



SPRING ALL-MET TEAMS
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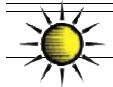


WEEKEND
We're taking a dive into the local bar scene. **EXPANDED SECTION**

The Washington Post

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RE V1 V2 V3 V4



Sunny, hot 96/77 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny, hot 98/80 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024 • \$5

DNA test links rapist to 1996 Va. murders

Ohio man implicated in Shenandoah park killings died in prison in 2018

BY PETER HERMANN, PAUL DUGGAN AND GREGORY S. SCHNEIDER

RICHMOND — Federal authorities on Thursday announced that they now believe a convicted serial rapist from Ohio killed two female hikers nearly three decades ago at a secluded campsite in Shenandoah National Park in Virginia — a brutal attack that vexed authorities and haunted a community.

The news of a suspect in the murders of Julianne M. Williams, 24, and her partner, Laura S. “Lollie” Winans, 26, came after investigators said they decided to plow anew through old evidence. Aided by advances in DNA testing, they focused on a housepainter from the Cleveland area who frequented the popular, mountainous park 320 miles from his home city.

Authorities said they now believe that Walter “Leo” Jackson Sr., who died in an Ohio prison in 2018, bound Williams’ and Winans’ hands with duct tape, sexually assaulted them and slashed their throats. The killings frightened the LGBTQ+ community and raised fears that the women were slain in a hate crime.

“Make no mistake that this crime was brutal,” said Christopher Kavanaugh, the U.S. attorney for the Western District of Virginia. He said there is no evidence that the killings of the couple were motivated by hate bias, as authorities had initially believed.

Over the years, investigators eyed at least two other men, one of whom was charged with capital murder. After prosecutors dropped that case, court documents detailed evidence potentially linking the murders to a dead serial killer. He too has been ruled out.

“We now know who is responsible for this heinous crime,” said Stanley M. Meador, the special agent in charge of the FBI’s field office in Richmond, naming

SEE MURDERS ON A2



FBI

Julianne Williams, left, and Laura “Lollie” Winans in Shenandoah National Park.

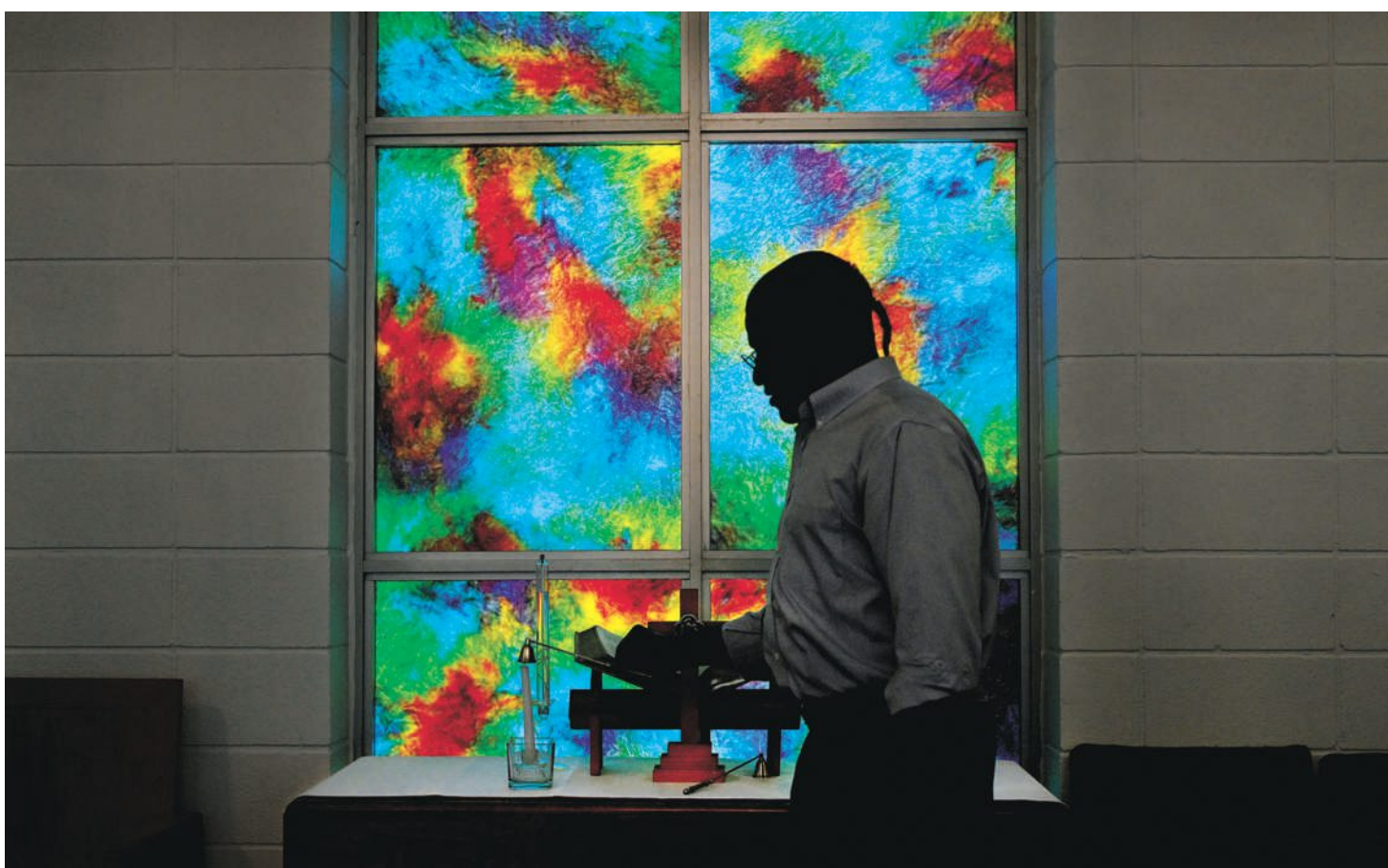


Michael Schwerner

James Chaney

Andrew Goodman

In 1964, the Klan killed three young activists and shocked the nation



A town in Mississippi is still grappling with that violent civil rights history

Even in a decade marked by hatred and violence, what happened here on a sultry June night 60 years ago shocked the nation for its brazenness.

Amid Freedom Summer, a daring effort to register Black Mississippians to vote, three young civil rights workers came to town. It was a perilous time. Black churches were being torched throughout the South. Segregationists remained defiant.

As a young boy, James Young would watch his father lie on the living room floor, rifle at the ready, in case someone burst through the family’s door.

“The community would get information that the Klan is riding tonight, or they may be riding this

BY SUSAN LEVINE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON
IN PHILADELPHIA, MISS.

weekend,” Young recounted later in life. “So during those times, my father would be prepped.”

The three activists had arrived to check on the latest church burning. But before the sun rose the next morning, Mickey Schwerner, James Chaney and Andrew Goodman would all be dead, ambushed by the Ku Klux Klan as they were heading out of Neshoba County.

It took a massive FBI mobilization 44 days to find the brutalized bodies. It took years for even a modicum of justice.

The atrocity became a seminal

moment in the civil rights movement. Yet on the murders’ 60th anniversary, which is Friday, some people here worry that the country is forgetting what was learned along the way. Others wonder what the past is owed — and for how long. They talked with The Washington Post this spring about their community’s painful legacy of racism.

Philadelphia is a vastly different place today. For one, Young is now mayor, the city’s first African American leader.

“We have made strides to be better. I’m gonna put it just like that,” he says. “We ain’t perfect. But we have made strides to be better.”

SEE PHILADELPHIA ON A6

ABOVE: Pastor Eddie Hinton attends to the altar table at Mount Zion United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, Miss. “A message of healing is what I search for most of the time, a message of healing and a message of comfort,” he said of the town’s congregation, one of four that he serves.

DONALD SUTHERLAND 1935-2024

‘Shape-shifty’ movie stalwart did it all

After ‘M.A.S.H.’ breakthrough, he had five-decade career with 150-plus roles

BY ADAM BERNSTEIN

Donald Sutherland, an actor of breathtaking range who became one of the most compelling players in cinema, whether portraying a misfit combat surgeon, an inscrutable cop, a grieving father or a futuristic tyrant, died June 20 in Miami. He was 88.

His agency, CAA, announced the death but did not provide a specific cause.

With his lilting, velvety baritone and ghoulishly expressive features — gangly frame, promi-

nent ears, wolfish smile and chilling green eyes — Mr. Sutherland perhaps unsurprisingly began his movie career in horror films.

From there, he made a leap into eccentric parts in war films, as the dimmest of “The Dirty Dozen” (1967) and the aptly named Sgt. Oddball in “Kelly’s Heroes” (1970). His breakthrough came in 1970 heading the cast of “M.A.S.H.,” a raucous and absurdist antiwar comedy set in a mobile Army hospital. The film became a cultural phenomenon and cannonballed Mr. Sutherland to

fame as an intriguing new screen personality.

Film critic Peter Rainer described Mr. Sutherland as “remarkably shape-shifty,” and his more than 150 screen roles over five decades — notably “Klute” (1971), “Animal House” (1978), “Ordinary People” (1980), “Eye of the Needle” (1981), “Backdraft” (1991), “JFK” (1991), “Six Degrees of Separation” (1993) and “The Hunger Games” (2012) — made him one of the most versatile actors of his generation.

SEE SUTHERLAND ON A4



2017 PHOTO BY CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION/AP

Donald Sutherland starred in films including “Klute,” “Animal House,” “Ordinary People,” “JFK” and “The Hunger Games.”

Tax on offshore gains is upheld

JUSTICES SAW RISK OF ‘FISCAL CALAMITY’

Some saw lawsuit as bid to preempt wealth tax

BY ANN E. MARIMOW AND JULIE ZAUZMER WEIL

The Supreme Court on Thursday rejected a challenge to an obscure provision of President Donald Trump’s 2017 tax package, ending a lawsuit that many experts feared could destabilize the nation’s tax system.

In a divided decision, the court upheld a one-time tax on offshore earnings that helped fund the massive tax cut, saying it was permitted under Congress’s limited powers of taxation.

Some viewed the lawsuit as an effort to preemptively block Congress from creating a wealth tax.

Writing for the majority, Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh said the challenge to the tax on offshore earnings could have rendered “vast swaths of the Internal Revenue Code unconstitutional.”

“Those tax provisions, if suddenly eliminated, would deprive the U.S. Government and the American people of trillions in lost tax revenue,” he wrote. The implications of the challengers’ argument, he added, would have required Congress to “either drastically cut critical national programs or significantly increase taxes on the remaining sources available to it — includ-

SEE TAX ON A14

TikTok goes on offense in legal filing

A new brief calls Biden administration’s position ‘unmoored from reality’

BY DREW HARWELL

The Biden administration’s new law forcing the sale or ban of TikTok is the unconstitutional result of “political demagoguery” and should be overturned, TikTok attorneys said in a court brief Thursday marking the start of one of the most consequential legal battles in American internet history.

The briefs, filed by TikTok and a group of eight creators, largely reprise past arguments that a law demanding TikTok’s China-based owner, ByteDance, sell its U.S. operations by Jan. 19 or face a nationwide ban would violate Americans’ First Amendment right to free expression.

“Never before has Congress silenced so much speech in a single act,” TikTok’s brief said. The law “sets a dangerous precedent allowing the political branches to target a disfavored speech platform and force it to sell or be shut down.”

But TikTok also went on offense, sharing for the first time

SEE TIKTOK ON A14

The Washington Post

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CORRECTIONS

• A June 19 A-section article about Robert F. Kennedy Jr. incorrectly said the Reform Party had lost ballot access in Florida and had yet to complete the paperwork to get it reinstated. The party has had ballot access reinstated in Florida, but needs to complete paperwork to get Kennedy on the ballot there.

• A TV review about “House of the Dragon” in the June 14 Style section incorrectly stated the family relationship between two of the show’s characters. Rhaenyra’s children are Aemond’s nephews, not his cousins.

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

Convicted serial rapist linked to 1996 murders of gay couple

MURDERS FROM A1

Jackson. He said new DNA tests from evidence matched Jackson’s profile in a computer database. Authorities said the likelihood that the material found on evidence is a genetic match to Jackson is 2.6 trillion to 1, more than 300 times the world’s population, an exceedingly strong probability of a connection in the realm of DNA testing.

Meador said: “We can’t imagine how extremely hard it is for the family members to receive this information. They’ve been seeking answers for far too long.” Williams and Winans were last seen May 24, 1996; their bodies were found June 1 of that year, about a half-mile from an inn on Skyline Drive.

At the time of her death, Winans, who grew up in Grosse Pointe, Mich., was completing studies at Unity College in Maine and working toward being an accredited outdoor guide. Williams was from St. Cloud, Minn. They met through an outdoors program for women, and both were described as experienced hikers.

