Drive

Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

8207 RISON DRIVE

Brandywine, MD 20613

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to PATRICK J. FLANAGAN, Trustee(s), dated April 5, 2006, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 24940 , folio 463 , 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 24, 2024 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 THIRTY-FIVE (35), AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT ENTITLED "PLAT 2, BRANDYWINE LANDING", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK CH 191 AT PLAT NO. 57, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND. COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 8207 RISON DRIVE, BRANDYWINE, MD, 20613 PARCEL: 3371275

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 \$40,000.00 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 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 4.375 % 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

852Anne Arundel County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

852Anne Arundel County

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

753 SUNNYFIELD LANE
BALTIMORE, MD 21225

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated October 28, 2005, recorded in Liber 17142, Folio 473 among the Land Records of Anne Arundel County, MD, with an original principal balance of \$210,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, at the Court House Door, 8 Church Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401, on

JUNE 25, 2024 AT 9:17 AM


ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Anne Arundel 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 \$18,000 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. 342497-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

LICENSE NOS. A000113, A000176, A000177, A000193,
A000424, A000479, A000507, A000508


908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jun 6,13,20 2024

0012462129

853Calvert County

853Calvert 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
2036 YEW CT
Saint Leonard, MD 20685

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated September 30, 2020, and recorded in Liber 5721, folio 372, of the land records of **CALVERT COUNTY**, with an original principal balance of \$254,545.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE CALVERT COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 175 MAIN ST, PRINCE FREDERICK, MD 20678 ON,

JUNE 17, 2024 at 9:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in CALVERT COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 01-194062

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 §§ 118-117.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$24,000.00 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 3.250% 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. (23-156550)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN,
Substitute Trustees


300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

May 30,Jun 6,13 2024

0012460893

853Calvert County

853Calvert County

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
12855 McCready Road
Lusby, MD 20657

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to O'CONNOR HAMMEL & BUTLER PA. Trustee(s), dated December 17, 2021, and recorded among the Land Records of CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 6190, folio 126, 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 CALVERT COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 175 MAIN ST, PRINCE FREDERICK, MD 20678 ON,

JUNE 24, 2024 at 2:15 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CALVERT COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

PARCEL 291 R, CONTAINING 0.994 ACRES AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT ENTITLED REPLATTING OF PARCELS 279 AND 291 PROPERTIES OF ROBERT AND ERIKA MATSUDAIRA SITUATED NEAR SOLOMONS ISLAND, RECORDED IN PLAT KPS 2 AT PAGE 54. BEING IN THE 1ST ELECTION DISTRICT OF SAID CALVERT COUNTY, STATE OF MARYLAND, THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AS: 12855 MCCREADY ROAD, LUSBY, MD. 20657. APN: 01-021745

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 \$20,500.00 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 CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 18 % 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. (23-23160)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN, JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLLE, ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER, Substitute Trustees


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Jun 6,13,20 2024

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Rockville, MD 20852
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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

11713 LANCELOT DRIVE
WALDORF, MD 20601

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated October 8, 2007, recorded in Liber 6614, Folio 564 and re-recorded in Liber 11003, folio 38 among the Land Records of Charles County, MD, with an original principal balance of \$301,750.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Charles County, 200 Charles St., La Plata, MD 20646, (Sale will be held in the breezeway between the Circuit Court and the District Court), on

JUNE 25, 2024 AT 1:02 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Charles 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 \$26,000 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. 108827-3)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees


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Jun 6,13,20 2024

0012462134

857Howard County

857Howard 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

55 RIVERSIDE RUN DRIVE
INDIAN HEAD, MD 20640

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated September 30, 2005, recorded in Liber 5498, Folio 704 among the Land Records of Charles County, MD, with an original principal balance of \$153,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Charles County, 200 Charles St., La Plata, MD 20646, (Sale will be held in the breezeway between the Circuit Court and the District Court), on

JUNE 25, 2024 AT 1:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Charles 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 \$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, 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. 365183-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees


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Jun 6,13,20 2024

0012462131

856Frederick County

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Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
3608 Cool Crest Drive
Jefferson, MD 21755

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to WILLIAM J. PETRINA, Trustee(s), dated January 26, 2019, and recorded among the Land Records of **FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND** in Liber 12835, folio 368, 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 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in FREDERICK COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED TWELVE (12) IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "SECTION B, NORTH JEFFERSON", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13 AT PLAT 163, ONE OF THE LAND RECORDS OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, TAX ID: 14-309543

THE PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO A PRIOR MORTGAGE. IF AVAILABLE THE AMOUNT WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME OF THE SALE

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 6.75% 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, conveying, 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. (86794)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES


300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

May 30,Jun 6,13 2024

0012457912

857Howard County

857Howard County

ORLANS PC
1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
7451 Oakland Mills Rd
Columbia, MD 21046

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from GERMAN A. GARCIA AND DEVORA A. HERNANDEZ-MARTINEZ, dated March 10, 2006 and recorded in Liber 9995, folio 385 among the Land Records of HOWARD COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-13-CV-23-000795; Tax ID No.06-395198) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the HOWARD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 9250 JUDICIAL WAY, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043, on

JULY 2, 2024 at 11:30 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 \$35,000.00 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 the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. 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(s) are 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 # 23-006895)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE


300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jun 13,20,27 2024

0012461225

EZ THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024

877Spotsylvania County

877Spotsylvania County

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE SALE
407 Albany Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22407

By virtue of the power and authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated November 21, 2006 and recorded November 22, 2006 in Instrument Number 200600040004 in the clerk's office for the Spotsylvania County Virginia Circuit Court, Virginia, securing a loan which was originally \$212,566.53, The appointed SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, Commonwealth Trustees, LLC will offer for sale at public auction at the front steps of the Circuit Court for Spotsylvania County located at 9107 Judicial Center Lane, Spotsylvania, VA 22553.

July 02, 2024 at 10:00 AM

improved real property, with an abbreviated legal description of the following described property, to wit:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND IN CHANCELLOR MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF VA, AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN BOOK 1863 PAGE 189 ID#22A25-303, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 303, SECTION 11 THE TIMBERS SUBDIVISION, RECORDED 07/19/1983, FILED IN PLAT BOOK 15 AT PAGE 44. MADE BY SULLICAN, DONAHOE AND INGALLS.

AND as more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

TERMS OF SALE: The property will be sold "AS IS," WITHOUT REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND AND SUBJECT TO conditions, restrictions, reservations, easements, rights of way, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust to be announced at the time of sale. A deposit of \$20,000 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required at the time of sale. In the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price, with interest at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date said funds are received in the office of the SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale. In the event of default by the successful bidder, the entire deposit shall be forfeited and applied to the costs and expenses of sale and Substitute Trustee's fee. All other public charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale, and all other costs incident to settlement to be paid by the purchaser. In the event taxes, any other public charges have been advanced, a credit will be due to the seller, to be adjusted from the date of sale at the time of settlement. Purchaser agrees to pay the seller's attorneys at settlement, a fee of \$470.00 for review of the settlement documents. Additional terms will be announced at the time of sale and the successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to the Substitute Trustees a memorandum of contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
(Attorney for the Secured Party)
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

Jun 13,20 2024

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LOCAL LIVING

Mix and match

Ditch the bedroom set for a more personal space
PAGE 4



Home What you're paying for when you shell out \$50 or \$100 for a candle. **10**

Gardening Experts share their strategies for keeping mosquitoes away. **14**

On Parenting I feel so alone after my son's diagnosis. How can I cope? **20**

Home Sales The latest transactions in your area. **L1**

HOW TO

10 ways to make your patio less of a target for birds

BY JEANNE HUBER

Q: How can I deter pigeons from pooping on my deck? I know there are various products available — tape, twirly things and all that — but I was hoping for a way to keep them away, period. Is that possible?
A: A person who comes up with an easy, permanent and totally effective way to keep away pigeons — or seagulls, geese, starlings or other poop-prone birds — is sure to get rich. Unfortunately, that solution doesn't yet exist.

That said, it is possible to make a deck, patio or balcony less inviting to pigeons or other pest birds. Here are some options, along with the pros and cons of each method.

Remove feeders

Taking down bird feeders is a good first step, but it's not likely to be enough. Pigeons, especially, dine on a wide array of things — including insects, snails, worms, fruit and greens — even when people aren't putting out a banquet of grains and food scraps.

Light and sound

Reflected light can go a long way toward bird-proofing a deck or patio. Birds are confused and scared by twirly things, reflective tape, and shiny CDs or aluminum-foil pie plates suspended on string that move in a breeze. Plastic owls also work, for a while.

Wind chimes and sounds, both audible and ultrasonic, also can help keep birds at bay. But the key thing to remember with all of these deterrents is that birds aren't as dumb as we might think. Something will work for a while, but then the birds figure out the trick is just a scare tactic and ignore it.



ISTOCK

There's only so much you can do to deter birds, but these steps will make your space less inviting.

If you're trying to keep birds from eating cherries or berries in your garden, wait to put out reflective pieces until shortly before the fruit ripens so the birds don't have time to figure out the subterfuge. For a deck or patio you want to use all summer, stock up on a couple of deterrents and switch them periodically. You might want to alternate between reflective devices, plastic owls or rubber snakes, and things that emit sounds.

Netting

Netting can be almost 100 percent effective at keeping birds out of an area. Bird-B-Gone recommends 3/4-inch polypropylene mesh, which it says blocks all birds, including pigeons, starlings and sparrows.

But there are downsides: Birds can fly into the netting and get

caught, a situation that's not fun to deal with. The netting could make you feel like you're in a cage. And you'd need a support structure of some kind, which could get complicated unless your patio, balcony or deck already has a roof, overhead trellis or pergola.

Unless there's a roof, you also need a strategy to keep pigeons or other birds from perching on the upper supports and pooping right through the mesh.

Bird wire

Bird wire, which would keep birds from roosting on the railing surrounding a deck, is nylon-coated stainless steel cable strung between upright supports about 3 1/2 to 5 inches above a beam and 3 inches apart if a beam is wide. The wires look like an inviting place to land, but the tensioned spring system makes for an unstable surface, so the birds roost elsewhere. (Birdbarrier.com sells all the components and offers a five-year warranty against corrosion; 250 feet of wire is \$28.75.)

Electric track systems

Birdbarrier also offers an electrified track system, Bird-Shock Flex-Track, which gives birds enough of a shock when they land that they go elsewhere, but not such a high surge that they are injured or killed. It also has a five-year warranty against corrosion. Birdbarrier prices components separately, with the track starting at \$216.60 for 50 feet. On Amazon you can buy a kit with 33 feet of a different brand of track and a charger for \$199.

Spikes

Spikes work well to keep birds off narrow ledges, but they aren't as discrete as some other options, and they're probably not something you'd want on your deck railing. At Home Depot, spikes to cover 10 linear feet are \$24.58 in stainless steel and \$30.03 in clear plastic, which is designed to be nearly invisible once installed.

Sticky gels

Installing bird wire, electrified track or spikes can take considerable effort. Squirting sticky goo, such as Bird Repellent Gel (\$29.97 for three tubes at Home Depot), using a caulk gun is easier, but it won't last as long. The manufacturer claims it will stay tacky and effective at keeping pigeons, starlings or sparrows from roosting for up to six months. If your yard gets a lot of dust, that could shorten the effective time. The gel is nontoxic but probably not something you want to spread on handrails or other surfaces people are likely to touch.

Unpleasant odors

Companies also offer bird repellents that use scents to scare away birds, but check customer reviews online before you buy: Many of these get two stars out of five, while the twirly and reflective solutions tend to rate considerably better.

Lasers

In agricultural settings, where bird damage can be severe, some farmers are using lasers to scare away birds. Green laser lights set to flash randomly work especially

Editor:

Jenny Rogers

Deputy Editors:

Marisa Kashino,
Mari-Jane Williams

Art Director:

Shikha Subramaniam

Designer:

Twila Waddy

Photo Editor:

Maya Valentine

Staff Writers:

Rachel Kurzius

Columnist: Meghan Leahy

Email: localliving@washpost.com

Telephone: 202-334-4409

Mail:

Local Living section,
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ON THE COVER

Laura Metzler

well, with the light most vivid near sundown and sunrise. Laser light typically doesn't stand out as much during the day, but Bird-X, which sells a laser that makes red and green dots (\$204.97 at Home Depot) claims that its product works day or night. Customer reviews confirm that — and note that it can drive a dog crazy.

One customer suggested saving money by buying a laser designed for making a Christmas-season outdoor show, which produces similar light flashes but costs far less. (The Star Shower laser with red and green options and a remote control, for example, is \$39.99 on Walmart's website.)

Lasers can annoy neighbors, and some states have laws that make it a crime to use a laser in a way that bothers someone. Most places ban lasers directed at police or airplanes.

Contraceptives

Giving pigeons or other birds food laced with a contraceptive is another option, but one that's really only practical as a way of reducing a community's bird population long-term. It doesn't kill the birds, just keeps their eggs from hatching. And because pigeons may live for seven years or so, it will be a long time before the population decreases. Plus, if the birds skip eating the treated food for a few days, any new eggs they lay are back to normal.

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Just say no to the matching bedroom

Once a coveted sign of the middle class, furniture sets are out. Try this instead.

BY MICHELLE BRUNNER

Among the trends that the design world is all too happy to declare dead, the matching bedroom set, or suite as it's sometimes called, is right up there with flush-mount "boob" lights and popcorn ceilings. "Conceptually, it's very dated," San Francisco-based interior designer Marea Clark says. "When every piece of furniture looks exactly the same, it feels a little lazy and makes for a boring environment."

Many companies still make these matchy-matchy sets, but they are unlikely to grace the pages of today's shelter magazines or designers' social media feeds. Instead, designers favor mixing an array of furniture finishes and styles for a more eclectic, collected look.

It hasn't always been that way: America's taste for the bedroom suite soured only recently. According to Alexis Barr, a design history instructor at the New York School of Interior Design, the idea of having matching bedroom furniture took off during the industrial revolution of the mid-1800s and remained popular through the 20th century, thanks to a mix of savvy advertising, expanded credit lines and a rising middle class.

"There was an attitude that if you've made it and you have your life in order, you can afford to buy things that go together," says James Farmer, an interior designer in Perry, Ga.

Interior designer James Farmer painted the bed frame black to work better with the wood finishes in his North Carolina bedroom.

JEFF HERR



LAURA METZLER

Paint, like on this dresser in a bedroom by D.C.-based designer Shannon Claire Smith, can make a piece of furniture stand out.

“Now we think differently about these things.”

But achieving the artfully mismatched look requires balancing furnishings in varying styles and materials. Pick too many motley pieces and your boudoir might have the aesthetic appeal of a roadside junk shop. So how do you master the mix? Here are the guidelines designers swear by.

Break up the set

Whether you’ve just inherited a bedroom set or you bought one 20 years ago and aren’t ready to replace it, you can work with what you have to achieve a look with more personality. “If you already own a matching set, changing one significant thing can make a difference,” Farmer says. “It’s like buying a suit off the rack and adding a funky tie. That tweak is what makes it your own.”

The easiest and least expensive items to swap out from a traditional suite are the nightstands. Adding a pair of bedside tables in a different finish or style can energize even the fustiest outdated set. And if there’s a matching headboard, changing it to an upholstered one helps because it’s one fewer wood piece in the room. “An upholstered headboard is a great opportunity to bring in some color or pattern through the fabric,” Clark says. “Plus, they’re comfortable; it’s nice to have something soft to lean against in bed.”