Efforts by The Washington Post to reach their relatives Thursday were not successful.

Kathryn Miles, author of a 2022 book on their case, “Trailed: One Woman’s Quest to Solve the Shenandoah Murders,” said in an interview Thursday that she has continued to hear from people who won’t hike or camp because of these killings.

“For an entire generation of hikers and backpackers, particularly women and people who identify as queer, the impact of this crime was such that it sort of fundamentally removed the wilderness for them and made them very afraid,” she said. In that sense, Miles said, she considers it a hate crime even if federal investigators don’t use the term.

Violent crimes against women in outdoor settings raised fears at the time — and continue to do so, said Jaime Grant, a former policy director for the National LGBTQ Task Force. “Whether or not this person targeting women saw them as queer, to me, is an aside,” Grant said. “Queer women are subject to the violence that all women are subject to.”

Miles said she watched a live stream of Thursday’s news conference and then spent much of the afternoon talking to family members and friends of the victims. “They’re having a real mix of emotions here,” she said. “On the one hand, I think there’s a sense of relief, but I think it’s tempered by the circumstances of this, and there’s a lot of



1996 PHOTO BY FRANK JOHNSTON/THE WASHINGTON POST
Tom and Patsy Williams sit outside the Skyland Lodge, near the site where their daughter Julianne was murdered in Shenandoah National Park. Advances in DNA testing may have finally solved her murder.

frustration.”

Because Jackson is dead, she said, the families won’t get the closure of a trial and won’t get to see all the evidence laid out.

Miles faulted investigators for not performing this kind of test sooner. Meador on Thursday said he requested a full review of the case in 2021 after becoming special agent in charge of the Richmond office. Authorities were unclear about whether the same testing could have been done long ago. At the time, investigators were testing hairs found on duct tape used to bind the victims. Defense lawyers cautioned then that evidence may be too degraded to get conclusive results.



FBI
Walter “Leo” Jackson Sr. died in an Ohio prison in 2018.

When Williams and Winans were killed in 1996, DNA analysis as a law enforcement tool was in its early stages. U.S. courts had begun permitting the use of DNA evidence in criminal trials less than a decade earlier. But the science has advanced markedly since then, allowing technicians to extract ever-more minute samples of genetic material from ever-older pieces of evidence and develop DNA profiles of the people who left that material.

Authorities spent “countless hours” working to determine what items of evidence from the 1996 crime scene “would be suitable for retesting” as part of a comprehensive review, Meador said Thursday. “Once we identified those items,” they were submitted to an accredited private DNA testing lab, he said. Those items were not described; it could not be determined if they were the same items tested years ago.

DNA was successfully pulled from several items of evidence, Meador said, and the resulting genetic profile was compared to genetic profiles of criminal offenders in a federal database known as CODIS, for Combined DNA Index System. The CODIS system, established in the late 1990s, has grown in the past quarter-century to contain DNA

profiles of more than 17 million people charged with crimes, according to the FBI. Given his guilty plea in a 2011 rape and kidnapping, and his 2014 conviction for two abduction-rapes that had occurred in 1996, Jackson would have been a candidate at the time to have his DNA profile entered into CODIS for possible future reference.

Jackson, who lived to 70, was originally from the Cleveland area and worked as a housepainter. Authorities said Thursday that he had been convicted as a serial rapist as part of a lengthy criminal history in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, that also included kidnapping and assault.

On Thursday, authorities described Jackson’s violent record, including a prison term on unspecified charges from 1984 to 1989. That rules him out in unsolved serial killings along the Colonial Parkway in the Williamsburg, Va., area from 1986 through 1989. He was behind bars again in 1994, and freed that same year, less than two years before Winans and Williams were killed.

Four days after the couple was found, authorities said a woman was kidnapped and raped in the Cleveland area.

Several weeks later, police said

another woman in the Cleveland area was abducted from her home and raped at knifepoint. A third woman was raped in that area in 2011.

In 2012, police charged Jackson with the 2011 attack, and he later pleaded guilty and was incarcerated.

While in prison, authorities said, DNA linked him to the two 1996 rapes. He was later convicted and sentenced to an additional 20 years in prison.

Federal authorities had initially arrested another man in the killings of Williams and Winans, and in 2002 they filed capital murder charges against Darrell D. Rice, a computer programmer from Maryland.

They said at the time that they believed the attack was motivated by anti-gay, anti-woman rage. Authorities cited mounting circumstantial evidence: Surveillance video twice showed Rice entering the park around the time of the killings. He had attacked a woman in the park a year later, and he had a history of violence against women and reportedly made admissions about the case to prisoners. Rice denied the charges.

The U.S. attorney general at the time, John Ashcroft, announced the indictment against Rice, the first time prosecutors used a 1994 law allowing for enhanced penalties for crimes motivated by bias against gay people.

Ashcroft said then that Rice could be eligible for the death penalty.

But charges against Rice were dropped in 2004, shortly before his trial, after forensic testing showed that hairs found at the murder scene excluded him as a possible suspect and instead could implicate another man, convicted serial killer Richard M. Evonitz. He had taken his own life in 2002, before he was implicated in the slayings of three Spotsylvania County, Va., girls.

Meador with the FBI said they compared evidence from the victims directly with a stored saliva swab containing Jackson’s DNA.

Authorities said Jackson was known to visit Shenandoah National Park and was believed to be driving a 1984 chestnut brown AMC Eagle vehicle at the time of the killings. They said Jackson often used temporary license plates, altered license plates and frequently changed vehicles.

Meador said their work is not finished, even with Jackson deceased. He said authorities are “piecing together a timeline of Jackson’s movements to share with our partners to assist them with unsolved cases.”

Arizona and Florida diverge on expanding health insurance for children

BY DANIEL CHANG

Arizona and Florida — whose rates of uninsured children are among the highest in the nation

— set goals last year to widen the safety net that provides health insurance to people 18 and younger.

But their plans to expand cov-

erage illustrate key ideological differences on the government’s role in subsidizing health insurance for kids: what to charge low-income families as premiums for public coverage — and what happens if they miss a payment.

“It’s a tale of two states,” said Joan Alker, executive director of Georgetown University’s Center for Children and Families.

That divergence represents more than just two states taking their own path. It showcases a broader breakthrough moment, Alker said, as the nation rethinks how government works for families following the coronavirus pandemic. The divide also underscores the policies at stake in the 2024 presidential election.

Republican-led legislatures in Arizona and Florida worked across party lines in 2023 to pass bills to expand each state’s Children’s Health Insurance Program — widely known as CHIP — which covers anyone younger than 19 in families earning too much to be eligible for Medicaid.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) and Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs (D) then signed bills into law last year that increased the amount of money a family can make and still be eligible for their states’ CHIP programs. That’s where the similarities end.

Arizona began to enroll newly eligible children in March. The state has adopted policies that align with the Biden administration’s efforts to apply Affordable Care Act-style protections to CHIP, such as eliminating annual and lifetime limits on coverage and lockouts if families don’t pay premiums.

Arizona’s CHIP plan, called KidsCare, suspended monthly premiums in 2020 — during the pandemic — and has yet to reinstate them. State officials are considering whether it’s worth the expense to manage and collect the payments given that new federal rules forbid the state to disenroll children for nonpayment, said Marcus Johnson, a deputy director for the state’s Medicaid

agency.

“We’re trying to understand if the juice is worth the squeeze,” he said.

By contrast, Florida has yet to begin its expanded enrollment and is the only state to file a federal lawsuit challenging a Biden administration rule requiring states to keep kids enrolled for 12 months even if their families don’t pay their premiums.

A judge dismissed Florida’s lawsuit on May 31, saying the state could appeal to federal regulators. The state’s CHIP expansion now awaits federal regulatory approval before newly eligible children can be enrolled.

“No eligible child should face barriers to enrolling in CHIP or be at risk of losing the coverage they rely on,” said Sara Lonardo, spokeswoman for the federal Department of Health and Human Services.

Florida’s CHIP expansion calls for significantly raising premiums and then boosting them 3 percent annually. The state estimates expansion will cost an additional \$90 million in its first full year and expects to collect about \$23 million in new premiums to help underwrite expansion of what it calls Florida KidCare.

But Florida officials have said complying with a provision that bars children from being disenrolled for unpaid premiums would cause the state to lose \$1 million a month. The state’s 2024 budget allocates \$46.5 billion to health care and projects a \$14.6 billion surplus overall.

Florida officials have flouted federal regulations and removed at least 22,000 children from CHIP for unpaid premiums since the rule banning disenrollment took effect Jan. 1, according to public records obtained by the Florida Health Justice Project, a nonprofit advocacy group.

DeSantis’s office and Florida’s Medicaid administration did not respond to KFF Health News’s repeated requests for comment about CHIP. In legal filings, Florida said its CHIP plan is a “person-

al responsibility program.” It is “a bridge from Medicaid to private insurance,” the administration said on social media, to get families used to premiums, cost sharing and the risk of losing coverage when missing a payment.

For some Floridians, such as Emily Dent in Cape Coral, the higher premiums proposed in the state’s expansion plan would create a financial burden, not open a path to self-sufficiency.

Dent, 32, said her 8-year-old son, James, was disenrolled from Medicaid in April because the family’s income was too high. Although James would qualify for CHIP under Florida’s proposed expansion, Dent said the \$195 monthly premium would be a financial struggle for her family.

Leaving James uninsured is not an option, Dent said. He is severely disabled because of a rare genetic disorder, Pallister-Killian syndrome, and requires round-the-clock nursing.

“He has to have health insurance,” she said. “But it’s going to drain my savings, which was going to be for a house one day.”

Research shows the cost of premiums can block many families from obtaining and maintaining CHIP coverage even when premiums are low.

And premiums don’t offset much of a state’s costs to operate the program, said Matt Jewett, director of health policy for the Children’s Action Alliance of Arizona, a nonprofit that promotes health insurance coverage for kids in the state.

He noted the federal government pays 70 percent of Florida’s program costs and 75 percent of Arizona’s — after deducting all premiums collected.

“Premiums are more about an ideological belief that families need to have skin in the game,” he said, “rather than any practical means of paying money to support the program.”

Republican-leaning states are not alone in implementing monthly or quarterly premiums for CHIP. Twenty-two states, in-

cluding Democratic-leaning states such as New York and Massachusetts, charge premiums.

States have had wide discretion in how they run CHIP since the program became law in 1997, including the ability to charge such premiums and cut access if recipients don’t pay. That’s been part of its success, said Jennifer Tolbert, deputy director of the Program on Medicaid and the Uninsured at KFF, a nonpartisan health research organization.

“Especially in more conservative states, the ability to create CHIP as a separate program — independent from Medicaid — enabled and fostered that bipartisan support,” Tolbert said.

In the decades since CHIP was enacted, government’s role in health insurance has evolved, most significantly after President Barack Obama in 2010 signed the Affordable Care Act, which introduced coverage protections and expanded assistance for low-income Americans.

President Donald Trump didn’t prioritize those things while in office, Tolbert said. He has suggested he is open to cutting federal assistance programs if reelected, while the Biden administration has adopted policies to make it easier for low-income Americans to enroll and keep their health coverage.

The question of CHIP premiums in this debate isn’t abstract for Erin Booth, a Florida mom who submitted a public comment to federal regulators about Florida’s proposed CHIP expansion. She said she would have to pay a high premium, plus co-payments for doctor visits, to keep her 8-year-old son covered.

“I am faced with the impossible decision of whether to pay my mortgage or to pay for health insurance for my son,” she wrote.

KFF Health News is a national newsroom that produces in-depth journalism about health issues and is one of the core operating programs at KFF.

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POLITICS & THE NATION

Fearing Trump, Democrats seek to alter Comstock Act

Legislators target clause that prevents mailing abortion-related material

BY DAN DIAMOND AND CAROLINE KITCHENER

Democrats are seeking to overhaul an 1873 federal law that bans abortion-related materials from being sent through the mail, worried that a future Trump administration could invoke the Comstock Act to crack down on abortion access or effectively ban the procedure altogether.

“There is a very clear, well-organized plan afoot by the MAGA Republicans to use Comstock as a tool to ban medication abortion, and potentially all abortions,” said Sen. Tina Smith (D-Minn.), who on Thursday introduced legislation to repeal the Comstock Act’s abortion provisions. “My job is to take that tool away.”

Democrats’ push to defang the 151-year-old law comes less than five months before a presidential election in which reproductive rights appear destined to play a defining role. But the party’s mixed reaction to the plan underscores the balancing act between policy aspirations and political realities.