Vary finishes

When shopping for dressers, chests and nightstands, designers recommend mixing natural wood-tone finishes, which could include rattan and cane, with painted and metal ones to avoid the dreaded sea of all brown furniture. “If you have five different kinds of stained wood coexisting in your room, it can feel like a thrift store exploded,” designer Shannon Claire Smith of D.C.-based Shannon Claire Interiors says.

For instance, Smith advises against buying nightstands in a light wood finish and a dresser in a similar but different tone because it might look like you tried to coordinate them and fell short of the mark. “Instead, I would combine the light wood nightstands with a black painted dresser, or do a burl wood dresser with lacquer-painted nightstands in a color,” she says. “The possibilities are endless, just so long as the finishes are different enough to look like you did it on purpose.”

That’s not to say that you can’t have two different wood tones happening in the same space. When Charlotte-based designer Charlotte Lucas works with more than one wood finish, she too aims for contrast. “It’s easier to mix a darker wood tone, such as ebony, with a lighter burl wood piece because there’s enough variation for them to complement each other,” she says.



PAUL DYER

Consider scale and proportions

Smith says one of the trickiest proportions to get right is how the bed relates to the nightstands and vice versa. “Beds these days are awfully low profile and they don’t have box springs like they used to,” she says. “Platform beds can be a great look, but if you don’t pay attention to that scale, it can feel very low slung, making the other furniture in the room feel off.”

Ideally, you’ll want no more than two to four inches between the top of the mattress and the top of the nightstand.

“You don’t want to feel like you’re reaching up really high or down low to set something on the nightstand next to you,” Clark says.

The proportions get even more complicated when you

have non-matching pieces on each side of the bed. Say you found the perfect antique desk and you’d like to use it as a bedside table. In that case, you should look for a nightstand, table or chest with a similar proportion and finish for the other side of the bed to unify the pieces. “The other rule of thumb is to make sure they are both the same height within an inch or two,” Lucas says. “If you have two radically different heights with identical lamps, it’s going to look really off-balance.”

If one bedside table is more than a couple of inches taller than the other, you can still make it work by choosing different lamps that hit at the same height. What’s on both sides of the bed should carry a similar visual weight and have the same overall height.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Painted nightstands provide contrast to an iron canopy bed with an upholstered headboard in this neutral bedroom by interior designer Marea Clark.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Don't go overboard

Even the most eclectic interiors need balance and harmony. Bringing in too many stylistically unrelated pieces of bedroom furniture can produce a disjointed and chaotic result — the opposite of restful. “Your room might start feeling kooky if every piece is in a different style from a different period,” Clark says. “Balance older, vintage or antique finds with newer pieces so it doesn’t feel like a flea-market hodgepodge.”

Designers agree the key is to pick one dominant style to anchor the room, then pepper that with a few contrasting pieces in other styles. For instance, in a room of mostly modern furniture, one or two over-the-top French or antique pieces can break up the monotony. “Similarly, if you have all traditional furniture with classic lines, throwing in one sculptural, mid-century item is a great way to make the room feel instantly cool,” Smith says. “Drawing that juxtaposition is key to making the space unique.”

Farmer adds: “There’s a gift that you’re giving yourself when you appoint your bedroom. It’s your space, so be unapologetic about expressing your style.”

Michelle Brunner is a writer in D.C. who covers interior design and culture.



STEPHANIE RUSSO

In this space by Marea Clark, a stained-wood dresser mixes with painted nightstands in a similar gray hue and a floral upholstered bed.

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CHRIS EDWARDS

Charlotte Lucas used painted tables to coordinate with the bed.

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A guide to balancing quality and cost when furniture shopping

BY LAURA DAILY

Whether you're decorating an entire home or just looking for a few key pieces, buying furniture is a big — and sometimes overwhelming — task. A little bit of research and a healthy dose of impulse control, along with an eye for the tiniest of details, can help you choose pieces that will work for the long haul. Here, home experts share their top tips for getting what you want at a price you can live with.

Know where to invest — and where to save

"Spend more money on items you sit on or lay on," says Amy Panos, home editor at Better Homes & Gardens. "I would prioritize a sofa and comfortable chairs. Then, save on case goods such as dressers, bookshelves, side tables and armoires. It's important for those to look good, but they're not related to comfort."

Do your research

Gather images of rooms you love and analyze the furniture. Are you drawn to sectionals, low sofas or something with a high back? What look, style or colors appeal to you? Go in person, if possible, to see the items you've liked, and while you're in the store, ask to look at similar pieces. Doing this saves time looking at inventory you aren't interested in, Panos says. Bring along a pillow or fabric swatch to help with color choices.

Read reviews for pieces you like. Are they overwhelmingly positive, so-so or negative? Kelli Lamb, editorial director of Rue Magazine, says it's easy to go down the rabbit hole of reviews on sites like Reddit, where you'll find entire threads on specific brands. But if you can cut through



PHOTOS BY ISTOCK

The most important tool when you're furniture shopping is undoubtedly a tape measure.

the noise, social media can be a great place to get opinions. "If you see a piece you've been eyeing on Instagram, message the account owner asking if they like the piece," she says.

Take measurements

The only essential tool for furniture shopping is a tape measure. Of course, you need to know room dimensions, but that's not enough. Create a detailed floor

plan (including molding and electrical outlets) showing where each piece will go and what size it should be — including length, width and ideal height, Panos says. Try different sofas and chairs to find a comfortable seat depth, size and scale, and note the dimensions. The same goes for the depth and height of a coffee table or dining room set. Also, measure every door, hallway and entry point in your home to en-

sure you can get furniture into the space.

Pay attention to details

Whether you shop in-store or online, ask plenty of questions, says Noel Gatts, an HGTV host as well as the founder and principal designer of Beam & Bloom Interiors: Where is the piece fabricated? Where are the materials sourced? What fabrics and wood species are used? Can you provide

a recommended care and cleaning guide? What is the return policy? "If the seller can't answer, maybe go elsewhere, especially if it's a bed, sofa or investment piece," Gatts says.

You may also want to ask if the piece can be customized and how much time that adds to the delivery. Is delivery free? Does the store outsource delivery to a third-party service? Do they offer

SEE **SHOPPING** ON 9



Shopping for furniture in person can help you get a better sense of a piece's quality and materials. It's also a good idea to bring fabric swatches to help with color choices.

SHOPPING FROM 8

white-glove service — with pieces brought in, unwrapped, assembled and placed — or curbside drop-off? Will they haul away old pieces?

Inspect wood pieces carefully

For case goods such as dressers, cabinets and consoles, open the drawers and doors to look inside. Is it constructed with solid wood or laminate film over particle board? Solid wood pieces are stronger but more expensive. Check the hinges and mechanisms. High-end pieces will often use strong metal parts and screws instead of plastics. Are cabinet doors even? Do they have loose glass panes that rattle? And while the word “veneer” can make people cringe, don’t be put off. Veneers are commonly used in high-quality artisan furniture. It simply means there is a thinner facing of a more luxurious or expensive wood, such as walnut, on top of a more durable wood, such as maple, Gatts says.

Test upholstered pieces

Be careful not to buy something that’s trendy but uncomfortable. Sit or lie on furniture pieces and move them around the way you would at home. Pay close attention to patterns and seams: Patterns should line up to continue in an even repeat at the seams. Are cushions removable (preferred) or attached (cheaper)? If a sofa is against the showroom wall, pull it out and check the back and sides. Push on the back. Is it thick, with ample filling, or just a piece of fabric stretched over the structure? The latter is a telltale sign of a cut corner. You may even want to sit or perch on the back of a sofa to see if it feels sturdy. Also note the filling material. While polyester or foam can be durable, it may lose shape over time. Feather- or down-filled cushions and pillows can be re-fluffed. Gatts suggests giving cushions a simple test: Chop your arm into the middle of the pillow. If the V-shaped indent stays, it’s probably a down-filled quality piece, she says. Check for zippers. Having them makes it easier to clean a soiled cushion or replace the insert.

Consider shopping secondhand

One of the best ways to get a “collected-over-time look” and the most value for your dollars is to shop at thrift or consignment stores. “There’s no shame in shopping smart, and you often find amazing treasures,” Panos says. Just be sure to do the same quality checks outlined above. Even if you have to touch up a scratch or reupholster a piece, the cost can still be a fraction of a new item.

What to know about shopping online

While Panos says she wouldn’t buy anything sight unseen unless there’s a generous and flexible return policy, online retailers are an option. When shopping online for upholstered pieces, take extra

time to order a fabric swatch to ensure it’s what you expect. You can also shop secondhand online, Lamb says, on websites such as *kaiyo.com*, which stocks refurbished quality furniture from top brands at discounted prices and offers home delivery.

Be patient

Furniture shopping should not be impulsive. Don’t get everything in one place. Instead, get the best you can afford at the time. There is a movement toward “slow decorating” — taking the time to get the exact pieces

you want and need, however long that takes. “The most interesting rooms don’t look like a showroom,” Lamb says. Laura Daily is a Colorado-based freelance writer specializing in travel, health, food and consumer issues.

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Why are candles so pricey, and what are you paying for?

BY RACHEL KURZIUS

When Anthony Carro opened Candle Delirium two decades ago, he encountered a lot of skepticism from customers and other naysayers that his candle store in West Hollywood would survive.

“It’s just candles. How could it be just candles?” he remembers people saying. “For the first 10 years it was like, ‘What is he selling in the back?’ ... I think they stopped saying that now.”

These days, the idea that a store might be successful selling 90 brands of luxury candles ranging from about \$10 for something small to \$840 for one that burns for 600 hours in a handblown glass container isn’t so far-fetched. The high-end candle market has grown extensively in recent years. But what, exactly, makes a candle so expensive? Are you just lighting your money on fire?

While luxury candles have long existed, their prevalence is still relatively new. Department stores used to be the only place to buy a pricey candle, but now you can find them in

a large variety of shops and online.

Plus, they’ve become status symbols for all sorts of other entities. Take the Ritz-Carlton, which sells scents that promise to “transport you to The Ritz-Carlton destinations around the world.” Most of the company’s offerings cost less than a night at one of its hotels, though maybe not the \$430 fig tree Diptyque candle sold on its site. Singer Kacey Musgraves has also gotten into the candle game, teaming up with Boy Smells on two varieties inspired by her songs (the standard sizes will set you back \$56 apiece).

Overall, American consumers spent \$222 million on candles sold in prestige retailers like department and beauty specialty stores and online in the past 12 months, according to data analytics firm Circana. That number is actually down from the height of the pandemic, when candle use went into hyperdrive, but there’s still one slice of the market where demand continues to rise: candles that cost more than \$75. While that category amounts to a small piece of the overall pie, units

sold have increased by 25 percent year over year, per Circana.

When you fork over a small fortune for a jar of wax, what are you really paying for? Some materials used to produce luxury candles — the fragrances in particular — are indeed pricey, often significantly more so than those used in bargain products. But there’s also an element of branding that goes into many of the products selling at the highest prices.

“Certainly you can get cheaper candles, but it’s about more than a candle,” says Katie Thomas, who runs the Kearney Consumer Institute, which studies consumer behavior data. “It’s about an essence or a vibe somebody is trying to put out there.”

If people are looking to buy a luxury product, candles are a relatively inexpensive way to do that. Take popular fashion house Loewe — its smallest candle will run you \$120, but that’s still far cheaper than one of the designer’s \$1,250 cotton and silk shirts.

Despite the idea that a particular

brand might signal something about a person’s identity or lifestyle, people still want something that smells good. And that often costs money.

Lyndsey Gibson, vice president of product and business operations at candle making supplier CandleScience, says “most people are fragrance-first. That’s the thing that they’re the most concerned about. And honestly, that’s the thing that can vary widely in price.”

Luxury candles tend to be made with oils from “fragrance houses” — companies that provide smells for products ranging from perfumes to detergents. Many of these oils have a mixture of components, including essential oils (derived from plants without artificial add-ins), carrier oils and synthetics.

“You can get an oil that’s \$2 a pound and you can get an oil that’s \$80 a pound,” Carro says. “That changes a candle from \$10 to \$60, literally, because you’re putting an ounce, an ounce and a half, two ounces in there.”

SEE CANDLES ON 11

CANDLES FROM 10

Whether the splurgier option is worth it depends on the sensitivity of your nose. “If someone stuck a candle in front of me, I can close my eyes and I could tell how much that candle, how much those oils cost,” Carro says. Then again, he has owned a candle shop for the past two decades. Could the average consumer distinguish the difference?

He likens it to champagne or caviar — you can refine your nose or palate to recognize subtle differences. Many people would be able to smell the difference between a \$5 bargain candle and a \$140 luxury version. The cheaper candle probably has a more chemical-forward aroma and fewer fragrance notes. It gets tougher to discern the contrast, however, when you’re comparing similarly priced candles, for instance one at \$40 and another at \$60.

Part of how we experience the way something smells has nothing to do with our nose. Meg Michelsen, a professor of marketing at Longwood University, studies how scent affects consumer behavior. For one experiment, she provided the same scent to people, packaged either as “Lavender Bouquet” or “Floral Bouquet,” and asked how likely they were to buy it. The experiment determined that more people wanted to buy the less specific “Floral Bouquet.”

“When a consumer thinks about it, they just think about a very generic and very general floral scent,” says Michelsen, while a more particular name leaves more room for people to feel like their expectation hasn’t been met.

And there are certainly trends for “in” scents. Fragrances that begin as high-end do ultimately filter down to lower price points — Carro likens this to the famous “cerulean blue” monologue from “The Devil Wears Prada.” When Carro opened Candle Delirium, fruity and floral-scented candles were all the rage. Then, there was a big swing toward heavier scents, like amber and sandalwood. Now, candle makers are selling a lot of tomato candles (think fresh and summery, not simmering pot of marinara sauce).

Gibson has noticed an increase in customers who are interested in the idea of an all-natural candle and businesses that try to cater to that demand. (There is no regulatory body overseeing the claims made on candles and their relative naturalness.) In particular, she has observed a shift away from paraffin wax, a byproduct of petroleum distillation, and toward plant-based waxes like soy, coconut and even apricot.

And then there’s the vessel for all that wax and fragrance. This is where the cost of materials meets branding. An artfully crafted porcelain or glass container costs money to produce, and it reflects the candle’s status as luxe.

Larissa Jensen, global beauty

industry adviser at Circana, says it’s “the same type of dynamic of owning a luxury handbag. It’s more than just the bag. It represents something — it’s reflective maybe of your elevated taste and your style.”

And unlike the wax and fra-

grance, which burn down to nothing, the vessel can pull double duty as home decor, or go on to perform another purpose. Beauty influencers on social media often use them to hold cosmetics.

But even with all-natural ingredients and a stunning contain-

er, an ultraexpensive candle has probably been priced at a significant markup. “Some of the prices that I see out there are just, to me, laughable,” says Gibson, the wholesaler. “But you know what? Somebody out there is willing to pay it.”

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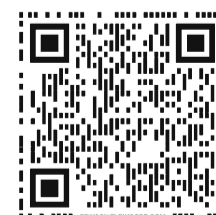
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Summer is coming in hot. Here's how to keep pets cool.

BY NATALIE DELGADILLO

Summer is, in many ways, awesome for pets. After months of rain and cold, dogs can romp at the beach and laze in the grass. Cats can bake in a sunnyspot by a favorite window.

But more extreme weather can also be stressful for pet parents: How do you safely exercise an active dog in the humid July heat? How do you know whether your pet is getting enough water? What are the warning signs of heat exhaustion in an animal?