Sens. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) and 17 other Senate Democrats have signed on to the legislation, according to Smith’s office. Reps. Becca Balint (D-Vt.) and Cori Bush (D-Mo.) introduced companion legislation in the House, and in an interview Balint said she believed House Democratic leaders support the effort.

“I’m not going to take a watch-and-see, laissez-faire attitude,” Balint said. “We can and we have to take Republicans at their word that they want a federal ban.”

The campaign is receiving support from major advocacy groups, including Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the American Civil Liberties Union and Reproductive Freedom for All. The legislation, which Smith’s office crafted after consulting with the Justice Department, would preserve aspects of the law that allow officials to crack down on child pornography.

Not all Democrats agree that attempting to repeal the Comstock Act’s abortion provisions should be an election-year priority, worried it will distract from the party’s existing efforts to protect abortion access and to focus voters’ attention on reproductive health issues. While President Biden has heavily campaigned on Republicans’ efforts to limit abortion, he has not endorsed repealing Comstock and has avoided focusing on the law.

Some advocates predict that the legislation is doomed in a divided Congress, highlighting the defeats of recent bills to pro-



Sen. Tina Smith (D-Minn.) gives remarks on reproductive care alongside Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra and Senate Democrats in Washington on Tuesday. Smith on Thursday introduced legislation to repeal the Comstock Act’s abortion provisions.

“There is a ... plan afoot by the MAGA Republicans to use Comstock as a tool to ban medication abortion, and potentially all abortions. My job is to take that tool away.”

Sen. Tina Smith, (D-Minn.)

text access to contraception and in vitro fertilization.

The effort comes amid legal uncertainty about whether the 151-year-old Comstock Act provisions apply today. Many antiabortion advocates seized on the law soon after *Roe v. Wade* was overturned two years ago — arguing that, without the constitutional right to abortion, the long-dormant act now makes it illegal for anyone to mail abortion pills, even in states where abortion remains legal.

Supreme Court Justices Samuel A. Alito Jr. and Clarence Thomas drew further attention to Comstock this year, stressing the importance of the law during oral arguments in a challenge to mifepristone, a key abortion drug.

“It’s not some obscure subsection of a complicated obscure law,” Alito said in oral arguments in March, referring to Comstock

as a “prominent provision.”

The Biden administration has maintained that the law applies only when the person who mails abortion pills and other restricted items intends for the recipient to “use them unlawfully,” a position echoed by Democratic leaders in Congress. But the Biden reelection campaign and its allies have repeatedly drawn attention to the Comstock Act and its potential to shape abortion access, seeking to focus voters on the implications of November’s election.

“According to Trump advisors’ radical legal theory, they can use Comstock to prosecute anyone who uses the internet or U.S. mail to facilitate an abortion — and they can even prosecute women and health care providers,” Morgan Mohr, the Biden campaign’s senior adviser for reproductive rights, wrote in a memo shared with reporters last week.

It is not clear whether Donald Trump would seek to invoke Comstock if elected. As president, Trump nominated three Supreme Court justices who ruled to overturn *Roe*, reinstated restrictions on funding of abortion overseas and took other steps that led activists to hail him as the most anti-abortion president in history.

But as a candidate this year, Trump has backed away from embracing the most restrictive abortion measures, citing polls that many Americans do not support a national ban on abortion and saying Republicans must find a middle ground, angering some of his supporters in the antiabortion movement.

Asked about the Comstock Act in an April interview by Time

magazine, Trump said it was a “very important issue” and promised to issue a “big statement” within the next two weeks.

Trump has yet to issue that statement on Comstock, and his campaign declined to comment about where he stands on the law.

Leading antiabortion advocates and conservative groups have called on Trump to immediately enforce the law if he wins in November.

Lawyer Jonathan Mitchell and activist Mark Lee Dickson — anti-abortion leaders behind the novel Texas abortion ban that took effect months before *Roe* fell — have endeavored to pass local ordinances enforcing Comstock in rural, conservative towns in New Mexico, a Democrat-led state with some of the most permissive abortion laws in the country.

“The Comstock Act cannot be ignored,” Dickson said. “Every law regarding abortion in New Mexico must work within [its] confines.”

The Comstock Act was enacted amid a 19th-century crackdown on abortion and represented the signature work of an anti-vice crusader who sought to impose his moral and legal rubric on the nation. The law banned mailing “indecent” materials such as pornography and sex toys but also included provisions limiting access to abortion and contraception drugs sent by mail.

The law has not been applied for nearly a century, according to legal experts. Its namesake, Anthony Comstock, expressly supported doctors performing some abortions, according to an interview he gave before his death that

was reviewed by The Washington Post.

Congressional Democrats in the 1990s sought to overhaul the Comstock Act, but efforts to amend its abortion provisions failed, and lawmakers pivoted to other priorities.

“No one knew we were going to roll back the clock,” former congresswoman Pat Schroeder (D-Colo.), who helped lead the party’s Comstock repeal efforts in the 1990s, said in a 2022 interview with The Post. Schroeder died last year.

Some abortion rights advocates and legal experts have called for a full repeal of the law, saying a partial repeal of its abortion provisions would not be sufficient. Free-speech advocates also want to get rid of Comstock, worried about the effect of its anti-obscenity provisions if the law is resurrected.

Smith said she first learned about the Comstock Act about 20 years ago, when she was a Planned Parenthood executive in Minnesota, and the law remained on her mind amid Trump-era crackdowns on abortion access. The rise of interest in using Comstock to limit abortion access prompted Smith to write a New York Times op-ed in April about her plans to repeal the law.

Balint said she considered similar legislation last year but shelved it as fellow Democrats and advocates worried about the unintended consequences of calling attention to Comstock. But the situation has changed, given that Trump’s allies are “clearly stating that they plan to use it in the next Republican administration,” she

said. Balint said she expects much of the House Democratic caucus to endorse her bill. But Senate leadership has yet to endorse Smith’s bill.

Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.), the No. 3 Senate Democrat and leader of the party’s congressional efforts to protect abortion access, warned Tuesday at a news conference that Trump and his allies “want to try to misuse the 1873 Comstock Act ... as a backdoor way to ban abortion nationwide.”

Asked whether she would support repeal of the Comstock Act’s abortion provisions, Murray was noncommittal.

“I think we’re all concerned about what could happen in a Trump administration, but at this point I’ve not seen the legislation,” Murray said, pledging to “review it, but our Department of Justice has said [Comstock] does not apply.”

White House officials also said they would review the Comstock legislation.

If Trump wins, and decides to enforce Comstock, his administration could interpret the statute in different ways, said Greer Donley, a University of Pittsburgh law professor who focuses on abortion policy.

The broadest interpretation, she said, would prohibit mailing of all medications and tools used to perform abortions, including instruments for in-clinic procedures — essentially banning abortion nationwide.

“This could make abortion impossible to access everywhere in the U.S.,” Donley said.

A slightly narrower interpretation could allow surgical procedures to continue, but ban mailing of pills, she said — a move that would disproportionately affect women in rural areas and those in states with abortion bans, who have been relying heavily on telemedicine.

Alito and Thomas’s recent comments during oral arguments on medication abortion suggest those justices are open to arguments about applying Comstock, Donley said.

“They both signaled their initial impression that Comstock challenges are legitimate — that Comstock is still good law,” Donley said. “To me, this was about welcoming future lawsuits.”

The Supreme Court’s ruling last week in the medication abortion case, which maintained the status quo, represented “a reprieve, but not a vindication,” Smith said. The senator noted that the court’s decision threw out the challenge on procedural grounds but did not address underlying arguments about whether Comstock applied to sending abortion-related materials through the mail.

“There was nothing in the way that they decided that case that reassured us or said, ‘Oh, okay, they see Comstock as unconstitutional,’” Smith said. “The door is left open.”

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SUTHERLAND FROM A1

A Canadian of learned and genteel temperament off-screen, frequently quoting poets including Joseph Brodsky and William Butler Yeats, Mr. Sutherland was less a personality-driven star than a chameleonic performer adaptable to films set in almost any historical era. This timeless quality was perhaps blended to extremes when he portrayed a blackjack-dealing Jesus Christ in “Johnny Got His Gun,” a 1971 drama set during World War I.

With an acting style spanning the low-key naturalistic to the heavily stylized, Mr. Sutherland was valued by peers for the intense commitment to character he brought to Fellini art house dramas, Sylvester Stallone prison lockup fare, Jane Austen adaptations and raunchy slapstick.

A member of the comedy troupe behind the 2006 film “Beerfest” recalled how Mr. Sutherland, in a walk-on role as a hospital patient who still loves his brew, guzzled suds for hours in take after take rather than use a mechanical device to drain the liquid. “Donald Sutherland, being the professional he was, said, ‘My character is drinking beers. I’m going to drink beers,’” Steve Lemme told the online publication Inverse.

Mr. Sutherland rarely carried a movie alone, preferring to work within an ensemble or as a soft-spoken counterpart to stars with a more overtly commanding presence, such as Jane Fonda, Julie Christie, Sean Connery and Jennifer Lawrence.

His reputation as a workhorse actor known for burying himself within parts — and under ample facial hair — stemmed, in part, from lifelong self-consciousness about his appearance.

“When I was 16,” he often said, “I distinctly remember asking my mother if I was good-looking, and watching her face go absolutely white when she knew she had to confront something she didn’t want to. I wished I’d never asked the question, because she turned and said, ‘No ... but your face has a lot of character.’”

He said he was crushed by the response and was further dismayed to have it reinforced when he first tried out for a movie role. As he recalled in interviews, a producer rejected him for a part as a “next door sort of guy” on the grounds that “we don’t think you look like you ever lived next door to anybody.”

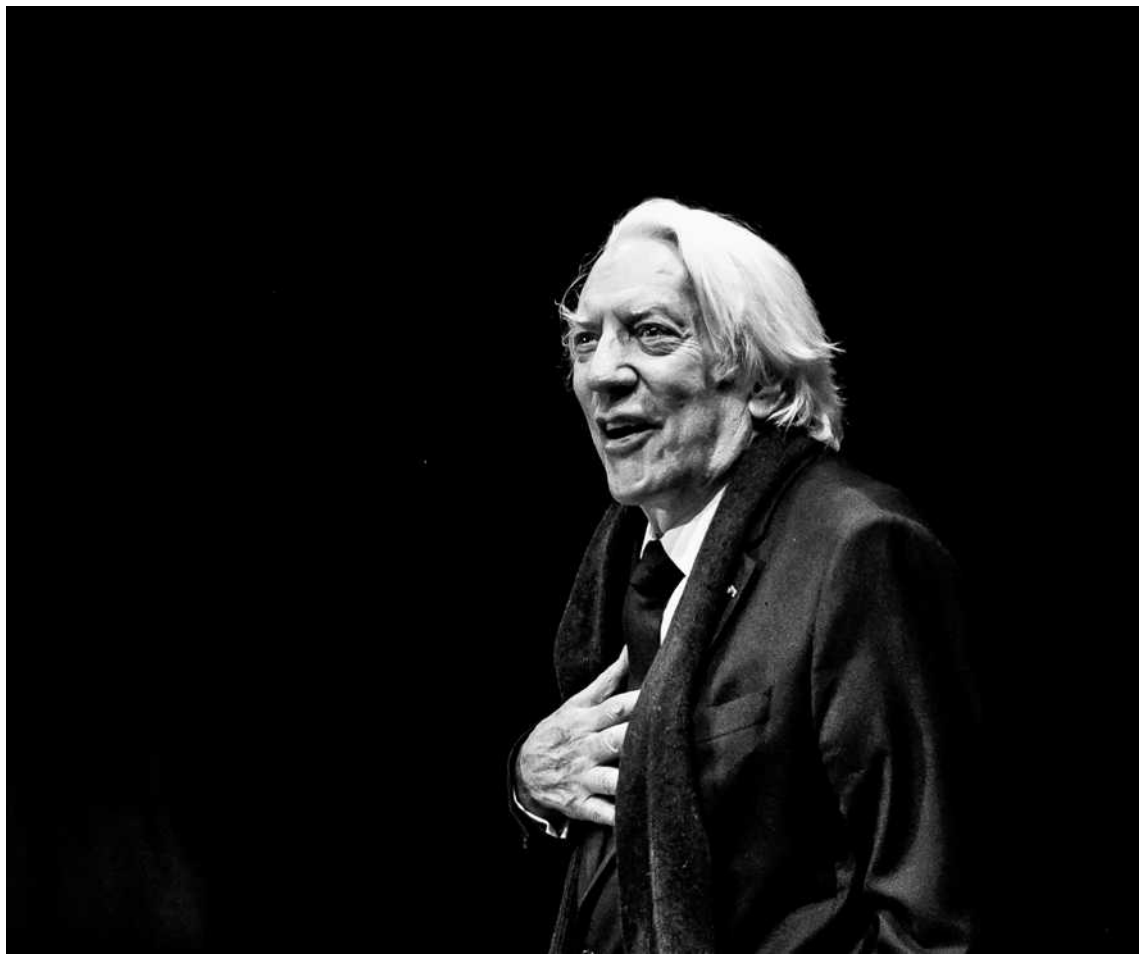
Critical to Mr. Sutherland’s success, Rainer said, was the emergence in the late 1960s of filmmakers trying to break out of the straitlaced studio system formula in terms of casting and plotting. Those more liberated filmmakers, including Robert Altman, Paul Mazursky and Nicolas Roeg, took risks by fusing genres and challenging narrative conventions. They valued nimble, adventurous actors capable of playing ambiguous characters who could portray people who seemed relatable but were perhaps more than a little off-kilter.

It also helped that he almost personified the amiable counterculture with his long shaggy blond hair, looseness of mannerisms and stylish “mod” clothing choices. As journalist Guy Flatley described him in 1970, “He presents a rather startling split image: half Christ at the Last Supper and half Mick Jagger at Altamont.”

No film did more for his career than Altman’s “M.A.S.H.,” which alternated between blood-soaked operations and randy high jinks and came to be regarded as an anti-establishment classic. Although set near the front lines in Korea, it was widely seen as a biting and timely critique of the Vietnam War.

With co-conspirator “Trapper” John McIntyre, another surgeon played by Elliott Gould, Mr. Sutherland’s Dr. Benjamin Franklin “Hawkeye” Pierce wears Hawaiian shirts and plays golf in a theater of war, chases women and humiliates regulation-enforcing authority figures with elaborate pranks, all in the name of maintaining sanity amid the insanity of war.

Perhaps no film showcased Mr. Sutherland’s dramatic discipline more than “Klute,” in which he had the title role of a policeman whose interior life is as mysterious as the case he works to solve, involving a business executive who has vanished. It was the least showy of lead roles, as laconic as Hawkeye Pierce was flamboyant, and allowed wide berth for the more demonstrative



JEFF PACHOD/APP/GETTY IMAGES

Workhorse actor known for burying himself within parts



20TH CENTURY FOX/ASPEN/KOBAL/SHUTTERSTOCK



BETTMANN ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Donald Sutherland arrives for the opening ceremony of the Lumière Film Festival in Lyon, France, on Oct. 12, 2019. Mr. Sutherland and Mary Tyler Moore in a scene from “Ordinary People” (1980), directed by Robert Redford, about an upper-middle-class Midwestern family that fractures after the accidental drowning death of a son, a role for which Mr. Sutherland put on 25 pounds. Elliott Gould, Tom Skerritt and Mr. Sutherland in “M.A.S.H.” in 1970.

Fonda, who won an Oscar playing a cynical call girl possibly connected to the missing executive.

Off-screen Mr. Sutherland and Fonda became lovers for nearly two years, during which time they emerged as two of Hollywood’s busiest actors and most outspoken politically on the left. Mr. Sutherland said he turned down leading roles in “Deliverance” and “Straw Dogs” — both sizable hits — because of their violence, and instead appeared in the documentary “F.T.A.” (1972), which followed him and Fonda as they perform in a roving antiwar USO-type show on college campuses and near military installations.

“I thought I was going to be part of a revolution that was going to change movies and its influence on people,” he later told the Los Angeles Times.

Roeg, especially, leaned into Mr. Sutherland’s enigmatic screen persona in the psychological chiller “Don’t Look Now” (1973). Mr. Sutherland, playing an English art historian, and Christie were a couple who have disturbing visions of their young drowned daughter in a red raincoat.

With its mixture of dread and intimacy, the film also featured a love scene so explicit that the stars spent decades denying rumors that the sex was not simulated. Mr. Sutherland patiently explained that the takes were, at most, 15 seconds long, with a cameraman and director practically in bed with them.

On his winding path through the art-house and mainstream, Mr. Sutherland played a director dazed and confused by his first success in Mazursky’s Hollywood satire “Alex in Wonderland” (1970); an Italian fascist and pedophile who uses his head to bludgeon a kitten in Bernardo Bertolucci’s epic “1900” (1976); and a pothead professor in the raucous campus comedy “Animal House.” He also made a cameo — as a ridiculously clumsy waiter — in the parody pastiche “The Kentucky Fried Movie” (1977).

He played a health inspector in the acclaimed 1978 remake of the horror film “Invasion of the Body Snatchers” and filled his résumé with lively action fare (and a range of accents) such as “The Eagle Has Landed” (1976), as an Irish nationalist involved in a Nazi plot to kidnap Winston Churchill, and “The Great Train Robbery” (1979), as a Victorian-era locksmith and pickpocket opposite Connery’s gentleman thief. In an attempt to showcase a more personable side, Mr. Sutherland portrayed one of his childhood

idols, the idealistic, left-wing battlefield surgeon Norman Bethune, in a 1977 Canadian Broadcasting Corp. TV film. A Variety reviewer praised Mr. Sutherland’s “stunning performance” of a driven and complicated man.

Mr. Sutherland gained 25 pounds for the role of the patriarch in “Ordinary People” (1980), about an upper-middle-class Midwestern family that fractures after the accidental drowning death of a son. Mary Tyler Moore played the mother who hides her heartbreak behind a frosty exterior, and Timothy Hutton was the tormented surviving child.

For one memorable scene, Mr. Sutherland must tell his wife he is unsure if he loves her anymore. It was initially shot with him weeping, and the actor spent months trying to get director Robert Redford to reconsider. Mr. Sutherland ultimately prevailed. “He should just be sitting there,” he explained years later to the BBC. “He’s out of tears. He’s sitting in the salt-wet residue of whatever his mourning for his lost self was.”

The movie won four Oscars, including best picture, best director, best adapted screenplay and best supporting actor (Hutton). Even the New Yorker’s Pauline Kael, a critic whom Mr. Sutherland had made an enemy after once calling her a “jolly little lady,” praised his “graceful” characterization.

To his admirers, it was shocking Mr. Sutherland was so long neglected for as much as a nomination for any role in his vast portfolio. In 2017, at age 82, he received an honorary Oscar for lifetime achievement.

“I never expected to be nominated — ever,” he told the Los Angeles Times. “The reality was working and doing the work as well as you could and avoiding reading reviews and getting to the heart of the truth of something with the director. And if the director was pleased and we had that connection, then that was wonderful.”

Laughs, applause and luck

Donald McNichol Sutherland was born in Saint John, New Brunswick, on July 17, 1935, and grew up in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, a town of 5,000. His mother was a mathematics teacher, and his emotionally distant and often-absent father was a salesman.

He described a sickly and lonely childhood, including a case of rheumatic fever that left him at home his entire fourth-grade year. Classmates nicknamed him Dumbo be-

cause of his large ears. He preferred solitary activities that included puppet-making.

His father pushed him to focus on a practical trade, and Mr. Sutherland studied engineering at the University of Toronto before switching his major to English. He also gravitated to theater — getting laughs and applause for his small debut role in James Thurber’s “The Male Animal,” for which he had auditioned on a dare. “I have never, ever had it so good,” he later reminisced.

After graduating in 1958, he attended the Academy of Music and Dramatic Art in London, served an apprenticeship in repertory theater and appeared on British TV shows such as “The Avengers.” His first movie credit, “The Castle of the Living Dead” (1964), was such a low-budget affair, he recalled, that one scene had him fighting with himself in the dual roles of witch and soldier.

Drooling idiot roles followed in other horror offerings before he went to Hollywood in 1967 and won the role of a country simpleton in “The Dirty Dozen,” about 12 military convicts recruited for an anti-Nazi commando mission.

A day before shooting, TV western star Clint Walker told director Robert Aldrich it would be undignified for his character — a Native American — to play a comic scene where he must pretend to be a general.

“You with the big ears, you do it,” Mr. Sutherland remembered Aldrich saying to him, the least-known member of a cast that included Lee Marvin, Telly Savalas and Jim Brown. “I don’t think he knew my name. ... It changed my life.” His performance in “The Dirty Dozen” helped persuade Altman to pluck him from relative obscurity for “M.A.S.H.”

Mr. Sutherland’s prolific career was studded with bombs, including the crime comedy “Steelyard Blues” (1973) with Fonda and the Depression-set Hollywood melodrama “The Day of the Locust” (1975), in which he played a sexually repressed accountant who meets a horrific end. But perhaps there was no fiasco more high profile than when the renowned Italian filmmaker Federico Fellini hired Mr. Sutherland to play the title role in “Casanova” (1976) and provided him with a conspicuously false nose and chin, and had him make love to a mechanized doll.

In casting a 6-foot-4, blond Canadian as a legendary 18th-century

Italian lover, Fellini defended his choice of the leading man on the grounds that Casanova’s reputation was wrapped in myth, and Mr. Sutherland was “completely alien to the conventional idea of Casanova: magnetic, raven locks, dark skin.”

His reputation was not enhanced by his 1981 starring role in a Broadway adaptation of Vladimir Nabokov’s novel “Lolita,” with Mr. Sutherland playing the pedophile Humbert Humbert. The production lasted 12 performances, with New York Times theater critic Frank Rich’s scathing assessment that it was “the kind of embarrassment that audiences do not quickly forget or forgive.”

Mr. Sutherland became ubiquitous on-screen over the next decades, whether portraying a ruthless German spy in the World War II thriller “Eye of the Needle”; Paul Gauguin in the Danish-French production “The Wolf at the Door” (1986); a South African schoolteacher coming to grips with apartheid in “A Dry White Season” (1990); a mysterious colonel in Oliver Stone’s conspiracy-driven “JFK”; a pyromaniac in “Backdraft”; or as a liberal elitist Manhattan art dealer in “Six Degrees of Separation” (1993).

With his increasingly snowy mane, Mr. Sutherland became literally a kind of eminence grise: as a mentor to Kristy Swanson’s teenage bloodsucker in “Buffy the Vampire Slayer” (1992); to Matthew McConaughey’s swaggering younger lawyer in “A Time to Kill” (1996); to Billy Crudup’s champion runner Steve Prefontaine in “Without Limits” (1998); and to Mark Wahlberg’s thief in “The Italian Job” (2003). He also played one of director Clint Eastwood’s aging “Space Cowboys” (2000) and was the Bennet family patriarch in the 2005 screen adaptation of Jane Austen’s “Pride & Prejudice.”

Of his dozens of later screen roles, the most visible was the despot and glowering President Coriolanus Snow in “The Hunger Games” franchise, starting in 2014. He saw the films, set in a post-apocalyptic future and based on a best-selling book series, as a chance to stir up its young target audience to “take action” against enduring injustices and inequalities. To his regret, he said, the role mostly led to young fans cornering him in public places and asking him to “look mean” in their selfies.

Among his network and cable TV parts, Mr. Sutherland won an Emmy Award for his supporting performance as a Russian bureaucrat overseeing the investigation of a serial killer in HBO’s “Citizen X” (1993).

Mr. Sutherland’s first marriage, to actress Lois Hardwick, ended in divorce in 1966, as did his second marriage, to left-wing activist Shirley Douglas, who in 1969 was arrested in Los Angeles by the FBI for raising money to buy hand grenades for the Black Panthers. The charges were later dropped.

In the early 1970s, after his affair with Fonda ended, Mr. Sutherland began a long-term relationship with Francine Racette, a French Canadian actress. They eventually wed and divided their time between France, the United States and a farm property in Canada.

In addition to his wife, survivors include twins from his second marriage, movie and TV star Kiefer Sutherland and Rachel Sutherland; three children from his third marriage, Roeg, Rossif and Angus Sutherland; and four grandchildren.

In interviews, Mr. Sutherland said he found it emotionally excruciating to look at himself on-screen. “You put your body, your self, your soul, your ideas in the hands of someone else and allow them to take it, cut it into little pieces,” he said, noting that the director or producer will have final creative say.

For all the frustration, he said, he found boundless satisfaction in exploring new characters well into old age. There were an abundance of roles for a man in his 80s, he joked, mostly involving him walking on camera, saying a few lines of elder wisdom, clutching his chest and collapsing dead.

To the Associated Press, he mused that some director, in some serendipitous moment of truth, might be lucky enough to capture him not pretending.

“I’m really hoping that in some movie I’m doing, I die but I die, me, Donald, and they’re able to use my funeral and the coffin,” Mr. Sutherland said. “That would be absolutely ideal. I would love that.”