We talked to veterinarians and pet sitters across the country to get the answers — and to compile some useful tips for keeping dogs and cats safe and cool in higher temperatures.

Avoid going out in the hottest part of the day

It may sound obvious, but it does require planning ahead. If you know the day is going to be brutal, you

should take your dog on their walk either early or late in the day, says Amy Sparrow, owner of Furkid Sitting and Services in Baton Rouge and president of the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters.

If even the mornings and evenings are hot, you should cut down on the walks altogether, she says. “They don’t need to *walk* walk [at those temperatures]. Let them sniff, let them mosey,” Sparrow says, noting that sniffing is mentally engaging for dogs and can tire them out just as well as exercise. You can also tucker out an active dog by playing games inside: hiding treats, for example, or hiding toys around the house.

So how hot is too hot to be walking or exercising outdoors? Like many things, the answer is, “It depends.”

You can start reaching a danger zone at “80, 85, 90 degrees depending on humidity, wind and ventila-

SEE PETS ON 13



TOP: Doggie pools and splash pads can be a fun way to help your pup stay cool. **ABOVE:** Just like you shouldn’t leave a human child in a car, don’t leave your fur baby there either. Cars heat up very quickly in the summer, and air conditioning may not adequately reach the back seat.



PHOTOS BY ISTOCK

Bring along plenty of water on outdoor adventures and monitor how much your dog is drinking.

PETS FROM 12

tion, and sun exposure,” says Byron de la Navarre, a veterinarian with 34 years of experience who works at Animal House of Chicago. “85 in the shade is different than 85 in the sun.”

Also important to note: If you have a brachycephalic, or “smushed-face” breed like a French bulldog or a boxer, they should never be outside for long in high temperatures. These dogs have a more difficult time cooling down by panting and are at higher risk of overheating.

Never (ever) leave your dog or cat in the car

Seriously, don’t.

“Cars get hot very very quickly. Having a dog or a cat in a car is not an option in the summer,” says Brian Collins, a veterinarian with the Cornell Richard P. Riney Canine Health Center in New York.

The typically dark seats in a car and the lack of ventilation can create dangerous conditions for your pets even if it’s not extremely hot outside, and air conditioning doesn’t always adequately reach the back of the vehicle, where many people put their pets, de la Navarre says.

If you have to bring your pet into the car on a very hot day for a vet appointment or something else, it’s best to cool the car down with air conditioning first, de la Navarre says. There are air conditioning extenders you can purchase to bring the airflow into the back of the car, and there are also

fans you can attach to pet carriers to keep pets cool.

Make it fun to keep cool

If you want to let your dog romp around outside on a sunny day, you can encourage them to stay cool without ruining the fun.

Foldable dog pools are great for pups who like to wade around in the water, says Tiffany Jackson, a registered veterinary technician and the owner of Ally 4 Pets, a pet

sitting service in Maryland. “The other thing you can do with the pools is you can use them to give your pets frozen treats so it’s contained in something easily cleanable,” Jackson says, noting that she likes to do this on her deck or even inside her house.

Jackson also suggests creating frozen treats inside a Kong — you can find hundreds of recipes online to freeze inside the dog toy, and “it will mentally stimulate



If you notice unusual behavior, immediately bring your pet indoors where it’s cool and encourage them to settle down.

your dog for 30 minutes” or so. You can also use ice trays or any other mold to make your pet a pup-friendly ice pop.

If your dog doesn’t like being completely wet, you might try a splash pad for hot days instead of a pool. (Splash pads, which spray streams of water for your pet to run through, are like “a sprinkler for dogs,” Jackson says.)

Prioritize hydration

Healthy dogs and cats in their normal environment will generally drink enough water, Collins says (so don’t worry too much about your indoor cats). But when your dog is frolicking at the beach or wrestling at the dog park you may have to watch their water intake — especially since dogs can become too excited and distracted to remember to hydrate. In these situations, it’s helpful to know how much water your pet typically drinks, so you’ll recognize if they’re not drinking enough.

To err on the safe side, encourage your pet to take breaks and bring the water straight to them. You should make sure that you’re always carrying cool water in an insulated container if you take your dog somewhere on a hot day — if the water is not cool, it won’t cool the animal down sufficiently.

Collins notes that you shouldn’t push your pet to consume more water than they seem to want, because dogs can actually drink too much and develop water toxicity.

Know your pet’s risk factors for heat exhaustion

Other than brachycephalic dogs, older dogs, younger dogs, dogs with a lot of fur and dark-colored dogs (especially black ones) are more susceptible to heat exhaustion, Collins says.

You should also know the side effects of all your pet’s medications, as some of them increase heat sensitivity. Dogs with diabetes, liver disease or kidney disease can also overheat more easily, Sparrow says.

Know your pet’s normal behavior

The first sign that your dog is overheating is an excessive amount of panting, multiple vets say. You can only really determine what’s “excessive” by knowing what’s normal for your dog, Collins says.

“It’s important to know when too much panting is happening,” he says. “If people start to suspect their dog is panting more than usual, they probably are, and it’s time to determine whether you should be concerned.”

You may also notice that your dog slows or stops activity, seeks shade or seems very tired.

Cats are generally better than dogs at regulating and tolerating

heat, not least because they simply tend to move around less, especially when it’s hot. But that doesn’t mean they never overheat. If you ever see a cat open-mouth panting, that’s a sign the cat is in significant distress and needs veterinary care right away, multiple vets say.

Take early action

If you notice unusual behavior in your pet, you should immediately get them to settle down from activity and bring them indoors into air conditioning or in front of a fan where it’s cool, Collins says. You should give them cool water, and you can also spray them down to help cool them off (be aware that garden hoses can get very hot in the sun, so test the water before you spray it).

Collins says it’s not necessarily ideal to cover your dog in a wet towel or blanket, because sometimes that towel or blanket can actually trap heat. He also does not recommend immersing dogs in cold water, because you can accidentally make a stressed-out pet *hypothermic* that way.

You can use an infrared thermometer on pets to take their temperature quickly, de la Navarre says. If a dog or cat’s temperature is above 103, you should be concerned and begin taking measures to cool them down.

Various online sources recommend that pet owners put alcohol on their animals’ feet — the quick evaporation of the substance cools them down because dogs and cats sweat through their paws. But de la Navarre says it’s safest to leave that trick to the vets, because they can make sure the animal doesn’t lick the alcohol off their paws.

If your dog or cat begins showing more concerning signs of heat exhaustion, like weakness, wobbliness or seizures, you should get your pet to an emergency vet immediately.

Natalie Delgadillo is a reporter and editor living in Washington.

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How hardcore mosquito experts fight summer's most annoying pest

ILLUSTRATION BY NATALIE VINEBERG/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

BY STACEY LASTOE

As the weather warms up and humidity increases, mosquitoes are hatching in backyards across the country, eager to victimize innocent barbecue-goers and home gardeners everywhere.

Strong insect repellent may never go out of style, but it's far from the only option for combating summer's most annoying interlopers. We asked seasoned mosquito experts — from entomologists to adventure-travel gurus — how they fight mosquitoes in their own backyards. Here's what they advise.

Layer on the protection

"I'm going to sound like a boring entomologist and suggest what the CDC recommends," says Louisa Messenger, a medical parasitologist and entomologist who teaches at the University of Ne-

vada at Las Vegas. "Personal protection," she says, is your first line of defense, including EPA-approved insect repellent containing 25 percent DEET and wearing long-sleeve shirts and pants that have been treated with insecticide, "usually permethrin."

Richard Campbell, the founder of adventure travel company 10Adventures, agrees that nothing beats covering up. He and his family spend the summer months deep in the Canadian Rockies, where the mosquitoes can get surprisingly vicious. Because they lay eggs near or in water, in the mountains "you have almost perfect breeding grounds," with all the lakes, rivers and boggy areas, Campbell says. In some areas, especially just below the tree line near water, he says, "most bug spray is useless." The trick, then, is to not leave any skin exposed, particularly in the most vulnera-

ble spots. "They love my ankles," he says, which is why he often wears two pairs of socks.

Down in the swamps of Florida, protective measures can get even more extreme. Pete Corradino, a wildlife biologist and owner of Everglades Day Safari, says the tour groups that his company leads are encouraged to load up on DEET repellent and wear hats with nets over them to cover the face and neck. Outside of that, it's a matter of adapting — by now, Corradino says, "a couple of mosquito bites for me is something I can tolerate."

Dump or treat standing water

If you've battled mosquitoes, you surely know that even the tiniest amount of standing water — where the females lay their eggs and the babies develop — can harbor the enemy.

Messenger says homeowners

with pools should chemically treat the water with the standard course of chemicals, including chlorine. When not in use, pools should still be maintained and cleaned regularly, as "mosquitoes are much less likely to breed in clean water without any debris," she says.

People with outdoor planters that gather water, "need to dump those out or potentially treat them with insecticide," though Messenger says to be wary of chemical treatments as they could also impact the plant's health.

For people with ponds, bird baths and even puddles on their property, Daniel M. Parker, an associate professor of public health at the University of California at Irvine, offers another solution: Small fish such as guppies and dragonfly larvae are natural predators to mosquito

larva. Adding some to the water will help with population control.

Choose plants wisely

Parker also cautions against keeping certain plants in your garden. Varieties such as bromeliads, pitcher plants and certain types of hollow bamboo can hold small bodies of water on their leaves or in crevices and are therefore a favorite home for mosquito larvae.

David Price, an entomologist and director of technical services at pest-management company Mosquito Joe, says he avoids boxwoods, evergreen shrubs and sunshine ligustrum shrubs, all of which can harbor mosquitoes. He advises pruning back any thick bushes in your yard, which offer mosquitoes protection as well as a possible place to lay their eggs.

SEE MOSQUITOES ON 15

MOSQUITOES FROM 14

Make some dietary changes

Starchy vegetables, salty and spicy food — these may all make you more attractive to the feasting insects. “Mosquitoes aren’t attracted to the food itself,” says Nicole Carpenter, president of Black Pest Prevention in Charlotte, but they may be attracted to the changes in body chemistry that comes from eating certain things. “For example, spicy foods make your body produce more carbon dioxide.” And the carbon dioxide we exhale is how mosquitoes locate us. “Drinking alcohol, especially beer, also contributes to releasing more carbon dioxide,” Carpenter says. Plus, it can make you run a bit hotter, and elevated body temperatures are yet another thing that can attract mosquitoes, says UNLV’s Messenger.

Be careful about scents

Letisha Guerrero, founder of the Nouveau Lifestyle, a wellness and travel blog, has ample experience traveling internationally, often to places known to be buggy. One time in Honduras, an allergic reaction to mosquito bites led to hospitalization, so now Guerrero is hypercautious. She reports that ditching sweet-smelling soaps



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

Experts advise layering mosquito protection. Covering your skin with pants and long sleeves, plus using EPA-approved insect repellent containing 25 percent DEET are effective ways to protect yourself.

and lotions in favor of lemongrass and citronella-scented products has made her less of a draw. She says using essential oils like Murphy’s Natural lemon eucalyptus oil spray and Nantucket Spider Original Bug Repellent for People

have helped her keep mosquitoes at bay.

Messenger says there’s no evidence to support certain scents making you more — or less — prone to bites. However, “if you’re putting lotion on, it’s

changing the composition of bacteria on your skin,” and *that* process, rather than the perfume within a certain product, “[can alter] how you smell to mosquitoes,” making you more or less of a magnet for them.

Schedule outdoor time wisely

Tracy Ellis, a San Diego-based entomologist with FarmSense, an agtech company, avoids exercising outdoors at dusk or dawn. “I try to get my stuff done when I’m not a perfect victim,” she says, pointing out that mosquitoes have an easier time finding you when you’re “sweaty and dirty and breathing hard.” Even if you’re just going out for a walk on a humid summer evening, Ellis suggests showering first and bringing repellent. She agrees that a product with DEET works best, but says the botanical, all natural stuff is still better than nothing.

Corradino, the owner of Everglades Day Safari, echoes that going outside in the evening really should be avoided in super buggy areas like his Fort Myers, Fla., neighborhood. “Once it’s dusk, then you usually head indoors because that’s when the mosquitoes can get pretty bad,” he says.

Sometimes, you just have to let the mosquitoes win.

Stacey Lastoe is a writer in Brooklyn who covers lifestyle topics.

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THE WASHINGTON POST • THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024



PHOTOS BY BRIAN ESPOSITO/UPWARD STUDIO

\$1,595,000

20415 Westerly Rd.,
Poolesville, Md.

Bedrooms/bathrooms: 5/4

**Approximate square
footage:** 3,840

Lot size: 10 acres

Features: The 1858 farmhouse has been renovated to include a new living room and an updated kitchen while retaining the original Victorian and Italianate facade. The property includes a guesthouse, a pool, a four-car barn and several other outbuildings.

Listing agent: Daryl Judy,
Washington Fine Properties

**CLOCKWISE FROM
LEFT:** The current owners
built a log cabin addition
on the first level. The
guesthouse opens to a
covered patio overlooking
the pool. The log addition
features a ceiling with
exposed beams.

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

1858 farmhouse, property is ‘little slice of heaven’

BY SOPHIA SOLANO

The driveway to Lindenwood Farm in Poolesville, Md., is lined with 70 cherry trees that weren’t planted quite as planned. Frank Howard wanted to surprise his wife, Claire, on her 50th birthday with a tree for every year.

“I asked the contractor, ‘How many holes did you dig?’ And he said, ‘I thought you were counting,’” Frank said. “It ended up being 35 [on each side], and I wasn’t going to go back and fill them in, so I went out and bought 20 more trees. I told my wife that’s her 50th, 60th and 70th birthday present.”

The couple, now both 72, bought the Civil war-era farmhouse at 20415 Westerly Rd. in 2001 and have been restoring it for more than two decades. The 10-acre property, which Claire described as their “own little slice of heaven” is on the market for nearly \$1.6 million.

When they bought the property, the 1858 farmhouse and outbuildings were in varying states of disrepair. The house had holes in the ceilings, fireplaces missing mantles, attic window frames without windows and decaying porches sliding away from the house. But they “saw the incredi-

ble bones and potential right away,” Claire said.

During the restoration, some of the property’s past was unearthed, including a stairway beneath a floor and another, in the kitchen, that led nowhere. They found the foundations of old fireplaces and windows with bars behind a heavy cellar door.

The farmhouse occupies part of a 1754 land grant that was progressively subdivided. The property was purchased in 1870 by John H. Williams, a prominent landowner and businessman, from an uncle. Williams and his

relatives owned the property longer than anyone else.

As was popular at the time, the farmhouse has touches of Victorian and Italianate architecture on the facade, including the transom, arched molding and sidelights on the front door.

The house has four bedrooms, three bathrooms, living and dining spaces, a family room and a study. The kitchen, which the Howards have renovated several times, has an island and stainless-steel appliances. It connects to a deck and a 15-by-19-foot log cabin family room with a

beamed ceiling.

The log cabin was brought here from an 1850s barn in West Virginia to match farmhouse features from that decade. Stones from Lindenwood Farm were used in its chimney and foundation.

To the west of the farmhouse is a onetime chicken coop repurposed as a guesthouse with a bedroom, a bathroom, a refrigerator, and a washer and dryer. It also serves as Claire’s art studio and gallery, where she paints by a bay window looking out on the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Also on the 10-acre property are a bank barn — original to the property and repurposed to host events — a water tower, a pool and a wishing well. A smokehouse was converted into a playhouse for the Howards’ grandchildren. The property also has a four-bay car barn, a corn crib and multiple run-in sheds for livestock.