Murders were seminal moment in rights movement

PHILADELPHIA FROM ABOVE

Beyond the horrific events of 1964 — which, without question, drew the attention they did because Schwerner and Goodman were White — other dates are key to understanding the aftermath of Freedom Summer here:

1967: With only the state able to bring murder charges — and Mississippi refusing to do so — the U.S. Justice Department put 18 men on trial for allegedly violating the civil rights of Schwerner, Chaney and Goodman. One defendant pleaded guilty. Seven, including a deputy sheriff, were convicted. None spent more than six years behind bars.

1988: The Hollywood crime thriller “Mississippi Burning” was released in theaters and trained a harsh spotlight on Philadelphia and Neshoba County.

2004: A group called the Philadelphia Coalition, made up of Black and White residents and members of Mississippi’s Choctaw Nation, came together to seek community healing and to push the state to finally pursue murder charges.

2005: Edgar Ray Killen, a part-time preacher and Klan leader who got off with a hung jury in the federal trial, was found guilty in state court of three counts of manslaughter. He was sentenced to 60 years in prison. It was the first time Mississippi held anyone accountable for the young men’s deaths.

Philadelphia sits deep in the South, deep in the Bible Belt. It is a city of about 7,000 where porch swings abound, y’all carries the day, and

the Popeyes sign flashes “Jesus is the answer.” It also is the seat of Neshoba County, and outside the courthouse, a marble soldier stands high atop a Confederate monument.

With few exceptions, sprawl has overtaken charm. The two main arteries through the heart of Philadelphia offer plenty of fast food and commercial strips. But officials say the economy is strong, benefiting from a regional hospital, major construction and manufacturing companies, plus the Choctaws’ huge resort casino to the west. Jackson, the state capital, is 90 minutes away.

Tracing the civil rights story here is challenging, even when guided by a brochure offered up at the local tourism office. The several historic markers erected in both city and county are widely scattered, easily missed.

The ringleader of the malevolent mob died Jan. 11, 2018, in the Mississippi State Penitentiary. He was 92.

Five years earlier, the FBI had sought his “potential cooperation” as agents tried to track down evidence and witnesses that might support further prosecutions. According to the Justice Department’s extensive case document, Killen “advised that he knew nothing about the 1964 murders.”

He was buried in a cemetery not far south of the remote, wooded area where Schwerner, Chaney and Goodman were executed. His gravestone includes the title of “Rev.”

On a shaded side street just a short walk from City Hall, a quaint house turned history museum takes visitors back in time. There are

exhibits and artifacts reflecting the community’s rich agricultural heritage. There are guitars and photos signaling how bustin’ out proud folks are of country-bluegrass star Marty Stuart, a hometown boy who has bought up blocks of downtown to turn into the future Congress of Country Music.

And of course there’s acknowledgment of the famous Neshoba County Fair — the one where GOP presidential candidate Ronald Reagan praised states’ rights during a 1980 campaign stop. The fair is still the county’s top attraction, not just for tourists but also for the many locals who move to the fairgrounds for a week every summer, living in multistoried “cabins” that are passed down through families. That part of the fun is actually trademarked as Mississippi’s Giant Houseparty. It remains almost exclusively White.

What isn’t found in the museum is any mention of the area’s momentous civil rights history. A lot of people come in for that, an elderly docent allows. “But we don’t stress the civil rights here.”

Its congregation rebuilt Mount Zion after racial hatred burned the church to the ground, and little has changed in recent decades. Inside, a simple, white-walled sanctuary holds enough pews to seat 120 or so people, though it takes a special Sunday like Easter to draw that many. Outside, a cemetery on the church yard’s south side still has empty spaces among the weathering gravestones.

One marker stands apart, right in front of Mount Zion. “In Memory Of,” it reads, and it

bears three names and three cameo images in this order: Michael W. Schwerner, James E. Chaney, Andrew Goodman.

The date of death — June 21, 1964 — is the same for each.

Every June for more than half a century, Mount Zion has held a service expressly to remember this chapter of its history. Part commemoration, part call to action, it typically sees church members and local officials but sometimes reaches higher. Georgia congressman John Lewis, a civil rights icon, came at least twice.

For the 60th anniversary, events took place over three days in town and at the church. Last Friday, a new marker paying tribute to Schwerner, Chaney and Goodman was positioned outside of the McClelland Café. The next day, hundreds of people attended a program celebrating “a legacy of unity and progress” at a theater in Philadelphia.

Sunday returned the focus to Mount Zion, where Jewel McDonald has led the planning for years. Her feelings about the past are complicated, yet as one of the last people alive with a direct connection to those shattering days in 1964, she says she has a responsibility.

“The purpose of it now is to always remember them,” she says. “They came here — here I go getting teary-eyed — to help us. And to show us and teach our people. I feel we owe it to them.

“If they could die, lose their lives — or their lives were taken, I should say — then that’s the least amount that I could do.”

Jewel Rush McDonald, 78

A Philadelphia native who grew up during the Jim Crow era. As a child, she picked cotton on her family’s farm. She went to segregated schools — with outside toilets and water pumps — until her senior year.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

“We had the old raggedy buses, we got all the raggedy books. We never got new books — they were always somebody’s name in them. When the new books come in, they gave them to the White kids.

My mother told us to be nice and civil to everybody. Say ‘yes, ma’am’ and ‘no, ma’am,’ ‘yes, sir’ and all that. She said you need to be courteous whether they’re White or Black or whatever. But she said, you’re going to find out in life that you’re not going to have the same privileges as the Whites will have.

I don’t really think she thought it was going to get a heck of a lot better. She thought there was a better way somewhere, but it wasn’t here in Mississippi.”

The family attended Mount Zion United Methodist Church, several miles from their home, in a rural part of the county. Its finance committee met monthly on a Tuesday evening. And on the Tuesday that was June 16, 1964, the Klan was waiting — hoping to catch some of the “outside agitators” who had been organizing a voter registration project. Hours later, riled up and vindictive, the Klansmen would set the building ablaze.

“My mother had money to turn in, so my brother says, I can drive you there. But they were late leaving.

This was a big old wooden church with all these windows. Everybody that should have been there was already there. [The committee] didn’t have a lot to talk about, just who’s doing this and who’s doing that, who was going to do the revival. My mother was sitting

listening, and she kept seeing all these lights, the reflections of car lights outside. They were like turning around, but nobody was coming in.

When she and my brother got out to go home, he was the first one that [the Klan] grabbed. Just as he got onto the road, there they walk out with flashlights. ‘Where are the White people?’ My brother said, ‘White people?’ There’s no White people. They told him, you’re a damn liar. Pull that damn truck over. And that’s when they yanked him out and started to beat him. He said they had to have brass knuckles or something in the hand, because every time they hit him side of the head, it was so hard. There’s nobody’s fist that hard. He said that was just the worst thing.

They went around and yanked my mother out. She said it had to be a gun that was hitting her. She was all bruised up and bleeding.

At home, we was thinking, where in the world are they? Finally we heard the truck drive up. And when they walked in the door, my mother just broke down. She said there was White people out there tonight — there was Klan outside the church. I never seen the Klan in nothing. You mighta had a neighbor that was living next to you that was a Klan, but if you never saw them with their attire on, you wouldn’t know what they were. She said, they beat us. She said some of them had hoods on, some didn’t. She didn’t recognize any of them.

When you stop and think about it, it’s a wonder they didn’t kill my brother and my mother. It took me the longest time to even talk about it. It’s not the easiest now to talk about it.”

Dawn Lea Mars Chalmers, 54

A Philadelphia native whose family roots are generations deep in Neshoba County. Her cousin wrote a book about the trauma of 1964; her father defended one of the men on trial in 1967. For decades she has run a gift shop on the downtown square.



“I was a freshman or sophomore at Ole Miss when ‘Mississippi Burning’ came out. I was just so ashamed that I didn’t know much about [the murders]. I can’t even believe that the sensationalism of Hollywood is what made me understand what a big deal it was. I remember calling my parents and being, like, ‘What the hell?’

My father talked very little about it. And when I was on the 2004 coalition, I pressed him a little more, and he said, ‘Dawn Lea, there are things that I just do not think it is safe for you to know.’ And that’s where he left it there.

I felt like it was something that had been hidden from me. It was like that for a lot of people around here, this deep, dark, secret stain on our community. And that’s why I wanted to be a part of the coalition. I was going to actually get to talk to Black people about it and White people about it, and Choctaw Indians about it, because this all happened right here, and it was just never discussed. So it was like this big roundtable gathering. And what is crazy is that we all felt the same way about it. We all had these feelings of just disgust and shame. Like we should have known how it was. Maybe it’s like when you’re in the middle of domestic violence, and that you think everybody is the same way.

The main goal was to get the attorney general to file charges. And when he went against Edgar Ray [Killen], there was a

sense of accomplishment with that whole group of people. It was some sort of reckoning that we felt led to do and did.”

She fears that the lessons learned are fading.

“There is a sense now, just like it was when I was growing up. People are starting not to talk about it anymore. Everybody is, let’s look ahead to the future, let’s don’t dwell on the past. But I think every kid in this town should know what happened. And personally, I think they should be taught by someone who was on the right side of things.

That’s what this generation owes the generation that brought light to it and the generation that went through it. To make sure people know what those boys were fighting for and how terrible it was in this community that they lost their lives here for that particular reason — registering Blacks to vote. That is so important because I know so many young people who don’t vote, and I don’t think anyone’s encouraging them to do so.

The Klan, they were terrorists. They were hatemongers, extremists who were burning down churches and beating up congregants. The feeling around [now] feels like that sometimes, that feeling of anger and hate. My God, can we not move forward while still talking and understanding what happened in the past?”

Leroy Clemons, 62

A Philadelphia native who considers himself “an ambassador for my city.” He endured death threats in 2004 as co-chair of the Philadelphia Coalition and today works with youths and leads civil rights tours. At the site where the three activists were slain, he kneels as he describes their terror.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

“It was like you grew up in a time when people had all this voluntary amnesia and just would not talk about what was going on. When we started the coalition in 2004, that’s what came up. That was the first time Black folks started hearing stories and that White folk was hearing about what it was like for them, too. Many of them talked about not knowing; we had a whole generation that grew up that didn’t know. I mean, prior to the movie ‘Mississippi Burning’ coming out, the kids around here couldn’t have named not one of those guys who had come into town. So we were trying to plan this 40th anniversary and everybody was saying how much Philadelphia had changed. But how can we really say we’ve changed when we’ve never acknowledged our past? We’ve never as a community ever acknowledged that this happened here.

For 39 years, Mount Zion had carried this burden by themselves.”
Out of that flowed a ceremony that drew some 1,500 people, including the governor. The next year, the state answered the coalition’s call for justice by prosecuting Killen.
“This is what I tell the young people: You need to know this story. In Mississippi, it is taught very little. Most of the tours that I do with student groups are from out of the state. I think it’s word of mouth; if I advertised, that would be my full-time job. How many tours from Neshoba? Zero. Zero tours from the school districts here. You know, you got this big push about history and all the controversy around it. I think some of the teachers are just nervous about exposing their kids to it. But other communities embrace it. Oth-

er states embrace it. I’ve got a group come from Portland, [Oregon]. They come twice a year.
Our first stop is always Mount Nebo Missionary Baptist Church because I like to take people into the community. Then we go the McClelland Café. That’s the only Black-owned business that survived from the civil rights era.”
Finally, the tour reaches the isolated spot off Highway 19 where Schwerner, Chaney and Goodman were murdered. Loblolly pines tower overhead.
“It immediately takes me back to that night — as a Black man, as a Black person. I can see that how dark it was out there at night. I can see the faces of those young boys standing out there with these men, not knowing what to expect. When I’m down on my knees, and I’m

telling the story, it’s like I can feel Michael there holding his friend James in his arms.
I always say to young people: I’m going to tell you what happened. But I want y’all, more importantly, to understand why those things were happening. What was the environment that allowed those things to happen. And then at the end, we always talk about what are things that they can do, that they can continue to do, to ensure that things like this never happen here again.
When I do the tours, I’m always careful to make sure that we end on a positive note, that we talk about all the negative things, but I also bring them up to date about what’s going on today. I don’t want them to leave here thinking that Neshoba County is still like it was in 1964, because it’s not. Even understanding where we are now versus 2004, it’s light-years apart.”

Sarah Richardson and Marlee Washington

Both 17, rising seniors and extraordinarily active in clubs and sports. Richardson, left, wants to be a lawyer. Washington is thinking about medical school. This spring, they and other members of the youth group Leadership Neshoba went on one of Clemons’s tours.