There are vegetable gardens and pastures currently used for grazing sheep. The farm is taxed as being for agricultural use, a status that will convey to new owners.



WHERE WE LIVE: LAKE LINGANORE IN MARYLAND

Outdoor living is a lure to Lake Linganore

Between beaches, trails and pools, this Frederick County community has something for everyone

BY MADISON RUDOLF

When the weather is warm, Carolyn Anderson opens her windows to hear “laughter and playing and splashing” at the beaches of Lake Linganore. It’s the kind of “happy sounds” Anderson’s father wanted to cultivate when he first envisioned a lake community in Frederick County, Md., in the 1960s.

“Dad liked to call it a seven-day weekend,” said Anderson. Her father, J. William “Bill” Brosius, Jr., and his brother Louie were the owners of Linganore Corporation, the original developers. “I look out the window and think, ‘I wish [Dad] could see how much people enjoy living here,’” she said. “It’s a very happy place.”

About 45 miles north of D.C., just outside of New Market, Lake Linganore is a community of about 5,000 properties on 4,000 acres. Fifteen villages, or subdivisions, surround man-made lakes: Lake Linganore, Lake Anita Louise, Lake Merle and Lake Marion.

Colorful kayaks and canoes line the community’s two private sand beaches along Lake Linganore in the Coldstream and Nightingale villages. In the evenings, Anderson and her husband, Jack, who live in the Nightingale village, launch a pontoon boat from their dock and watch the sunset over the water. “And the fish are huge,” Anderson said, reminiscing with a laugh about her son-in-law boasting of his bass fishing prowess.

Anderson’s father, who died in 2013, envisioned a development where “people come first,” according to his handwritten notes. This translated to numerous recreational amenities, such as private lake access, four swimming pools, pavilions, tennis and basketball courts, beach volleyball and a “peaceful, yet fun” atmosphere, Anderson said.

Construction started in 1968 as Fredrick County’s first planned unit development, however, economic challenges led to changes in developers over the years. Today, Oakdale Investments is completing the community, with the new Creekside, Westridge and Alpine villages.

The “guiding concept” was “building in sympathy with the land and preserving the natural environment,” Anderson said.

“There was not to be any erasing of the trees.” Small, winding roads and cottage-style houses that blend into the forested landscape can be seen in the villages of Balmoral and Pinehurst — among the first developed. Newer villages have more contemporary house styles, with wider streets and sidewalks.

The focus on the natural environment remains. One-third of the land is reserved as open space, including more than 30 miles of trails. That characteristic lured Rick Brace and his wife to the community in 1987.

Coldstream Beach and a gravel lakeside trail are just a few steps from their backyard. “We can go in either direction and hike six miles of wooded and relatively remote trails, not something you can do in many places,” Brace said.

It’s as simple as the old saying: “If you’re lucky enough to have a house on the water, you’re lucky enough,” Brace said. “It’s true. We’re very grateful,” he said.

Lake Linganore is not to be confused with a “vacation” or “retirement” community. Part of the Brosius brothers’ vision was making “housing available to a variety of incomes,” Brace said. “And we are so fortunate to have that diversity here,” with home styles that include townhouses and luxury estates.

The development is expected to be completed, with around 6,400 properties, by 2030, said Michelle Jones, general manager of the Lake Linganore Association (LLA). Growth plans continue, and the LLA in May purchased the West Winds Golf Club, in the West Winds village. One option is to reforest much of this 127-acre golf course, which has been non-operational since 2016, for a nature preserve, Jones said.

George Schwab and his wife, residents for 10 years, were drawn to the natural amenities and the “unique” lifestyle that Lake Linganore provides. “We really enjoy hiking and mountain biking, paddle boarding, kayaking, fishing,” Schwab said.

The 209-acre Lake Linganore, a source of drinking water for the City of Frederick, “is really the most important part of our environmental efforts,” said Schwab, treasurer of the LLA. The land around the lake is privately

SEE WHERE WE LIVE ON 18



PHOTOS BY PEGGY CORMARY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Coldstream Beach in Lake Linganore is a popular attraction in the warmer months.



ABOVE LEFT: Nightingale is one of 15 villages in Lake Linganore, which is 45 miles north of D.C. ABOVE RIGHT: Kayaks, paddle boards, canoes and electric boats are allowed on the community lakes. ABOVE: Development began in 1968 and was designed as a community deeply connected to nature.

Outdoor spaces are essential to residents

WHERE WE LIVE FROM 17

owned, so residents enjoy exclusive access to the water. To keep it drinkable and swimmable, the LLA only allows boats with electric motors, like pontoons, and wind and paddle driven watercraft. They also conduct water quality testing and have an Environmental Control Committee, supporting stormwater management and other ecological initiatives.

Even in colder months, the community vibrates with activity, something Tiffany Wendt and her husband, Rolf, embraced when they moved to the community in 2020 after living in Ellicott City for 30 years.

Alongside LLA sponsored community-wide events, residents and villages have book clubs, running groups and other ways for neighbors to “get to know people really quickly,” Wendt said.

The community answered “a dream” of her husband’s to pass along the kind of lake experiences he enjoyed during childhood summers in Connecticut with his grandparents. Now their adult son and his family visit often and create their own lakeside memories. “I don’t think we’ll ever leave,” Wendt said.

Living There: Lake Linganore is east of downtown Frederick and about 40 miles west of Baltimore. As of May 7, there were 30 active house listings, ranging from a \$370,000 end-unit townhouse with three bedrooms and three bathrooms to three lakefront properties, each in the \$1.4 to \$1.5 million range, said Schwab, a real estate agent with Keller Williams Realty Centre. In the past 12 months, 264 properties sold, ranging from \$290,000 to \$1.1 million, Schwab said.

Schools: Blue Heron, Oakdale and Deer Crossing Elementary; Oakdale and New Market Middle; Oakdale and Linganore High Schools.

Transit: Residents have easy access to Interstate 70. The Frederick and Monocacy MARC Stations are within 10 miles. The closest Metro station is Shady Grove, about 30 miles away.

Lake Linganore’s proximity to New Market is convenient, as it offers shopping along a main street.



PHOTOS BY PEGGY CORMARY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST



FROM TOP: Downtown New Market is near the Lake Linganore community. Kayaking, canoeing and paddleboarding are common activities among residents. When completed in 2030, Lake Linganore is expected to have about 6,400 homes.



ON PARENTING



ILLUSTRATION BY EMILY SABENS/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

Readers share their best summer parenting tips

BY RASHA ALI

Summer can be a stressful time for parents and guardians: The kids are out of school, adult children are popping over for an extended visit and trying to plan the “perfect” family vacation can take a toll. Ahead of summer, we asked readers to share advice that helped them navigate the season with a little less stress and a little more fun. Some parents recommended letting go of the idea of a “perfect” summer and others found that preplanned activities take the stress away.

Here are some of our favorites, edited for length and clarity.

Summer doesn't need to be productive

My youngest kid is a freshman in college, so my summers are quieter than they used to be. But I've spent over 20 summers with school-aged kids at home, and my best advice is to let go of the idea that this has to be a “productive” time for them. I understand that kids who are deep into their competitive sports or other activities may have summer clinics or programs that are important to them. Amazing. But that should be the guide. Is there something genuinely meaningful and im-

portant to your child that they need to do? Yes? Then make that happen. But if you spend the summer in an expensive whirlwind of science camp and art camp and debate camp and nature camp (your camp flavors may vary), with nightly workbooks to make sure they don't lose academic skills over the summer, I would encourage you to just stop.