“**Richardson:** The tour was really hard. I knew part of the story, that there was a Black man and two White men that were killed. And I knew that White people were the ones who were acting upon this.
But I was just like, why? All I could say was, why? Were you offended that they were doing something better than you? Were you offended that they were trying to make a change? Like, what made you act on such terrible things? How was Blacks and Whites being separated even a thing?
Washington: Mr. Leroy took us around to the place where the three men got killed, the jailhouse where they were held, the church that was burned down, all over.
The biggest impact was us going to the exact place where the three men were murdered and knowing that one of the men took off running. We saw where he took off running. That just kind of struck a nerve. It was emotional.
It’s probably not what everyone wanted to hear. But we need to hear it because they’re not going to tell us about it in school.
Richardson: If I could change how history was taught in schools, that would be something. Yes, you need to know what happens in the world and what made the United States the United States and blah,

blah blah, blah blah. But you also need to know what was where you live.
You should know the story of your community, no matter where you come from. Good, bad, ugly, pretty. All of it, every aspect of it. We can’t hide the reality. We can’t deny what happened.
Washington: Philadelphia will show what it wants to show and what the city wants to be known for. I feel they should do more. They have [historic] place markers, but I’ve been in Philadelphia in my 17 years of life and have never seen those place markers because I just drive by.
I feel like everyone has the same reaction, honestly, which is just shocked that the murders happened. Because everyone is like, some things just aren’t right. No matter where you were raised or how you were raised, you know some things are not right.
Richardson: Me being how I am now as a 17-year-old in 2024, 60 years ago if I would have been the same person I would have walked the streets fighting for Blacks the way that they were fighting for themselves, for civil rights, all those movements. I would have been right there with them. Everybody should have freedom to speak however they want. Everybody should be able to vote. So I would have marched right along with them.”

James A. Young, 68

A Neshoba County native who as a boy was one of its schools’ early “trial integrations.” Before becoming mayor, he was a paramedic and county supervisor. Four terms later, he leads a city where African Americans are just over half of the population.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

“There’s a lot of times when people from different areas come down to Philadelphia expecting things to be still segregated like it was in the ‘60s. Nobody intermingling at all. And that’s just not the case. That was Philadelphia then. This is Philadelphia now.

We already have several Freedom Trail markers, and I know we’re supposed to be getting another in June. One thing we’ve got to start doing [with other counties] is linking the markers. You know, work out a brochure that links Freedom Trail from where it began all the way down to the Deep South so that anybody can start anywhere else and pick up the trail. That’s how you keep the lives of the civil rights workers living on.

The markers that we have are at the sites where everything happened. But they’re not on the beaten path. So that’s why we have to make sure that we have the documentation and the brochures there, with good maps for people to follow.

History was one of the things that I always loved, and I remember feeling you do need to answer for history. [Killen] never had answered for anything; it was a hung jury on his civil rights trial. And that’s not right: You were definitely involved in this.

My father-in-law’s actually a pastor of one of the churches that Edgar Ray Killen pastored in his younger years. He had church members coming up to him thinking that they needed to get rebaptized because Edgar Ray was the one that baptized them. As my father-in-law says, he’s not the one that saved you. That is the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I decided to come back to Philadelphia, my prayer was, Lord, if you could help me be able to get back to my hometown, spend time with my family and with my grandparents. If there is a part in this community that I can play a part in to better my community, put me in that path. Does that mean making sure that I learn about the past? Making sure I learn about the true story, good or bad? Yes.”

“I’ve had many people ask me. How could I get elected in this community? And there was a lot of variables. One, I was a paramedic. I touched a lot of people’s lives — in some of their worst state, we showed up and made a difference. They knew my father; he had a good reputation. My mom had a good reputation. I had worked in the community for years and years before running for this office, so I was not an unknown quantity.

But I had to get elected by the whole body of people. And maybe, I’m just going to say this as a maybe, they looked beyond the skin and looked at the performance. And that’s where it should be.

I won my first race for mayor by 45 votes. We went after every live body that was registered, and sometimes we had to literally plead with them to go vote. We found out some wasn’t going because they couldn’t read. Some wasn’t going because they didn’t want to tell folks they couldn’t read. So we worked through those barriers, and the people come out of there saying, wow, this is the first time I voted. We’re talking 2009.

[After that first victory], I got calls and letters from all over the United States and several nations. Japan, China, Australia, Germany, France. I’m thinking, I

didn’t know y’all knew Philadelphia existed. We’re just a small dot on the map. I got calls and letters from people in prison, from doctors, lawyers, teachers. People who had left Philadelphia and left Mississippi, saying I’m not ashamed to say I’m from Mississippi now.

The freedom to vote is not a big issue. Going to vote is the issue. So the power of the vote, it’s not stifled by threat anymore. It’s stifled by setting up barriers that are rooted under the guise of being fair and equal.

This is me: The only way you’re going to stop me from voting is you lock the door before I get there. The only way. If you say, I got to have 10 fingers raised when I walk through the door, so be it. You know, they fussed about I.D. And I say, you have to have I.D. to get Medicare, Medicaid. You have to have I.D. to get into these hospitals. Sure enough have to have one to get into the state capitals. So what’s the problem with an I.D. to go vote?

When you know what they’re trying to do and you still fall for it, they’ve won. It’s not a complicated thing.

I don’t dwell in the past. I know what it used to be. And I tell them sometime: I’m thankful that I’m old enough to know what went on, but young enough to see the benefits of those struggles.”

Tim Moore, 49

A native of Neshoba County who left Mississippi early in his career, then returned for family. He serves as executive director of Community Development Partnership, which helps to disseminate the tourist brochure “Roots of Struggle, Rewards of Sacrifice.”



Eddie Hinton, 64

Born in Starkville, about an hour up the road from Philadelphia, and still lives there today. He pastors four small congregations in Neshoba County, rotating from one to another every other Sunday. Mount Zion is among them.



“This is where I feel the pain. This is where I feel people went through something, they suffered something. The members of this church, sometimes I think that they have flashbacks. I find myself trying to find words to comfort. A message of healing is what I search for most of the time, a message of healing and a message of comfort. Even after all those years, they’re still hurting.

You think about your people, trying to move in a better position in life, to be able to have a voice to vote. Then you look at what’s going on even today. Voting rights is having an issue even today. The three civil rights workers have given their life. I think that they knew that they were taking a chance. So they made a sacrifice. And even after that story and other stories that have been told, we’re still dealing with voting rights? I’m deeply concerned. And feeling there should be something else that I could do other than just preaching and pastoring.

When I was a smaller kid, I thought what had happened [here] was to just only Blacks. Something about the Ku Klux Klansmen killed some boys down in Philadelphia. So Philadelphia was sort of like, this is not the place you want to go. I didn’t realize it was two Whites [killed] as well. But if it wasn’t for the two White guys, then none of this would even surface to the top.

I’m still learning. And even though I

might pick up a book and read what happened, there’s nothing like hearing it one on one with some of the members.”

He stands in the front yard of the church on a Sunday afternoon. Full, gray clouds, darker than the granite of the civil rights workers’ marker, threaten rain. There’s no car coming or going on the narrow road that passes by Mount Zion. The only sound is the wind.

“The first thought that cross my mind when I come out is the stories that I’ve heard concerning the members. Even though they was having a meeting in the church [that June night in 1964], they constantly would see lights that would hit the window, but they never did pay much mind to it at the moment.

And then when they come out, they’re approached by the Ku Klux Klansmen. Some say it was also the sheriff, the deputy and the National Guard. And they was beaten in leaving the church.

So when I’m kind of late in the evening, it make me a little worried about am I going to walk out into something unexpected? It still haunt me today. From the stories that I’ve heard and from the things that I kind of feel to be true.

It still feel like a ghost spirit or something still in the area, you would say. It’s still spooky, still a little scary, still a little shaky. And in my mind, I do not want to be caught here at night by myself.”

Herculaneum beach buried in eruption of Mt. Vesuvius reopens

BY VICTORIA BISSET

It was late into the night when the eruption of Mount Vesuvius nearly 2,000 years ago sent volcanic material over the beach at the ancient city of Herculaneum, where hundreds of men, women and children — and even a soldier — huddled in and around stone boat houses, awaiting rescuers who would never arrive.

The A.D. 79 volcanic eruption had buried the seaside and left the beach out of reach to visitors, until now — when newly-completed restoration works mean visitors can set foot on the beach, as it appeared before the disaster, for the first time.

The restoration of the beach allows people to see the site “from the same position” as “the ancient Roman people,” Francesco Sirano, the director of the Herculaneum archaeological park, said in an interview Thursday. “The visitors have to go down through a tunnel ... and it’s like we go back two thousand years, and then suddenly you have the beach.”

While Herculaneum is often overshadowed by its more famous neighbor, Pompeii, it was also destroyed by Mount Vesuvius — and the beach area is known for holding the remains of at least 330 people who died there, sheltering in the boat houses in hope of being rescued.

Those remains, discovered in the 1980s, ’90s and 2000s, were mostly related women, children and babies, along with their dogs and sheep, while adults and young men were thought to have perished on the beach itself, according to researchers.

Sirano said the eruption had covered Herculaneum in “an enormous amount of volcanic materials.” The beach area eventually became flooded, meaning that visitors could only access the boathouses and the remains by traveling on “a suspended pathway” over the water.

Now thanks to restoration works by the Italian Ministry of Culture and the Packard Human-

ities Institute, visitors to the site could step on the beach again for the first time, he added. The beach was opened to the public on Wednesday.

The ancient beach had distinctive, volcanic black sand — but the local authorities decided against using that in the reconstruction, as sand would cause accessibility issues for wheelchair users, Sirano said. Instead, they used a dark material that was similar in color to re-create the scene as it would have appeared to the ancient residents.

“If we look towards where the sea once was, we become modern explorers of the immense blanket of volcanic flow that covered the city in a few hours, almost sharing the sense of total annihilation” ancient Roman residents would have felt, Sirano said in a news release from the Italian Ministry of Culture, describing the beach as “an extraordinary and unique place in the world.”

The 330 people whose remains were found at the site are believed to have made up 5 percent of the ancient city’s population, Sirano said, adding that organic materials such as wood and food had been discovered at the site.

Pompeii, around eight miles to the south, was largely buried by volcanic ash, according to UNESCO, which said they were the only ruins of Roman cities “preserved in such an exceptional way and have no parallels in integrity and extent in the world.”

Both sites “have been progressively excavated and made accessible to the public since the mid-18th century,” UNESCO says, although much of the remains of Herculaneum is under the modern-day town and have only been explored through tunnels from the 1700s.

The eruption may have ended life in the two ancient cities, but new findings from the area continue to fascinate researchers and visitors alike.

Earlier this year, archaeologists announced the discovery of a banquet room in Pompeii, which was decorated with beauti-



EMANUELE ANTONIO MINERVA/MINISTERO DELLA CULTURA

ABOVE: A view of the Herculaneum archaeological park in Ercolano, Italy, on June 19. A beach that was previously buried at the site during the Mount Vesuvius eruption reopened to the public on Wednesday. After becoming flooded following the eruption, visitors could only use a “suspended pathway” to access the boathouses and remains. **BELOW:** The Herculaneum beach area holds the remains of at least 330 people, mostly women, children and babies. The people who died at the site are believed to have made up 5 percent of the ancient city’s population. Their remains were discovered in the 1980s, ’90s and 2000s.

ful frescoes of mythological characters inspired by the Trojan War.

In 2021, archaeologists found the remains of a man between the ages of 40 and 45 who was found with his belongings and dubbed the “last fugitive of Herculaneum.”

A year earlier, Italian researchers said the heat of the eruption was so hot that it turned the brain of one victim, who died alone, to glass, as The Washington Post previously reported.

Technology has also played a role in bringing the forgotten world back to life: Last year a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln was awarded \$40,000 after he developed an AI program that was able to decipher parts of an ancient scroll that was burned and buried in the eruption.

Stefano Pitrelli contributed to this report.



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THE WORLD

A bipartisan U.S. congressional delegation made rare calls for Tibetan self-determination on Indian soil during a visit to the Dalai Lama's Himalayan home on Wednesday, as speculation mounts over Tibet's future.

The question of who will succeed the 88-year-old Dalai Lama — and how he or she will be chosen — has intensified in recent years amid reports of the exiled Tibetan monk's declining health and increasingly rare public appearances.

The Communist Party-led Chinese government, which rules Tibet as an autonomous region, has insisted that it holds the power to effectively choose the Dalai Lama's successor, a claim rejected by most Tibetans.

Senior monks in Tibet, a deeply religious Buddhist region, have traditionally identified a child as the reincarnation of the leader following the previous Dalai Lama's death. The 14th and current Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, has said he or a committee may choose a successor before he dies, and this successor may not be born inside China.

The Dalai Lama, who turns 89 in July, has long said that he may not be reincarnated at all, which would deny legitimacy to whom-ever Beijing chooses to be his successor in the eyes of many Tibetans.

The U.S. delegation, which was led by House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Michael McCaul (R-Tex.) and included former House speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), told reporters Wednesday that U.S. support for Tibet remains steadfast and urged Beijing to engage in “unconditional dialogue” with the Dalai Lama.

The legislators also presented to the Dalai Lama, at his home in Dharamshala, a framed copy of the Resolve Tibet Act that was passed by Congress last week and that represents a shift in U.S. policy toward Tibet. It states that Washington believes the dispute between Tibet and China remains unresolved in accordance with international law, and it rejects China's claim that the Tibet issue is an internal matter and that Tibet has been part of Chinese territory since “ancient times.” President Biden is expected to sign the bill into law.

For decades, official U.S. policy has recognized Tibet as part of China.

“It is still my hope that one day the Dalai Lama and his people will return to Tibet in peace,” McCaul told reporters following the meeting, according to Reuters. He added that the United States “will not let” Beijing play a role in the selection of the Dalai Lama's successor.

The Chinese government, which considers the Dalai Lama a separatist, asked the United States to stop meddling in Xizang — the Chinese name for Tibet — while its state media called the trip a U.S. effort to “contain” China.

“Xizang affairs are China's internal affairs,” Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lin Jian said Thursday ahead of the meeting. “We urge the U.S. to clearly see the sensitivity and importance of Xizang-related issues ... and stop sending out wrong signals to the world.”

Tenzin Lekshay, a spokesman for the Central Tibetan Administration, the government in exile, said in comments to The Post that “there is a convergence of the free world in showing soli-



CHARLOTTE GREENFIELD/REUTERS

Visit with Dalai Lama follows shift in policy from U.S.

Congressional delegation presents spiritual leader with copy of bill criticizing China's stance on Tibet

BY GERRY SHIH AND SHIBANI MAHTANI
IN NEW DELHI

ABOVE: The Dalai Lama meets with Rep. Michael McCaul, former House speaker Nancy Pelosi and others at his temple in Dharamshala, India, on Wednesday. RIGHT: The Dalai Lama exchanges greetings with Pelosi, who along with McCaul led the delegation visiting him. The U.S. lawmakers told reporters that U.S. support for Tibet remains steadfast and urged Beijing to engage in “unconditional dialogue” with the Dalai Lama.

arity and support for Tibet,” including between India and the United States. He added that in particular the United States has been at the forefront, with many policies adopted for Tibet.

Lobsang Gyatso Sither, a member of the Tibetan parliament in exile and director of technology at the Tibet Action Institute, a Tibetan advocacy group, said the presentation of the Resolve Tibet Act, which would challenge Chinese claims that Tibet has long been part of China, was significant and

showed that the United States is no longer cowed by the Chinese government's warnings and outrage.

“This is China's playbook, and the world has wiseden to it,” he said. “This no longer works.”

Indian officials did not comment on the visit, but the U.S. delegation's trip was notable given that foreign officials visiting India are usually not permitted to address the media, particularly on political or human rights that U.S. issues deemed sensitive by the New Delhi government.



TENZIN CHOEJOR/OFFICE OF HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA/REUTERS

Pelosi has addressed public audiences on previous visits to Dharamshala, including a visit in 2017, when she called for an “autonomous, authentic” Tibet. But she and other U.S. lawmakers went further on this visit in calling for Tibetan self-determination.

“The People's Republic of China must respect the rights of the Tibetan people under international law, including their right to self-determination,” Rep. Jim McGovern (D-Mass.) said in a speech. “This is about basic hu-

man dignity.”

“The comments on self-determination appear to be a major departure, and what that exactly means needs to be studied,” said Srikanth Kondapalli, an expert on India-China relations at Jawaharlal Nehru University. He added that India tends to be “cautious” about the Tibet issue compared with Washington because of its ongoing border dispute with China, which takes place precisely in the Himalayan highlands once controlled by the ancient Tibetan kingdom.

“One of the issues India is concerned about is the fallout over the territorial dispute and the military clashes,” Kondapalli said. “The U.S. doesn't have a border with Tibet and China. It's a luxury the United States has, unlike India.”

Following their Dharamshala visit, the U.S. delegation also held meetings in New Delhi with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and discussed the bilateral strategic relationship.

DIGEST

THE VATICAN

Student tells pope to stop LGBTQ+ slurs

A student pleaded with Pope Francis on Thursday to stop using offensive language against the LGBTQ+ community, taking Francis to task over homophobic slurs he has allegedly used during private meetings.

Francis was twice quoted by Italian media in the past month as using the Italian term “frociaggine,” roughly translating as “faggotness,” referring to priests and to the general atmosphere in the Vatican.

The Vatican issued an apology after the first report, but the incident sparked outrage and Vatican watchers said it had damaged Francis's image as a reforming LGBTQ-friendly pope.

Jack Lorenz Acebedo Rivera addressed Francis during a panel discussion on the Asia-Pacific region between university students and the pope, broadcast on YouTube.

“Stop using offensive language

against the LGBTQIA+ community,” said Acebedo Rivera, who said he was a psychology student at Ateneo de Manila University in the Philippines.

“I myself I am outcasted and bullied due to my bisexuality, my gayness, my identity and being a son of a single parent,” he said.

In his response, the pope spoke strongly against discrimination, particularly targeting women, but did not address Acebedo Rivera's appeal regarding his alleged homophobic language.

— Reuters

MALAWI

President names Usi as new vice president

Malawi's president, Lazarus Chakwera, appointed Michael Usi as his vice president on Thursday, after the previous vice president was killed in an airplane crash last week. Vice President Saulos Chilima and nine others were killed when the military plane they were

traveling in crashed in a forest on June 10.

Chilima was expected to challenge Chakwera in next year's presidential election.

Usi will be sworn into office on Friday, a government statement said. He previously served as minister of natural resources and climate change and was a close ally of Chilima, having served as his running mate.

— Reuters

KENYA

Thousands protest new tax proposals

Thousands of mostly young people demonstrated Thursday in Kenya's capital and across the country against new tax proposals by the administration of President William Ruto in its annual budget legislation.

The protests brought Nairobi's central business district to a standstill as horse-riding riot police threw tear-gas canisters and opened water cannons on demonstrators who advanced

toward Parliament buildings, where lawmakers debated the finance bill.

The protesters, who began their demonstrations Tuesday, are demanding lawmakers vote against the legislation, which is expected to be burdensome for salaried Kenyans, entrepreneurs and consumers. They say Ruto has gone back on his pledge to reduce taxes and lower the cost of living.

The new taxes would include a 2.75 percent levy on income for the national medical insurance plan, as well as increased taxes on vegetable oil and fuel.

— Associated Press

A Swedish court on Thursday acquitted a former Syrian army general accused of playing a role in war crimes in his home country more than a decade ago. Brig. Gen. Mohammed Hamo, who now lives in Sweden, was charged in February with aiding and abetting crimes against international law. Prosecutors said that as head of the Ordnance Department of the Syrian army's

11th Division, he was responsible for providing the weapons that were used to commit war crimes in 2012. The Stockholm District Court said it was “clear that the Syrian army's warfare in the conflict included indiscriminate attacks in violation of international law” there. However, Judge Katarina Fabian said the evidence that the prosecutor relied on was not sufficient to convict Hamo.

The Italian coast guard on Thursday recovered 12 more bodies from a weekend shipwreck in the Ionian Sea off the southern Italian coastline, bringing to 20 the number of known victims from the sinking. Dozens more are missing and presumed dead. The bodies, including women and children, were being transferred to a port in Calabria. Survivors reported that the boat's motor had caught fire, causing it to capsize off the Italian coast overnight Sunday, about eight days after departing Turkey with about 75 people from Iran, Syria and Iraq on board,

according to the U.N. refugee agency and other U.N. organizations. Eleven survivors were being treated on shore.

Eight of 10 candidates in Venezuela's upcoming presidential election, including President Nicolás Maduro, on Thursday signed an agreement binding them to respect the results of the contest as announced by electoral authorities. The agreement put forth by Venezuela's electoral body could end up being insignificant: The government has a history of testing and breaching the terms of agreements, and the document wasn't signed by Edmundo González Urrutia, the only opposition candidate with a real chance of ending Maduro's quest for a third term. The electoral council earlier this year set the presidential election for July 28, fulfilling one of the provisions of an accord that the government entered with the opposition coalition González represents.

— From news services

Mark Rutte, outgoing Dutch leader, set to be next NATO secretary general

BY EMILY RAUHALA

BRUSSELS — Mark Rutte, the longtime prime minister of the Netherlands, looks set to replace Jens Stoltenberg as NATO secretary general after the last remaining candidate running against him withdrew from the race, paving the way for his selection by allies.

The change of leadership at NATO, which could be formally agreed on within days, comes at a delicate moment for the 32-member military alliance. Thanks in large part to Russian President Vladimir Putin, NATO is bigger, stronger and more relevant than it has been in ages, but a growing current of isolationism in some countries has raised questions about its future.

Consensus on Rutte's candidacy comes just weeks before allies gather in Washington and as the alliance braces for the possibility that Donald Trump could again become president. In February, Trump said he would encourage Russia to attack NATO countries and may consider leaving the 75-year-old



Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte speaks to the media during an informal summit of European Union leaders on June 17.

military alliance.

Rutte, who has been the Netherlands's prime minister since 2010, is a veteran of European Union politics who has experience with many NATO country leaders past and present, including Trump. Known for his

direct manner and pragmatic approach to politics, Rutte was seen by many allies as the right leader to potentially work with the former U.S. president should he be elected.

While some European leaders have criticized the presumptive

Republican nominee, Rutte, while eyeing NATO's top job, signaled a willingness to work with Trump.

"We should stop moaning and whining and nagging about Trump," he said at the Munich Security Conference. "I'm not an American, I cannot vote in the U.S. We have to work with whoever is on the dance floor."

There is no formal procedure for selecting the secretary general. In theory, allies talk until there is consensus. In practice, there is usually a significant steer from the United States.

The decision on Rutte comes after several months of fraught debate and deliberation that spotlighted division between allies and Hungary's growing role as a spoiler at NATO.

Though most allies, including the United States, France, Germany and Britain, backed Rutte long ago, allies from the east of the alliance were frustrated by the choice of a western European, particularly given Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine. Rutte would be the fourth Dutch person to lead the alliance — a sore point for some

Central and Eastern European members. Some argued that a leader from a country neighboring Russia would have made more sense.

In February, the United States threw its weight behind Rutte, giving him momentum but not quite clinching the deal.

Romanian President Klaus Iohannis entered the race, saying the alliance needed a "renewal of perspectives."

Other than Romania, the last holdout was Hungary, which has been increasingly critical of NATO's stance on Ukraine.

In June, Stoltenberg told Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban that Hungary could opt out of some NATO plans for Ukraine, such as an effort to have the alliance play a greater role in training of Ukrainian forces and plans to increase military support. With just weeks to go before the summit in Washington, Rutte met Orban on the sidelines of a summit in Brussels, reassuring him that he would honor the deal. He then put the details of their agreement in writing.

"After yesterday's meeting in

Brussels, PM Mark Rutte confirmed that he fully supports this deal and will continue to do so, should he become the next Secretary General of NATO," Orban posted on X. "In light of his pledge, Hungary is ready to support PM Rutte's bid for NATO Secretary-General."

That left Romania. On Thursday, Iohannis officially withdrew his candidacy, making way for Rutte. NATO ambassadors are expected to endorse the pick next week, according to officials and diplomats.

A State Department spokesperson said Thursday that Iohannis's decision "exemplifies his commitment to ensuring unity and consensus within the Alliance" and that the United States fully backs Rutte as NATO secretary general.

Assuming allies make it official, Rutte will replace Stoltenberg this fall.

President Biden said he will be sad to see him go. "You've been great," he said during an Oval Office meeting with Stoltenberg this week. "I just wish you'd extend your term another 10 years."

U.S. to boost Ukraine's air defense by pausing munitions exports to allies

BY ALEX HORTON
AND JOHN HUDSON

The United States will suspend the planned export of hundreds of air defense munitions to its allies and partners and redirect them to Ukraine, the White House said Thursday, as Russia continues its assault on the country's power grid and other vital infrastructure.

Speaking to reporters, National Security Council spokesman John Kirby characterized the decision as "difficult but necessary," and said it would affect deliveries of Patriot and NASAMS interceptor missiles, principally. Ukraine, he said, faces a "desperate" need.

"We have, of course, informed all the affected countries that we are taking this extraordinary step, and we're making every effort to minimize any negative impact," Kirby said. He added that when U.S. allies were told their shipments would be delayed, "the response we got was broadly supportive ... because they know how serious the need is in Ukraine."