— Looking Back

Boredom is not a problem

Let the summer feel long. Let it be a little boring. Do not make yourself responsible for solving your child's boredom. Maybe don't even make them lunch. A kid tall enough to reach a counter can do that for themselves with a little instruction and some guidelines. And most importantly, embrace the idea that play and self-determined time is critically important for child development. Summer is when today's kids get to do that. Kids do not need the level of supervision and entertainment that they receive (endure?). They will figure out what to do and how to spend that time, especially if you unplug the Xbox for all but the allowed hours and collect phones from the young ones unless they are going to be

away from you and might need to contact you. It is still possible to have a summer full of neighborhood bike rides or walks, mud pies, fort making, cooking experiments, spooky stories and playing in the hose.

A little boredom and a long stretch of time opens up space for creativity, compromise, physical activity, reading, connecting and all the other magic that comes

Let the summer feel long. Let it be a little boring. Do not make yourself responsible for solving your child's boredom.

with the gift of time. And yes, also squabbling and making messes. But that's how you work on conflict resolution and cleaning-up-after-yourself skills. Kids gain more knowledge, life skills and maturity through regular everyday independence and responsibility than through even the best

organized and supervised activities.

I guess my final thought is this: No one is making you turn your child's life into a rat race. Should they lie around and stare at a screen for 12 hours a day all summer? Obviously not. But kids aren't projects. They are little people whose job is to learn how to grow up. And nature pretty much equipped them with the instincts and interests and skills they need to do that. So give them some responsibilities, give them some space and trust that they are getting on with it.

— It's Okay to Be Bored

Lower your expectations

I think it's all about expectations. Lower them! And take pictures.

The best summers I've had with my two boys have been when I use Carolyn [Hax]'s advice to literally and figuratively zoom way in or zoom way out, no matter what stressors are happening. Zooming out means looking overall at the 8-10 weeks and finding the good: Was there some laughter, some rest, some outdoor time, some carrots eaten? If yes, then that was a success.

Zooming in means enjoying

the small moments: connecting through a drawing, noticing an interesting cloud, listening to music. I take a lot of pictures during the summer, so I can see the evidence of all the zooming.

In fact, I start my summer by looking back at previous summer photos. I gain a sense of accomplishment and confidence, and the kids sure are cute from a year ago, so there's the dopamine hit, too.

— Zooming Parent

Consider summer camp

If you can afford it — send your kids to summer camp. (And even if you can't — look for scholarships. They are there!) This sounds flippant, but the absolutely best thing about my daughter's camp is no smartphones and no online access. The 24 days of screen-free fun makes camp worth every penny. (Plus all of the other wonderful things; she has gained incredible independence in her many summers there, beautiful friendships, time in nature, etc.) Summer camp is truly a gift and I am grateful she gets to do it. Plus I miss her, and when she gets home I am more appreciative of our time together.

— Camp Fan

There is joy in letting go

My kids have been taught since they were toddlers that every day, they need to do something good for their body and something for their brain. Read a book, make or build something, take a walk, etc. During the summer, my introverted eldest interprets that as designing new Lego kits and continuing to attend martial arts practice during the optional summer session. My youngest likes to bake and ride her bike with her friends.

But beyond the body/brain stuff, I have found joy in *not caring* once they've met their requirements for the day. Video game marathon? Cool. Play in the sprinkler until every digit is wrinkled and the bottom of the lawn is a mudhole? Great. Three straight hours of YouTube? Fine, as long as I can hear the audio and the minute I hear weird fascist nonsense, the video is done and the channel blocked.

We spend the whole school year rushing from sports to dance to scouts to whatever enrichment activity is suddenly mandatory to their chances of life success. If they spend a couple summer hours hanging upside down on the couch seeing how red their faces get, or counting just how many licks it takes to get through a Tootsie Pop ... that's okay. Awesome, even.

Keep those expectations low, low, low, and you might even relax along with your kids.

— Anonymous

ON PARENTING

How do I cope with my 4-year-old son's recent diagnosis?

BY MEGHAN LEAHY

Dear Meghan: My 4-year-old son was just “diagnosed” with pathological demand avoidance (PDA). I use quotation marks because my understanding is that it isn’t an official diagnosis in the United States. I am reeling. I feel so sad and am grieving the expectations I had of his childhood and, frankly, his entire life. I don’t even think he’ll be able to attend public school.

I also feel very alone; no one in my life that I have talked to has ever even heard of PDA let alone understands or can empathize. I read online somewhere that having a PDA kid is “like parenting on hard mode,” and I just feel like this is so freaking unfair.

Do you have any thoughts on this disorder? Or words of encouragement? I am in a place of real hopelessness at the moment.

— **Hopeless**

Hopeless: I am so sorry for this disappointment and grief. I know (and many other parents do, too) the feeling of having the rug ripped out from under you with a diagnosis, whether psychological or physical. We all have dreams for our children, and it is natural to feel alone, scared and hopeless.

It is difficult to say a lot about a PDA diagnosis, because U.S. mental health professionals haven’t yet formally recognized it. Being given a diagnosis with little to no road map, unsurprisingly, leaves people feeling alone, frightened and hopeless. For instance, if your son had been given an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnosis, there would be a couple of paths from which you could choose. There would be treatments like occupational, exercise and speech therapy, scripts, as well as groups of people who feel that ASD is simply another way the brain is made that doesn’t require any outside interventions. You could easily find a community of other parents whose 4-year-olds also have that diagnosis, and these parents could share stories of success, heartbreak and hope. You would find podcasts and books covering every conceivable facet of ASD, and you could begin to imagine a future where your son would thrive, despite the new challenges.

Instead, you have a diagnosis that isn’t official or recognized by the people in your life. And that, my friend, is

heartbreakingly hard. Not only do you feel unsupported and unseen, but PDA has symptoms that are both physically and emotionally exhausting. One of the challenging aspects of parenting a child with PDA is that strategies that work with many children will not work with your child. Direct requests, commands, demands and even gentle asks will trigger the child’s demand avoidance. You need to remember: It’s not that the child “won’t” obey you, they can’t. Their mind and body are thrown into an anxiety loop that seeks and fights for control. This loop of anxiety-demand-defiance-more anxiety often creates more isolation as the parent doesn’t feel that they can go about their day “normally.”

You have every right to all of the emotions you have stated and, while you navigate this new challenge, I strongly suggest finding your own therapist who can help you grieve the life you thought you were going to have. Please find a therapist who doesn’t question this diagnosis or your parenting skills; you need empathic listening and support right now.

As you find your footing, you will begin to assemble your care team. I don’t know who diagnosed your son, but because PDA isn’t officially recognized, please try to get additional screening for your son. If your son’s behavior needs outside interventions, you will need to find that care team through the proper channels. If he hasn’t had a full neuropsychological test, please get one. They are costly but worth it, especially to establish a baseline by which you may measure later. Whatever you do, listen to your gut. If you feel like a professional doesn’t believe you or isn’t listening, find someone else.

It is tempting to believe that your son will never have a “normal” life, but this isn’t true. There *are* many ways to help him grow and develop; it is just going to be a winding path to get there. Changing your lens from “my son will never have a normal childhood or life” to “we have a child who has specific needs we will all learn to meet” is the difference between this diagnosis being a terrible obstacle or not. He is young and capable of change. This doesn’t change how hard it will be, how many stumbling blocks you will

encounter or how judged, lonely and worried you may feel, but there is a future for your son.

When you are ready, please look for parent groups with young PDA-diagnosed children. From finding therapists, developmental pediatricians, specialized schools and child care, your main need right now is community. Everything, *everything*, can be faced when surrounded by loving people who get it. Yes, you may have never chosen this for your family, but by finding others who get it, your compassion and open-mindedness for all of humanity will grow exponentially. Lastly, pick up the books by Mona Delahooke to understand the nervous system, and keep up with Ross Greene’s work with explosive children. You can do this. Good luck.

● **Also at [washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)** Read the transcript of a recent live Q&A with Leahy at live.washingtonpost.com, where you can also find past columns.

■ **Send parenting questions** to Leahy at onparenting@washpost.com.



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