It's the latest in a series of recent steps by the Biden administration to reinforce Ukraine as it defends against an aggressive push by Moscow to break the country's morale. Throughout the spring, the White House has approved large weapons transfers to replenish depleted stocks, rescinded its strict prohibition on the use of U.S. arms for strikes inside Russia, and solidified a 10-year security pact with Kyiv while leaders of the Group of Seven major democracies said they would tap billions of dollars in frozen Russian assets to sustain Ukraine's fight.

For months, the government of President Volodymyr Zelensky has pleaded with its supporters for substantial increases to its air defense inventory as Russia bombards Ukraine with missiles, drones and glide bombs. To date, those requests have yielded one additional Patriot system from the United States and another from Romania.

The Patriot and NASAMS sys-



A Romanian Patriot system is seen near the Black Sea. In recent moves to help Ukraine, the Biden administration approved large weapons transfers, rescinded its prohibition on the use of U.S. arms for strikes inside Russia and solidified a 10-year security pact with Kyiv.

tems are the two most sophisticated air defense platforms the West has provided to Ukraine. The Patriot, valued at \$1 billion, is especially coveted by Kyiv. It is the only system in its arsenal that has proved capable of shooting down Russian hypersonic missiles, which are especially difficult to detect and defend against.

Ukraine has struggled mightily to protect against Russian glide bombs, however, because they are nearly impossible to bring down once launched. The solution,

Ukrainian officials say, is to target the aircraft that fire those weapons, but to do so in the near term would require moving their limited number of Patriots closer to Russia's border — making them more vulnerable to attack.

Longer term, Ukraine hopes its fleet of advanced F-16 fighter jets will prove a formidable counterpunch to the Kremlin's glide bombs, but the arrival of those aircraft, pledged by Western nations months ago, remains many weeks away, officials say.

Kirby did not specify how long U.S. allies would need to wait for their delayed orders, but said this reprioritization would not impact Taiwan, which faces a threat from China, or Israel, which has endured attacks from Iranian-backed groups in the Middle East, including Hezbollah and Houthi militants.

A State Department official declined to say which U.S. partners may be affected or when the munitions would be redirected, citing ongoing diplomatic conversa-

tions about the process. Kirby indicated the interceptors bound for Ukraine would include missiles "rolling off the production line."

The proposal was floated by President Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, in early April, as Republican lawmakers delayed approval of a major national security spending bill to provide more weapons and assistance to Ukraine, a senior administration official said. Sullivan's plan coalesced in the ensuing

weeks, and Biden told Zelensky at last week's G-7 gathering in Italy that the United States would shuffle its air defense exports to prioritize Ukraine, this official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

The policy change was first reported by the Financial Times.

While the Patriot has been used primarily to defend against Russian missile attacks, Ukrainian air defenders have used them to bring down enemy aircraft, too.

Ukraine has utilized Patriot systems in a "historic" way by bringing them close to the front line, stretching the limits of their capabilities, U.S. Army Col. Rosanna Clemente, the assistant chief of staff of the 10th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, said at a recent symposium.

The so-called "SAMBush" — short for surface-to-air-missile ambush — brought down a Russian A-50 command and control aircraft in January, Clemente said. Ukraine reported that it shot down that aircraft over the Sea of Azov.

Washington late last month allowed Ukraine to use U.S.-provided weaponry against limited military targets inside Russia from which its forces are attacking or preparing to attack.

Kyiv has been allowed to "use air defense systems supplied by the United States to take Russian planes out of the sky, even if those Russian planes are in Russian airspace, if they're about to fire into Ukrainian airspace," said Maj. Charlie Dietz, a Pentagon spokesperson.

That separate policy has been in effect for more than a year, the senior administration official said previously, noting that Ukraine brought down several helicopters and fighter jets using Patriots. "There's never been a restriction" on using U.S. air defenses to shoot down incoming Russian aircraft in Russian territory, the official said.

Ellen Nakashima contributed to this report.

With visit, Putin seeks to shore up the support of an old ally, Vietnam

BY REBECCA TAN

SINGAPORE — Russian President Vladimir Putin was in Vietnam on Thursday to bolster support from an old ally in Asia amid Russia's war with Ukraine, which has left Moscow increasingly isolated from the West.

Visiting Vietnam for the first time since 2017, Putin arrived in the capital, Hanoi, early Thursday and was received by President To Lam. According to the Russian news agency Interfax, the two leaders agreed to increase cooperation on energy and on research into nuclear science and technology.

Putin, who was joined by Defense Minister Andrei Belousov, said both Russia and Vietnam believe in "building solid, relevant security architecture in Asia ... on the principles of the nonuse of force and a peaceful settlement of disputes." He added that there will be "no place for closed military-political blocs." Ahead of the visit, Putin also thanked Vietnam for its "bal-

anced position" on Russia's war against Ukraine.

Lam, a hard-liner in Vietnam's ruling Communist Party who recently rose to power, praised Putin before the beginning of closed-door negotiations, saying Russia's global standing has been "growing steadily" under his leadership. "Our people and I personally view the development of bilateral relations as very important and highly appreciate your support for relations between our states," he said.

While Russia and Vietnam have been close allies since the Cold War era, the sheen on that relationship has faded in recent years as Vietnam has cultivated warmer relations with the United States in an effort to balance the projection of Chinese power, political analysts say.

Vietnam has been gradually weaning itself from its reliance on Russian defense equipment and last year upgraded its relationship with the United States to the highest possible level, granting it the same status as

China and Russia. The United States is now Vietnam's largest export market and has been increasing security assistance, particularly at sea, where Vietnam faces encroachment from Chinese forces.

Officials at the U.S. Embassy criticized Hanoi this week for agreeing to host Putin, who faces an arrest warrant from the International Criminal Court on a charge of illegally deporting and transferring Ukrainian children, a war crime, during Russia's war against Ukraine.

"No country should give Putin a platform to promote his war of aggression and otherwise allow him to normalize his atrocities," the U.S. Embassy said.

Putin's stop in Hanoi was part of a concerted campaign to shore up international support in the face of the West's growing efforts to shun his country, including with mounting sanctions. He visited China last month and traveled this week to North Korea, where he signed a new strategic pact with leader Kim



Vietnamese President To Lam greets Russian President Vladimir Putin in Hanoi. They agreed to boost cooperation on energy and on research into nuclear science and technology, a Russian report said.

Jong Un.

For Putin, the visit to Vietnam is a chance to demonstrate that Russia still has global reach, said Alexander Vuving, a professor at the Asia-Pacific Center for Secu-

riety Studies in Honolulu who studies Vietnamese foreign policy. Vietnam is "a significant country in a significant region" that is increasingly being courted by the world's superpowers,

Vuving said. "Russia, of course, wants to show that it's still a friend," he added.

Robyn Dixon in Riga, Latvia, contributed to this report.

Rift grows between Netanyahu and Israeli military over Hamas elimination

BY ADELA SULIMAN,
SUSANNAH GEORGE
AND BRYAN PIETSCHE

A television interview followed by a sharp government response is the latest evidence of a deepening rift between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the military over whether Hamas can be eliminated and the lack of a broader day-after plan for the end of the war in Gaza.

Netanyahu and his office have repeatedly stated that the main goal of the war is the destruction of Hamas, but they have avoided talking about how the Gaza Strip would be governed afterward — something the military insists needs to be established.

An Israel Defense Forces spokesman, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, said in an interview late Wednesday with Channel 13: “Hamas cannot be destroyed. Hamas is an idea. Those who think it can be made to disappear are wrong.”

In what has been viewed as a rare and pointed message from the military to Israeli political leadership, Hagari continued: “What we can do is foster something new to replace Hamas. Who will that be? What will it be? That’s for the political leadership to decide.”

His comments were swiftly rebuffed by the prime minister’s office, as Netanyahu took his familiar political position, reiterating that only a “total victory” and the elimination of Hamas will end the war in Gaza.

“Netanyahu has defined one of the war’s objectives as the destruction of Hamas’s military and governmental capabilities,” his office tweeted in response. “The IDF is, of course, committed to this.”

The IDF appeared to stand by Hagari’s comments, stating that they were made “explicitly and clearly.” It underscored that the IDF remains “committed to achieving the goals of the war, as set by the war cabinet, acts to do so tirelessly throughout the war and will keep doing so.”

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant has issued statements voicing the deep misgivings of the wider defense establishment, which fears that the government’s lack of a political strategy in Gaza will



ELOISA LOPEZ/REUTERS

Protesters block a main highway in Tel Aviv on Thursday to demand the immediate release of all hostages held in Gaza.

allow Hamas to regroup. Benny Gantz and Gadi Eizenkot, war cabinet members from a centrist political coalition, resigned after urging Netanyahu to adopt a postwar plan for Gaza.

Israelis are more confident in their military than in their government, according to a survey published Thursday by the Pew Research Center. The poll of 1,001 Israelis, conducted March 3 to April 4 — before Netanyahu dissolved the war cabinet — found that 61 percent of Jewish Israelis trusted their government to “do what is right for Israel.”

A vast majority — 93 percent — of Jewish Israelis said the military had a “very good” or “some-what good” influence on domestic affairs. That comes even as the military has come under scrutiny for what was viewed as a lackluster and slow response to the Hamas attack on Oct. 7, and allegations in the international community that the IDF is com-

mitting war crimes in Gaza.

Israelis were also more supportive of Gallant than of Netanyahu, according to the survey. Seventy-four percent of Jewish Israelis had a favorable opinion of Gallant, while 51 percent had a favorable opinion of Netanyahu. Support for both leaders was paltry among Palestinian citizens of Israel: 9 percent had a favorable view of the defense minister and 7 percent had a favorable view of the prime minister.

Washington has also counseled senior Israeli politicians to “connect its military operations [in Gaza] to a political strategy,” said U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan during a visit to Israel last month. So far, Netanyahu has lashed out at his critics and refused to succumb to pressure to formulate a day-after plan. In one such instance, Netanyahu accused Washington of delaying weapons shipments to Israel in a video shared to social

media Tuesday.

White House National Security Council spokesperson John Kirby called Netanyahu’s Tuesday video “perplexing” given the volume of U.S. support to Israel. “It was vexing and disappointing to us as much as it was incorrect,” Kirby said Thursday.

The United States and some members of the Israeli military establishment have envisioned a postwar role for an overhauled Palestinian Authority, which administers parts of the West Bank. Netanyahu’s government, however, has repeatedly rejected any role for it, and the Foreign Ministry under Netanyahu ally Israel Katz recently started a social media campaign to discredit the idea.

Street protests in Israel are escalating, as well, with demonstrators on Thursday once again blocking highways in Tel Aviv and near the town of Caesarea where Netanyahu lives. Families

of hostages, along with others, held signs and placards as they blocked traffic and called for elections and the release of hostages. Einav Zangauker, the mother of one hostage, lambasted Netanyahu.

“You chose your political survival over the people and the hostages,” she told Israeli media, addressing Netanyahu. “The guilt will follow you to the grave. You cannot escape it.”

The debate over the future of the Israeli operation in Gaza comes as aid agencies report a worsening humanitarian situation after the IDF’s incursion into the southern city of Rafah that started in May and severely disrupted humanitarian activities.

The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said in an update this week that “hundreds of thousands of displaced people in southern Gaza” continue to suffer from poor access to shelter, health, food, water

and sanitation. Almost 60 percent of Gaza’s cropland has been damaged, it added, while the food supply chain in Gaza has been “severely disrupted.”

Amid the increasingly desperate circumstances, looting is getting worse and hindering aid delivery efforts and humanitarian operations, according to Georgios Petropoulos, head of the Gaza sub-office for OCHA.

Without “any kind of civil order and rule of law in south Gaza,” cigarette smuggling along the Egyptian border has exploded, he told The Post.

Here’s what to know

Cyprus’s president has underscored that his country is “in no way involved in the hostilities” in the Middle East. Nikos Christodoulides tweeted Thursday that, instead, the island nation is “part of the solution,” citing humanitarian aid and support for Gaza. His response follows comments this week from Hasan Nasrallah, leader of the Lebanese militant group and political party Hezbollah, who warned Cyprus against getting involved in the conflict and insinuated that the small nation was poised to assist the IDF. Nasrallah did not provide evidence for his claims.

Tensions between Israel and Hezbollah have upended life for Syrian refugees who live and work near the border. In southern Lebanon, the fighting has displaced more than 95,000 people, according to the International Organization for Migration, and damaged homes and the farmland where many Syrians worked as day laborers.

The U.N. Environment Program issued a report this week detailing the environmental impact of the conflict in Gaza. “Sewage, wastewater and solid waste management systems and facilities have collapsed,” it found. The destruction of buildings, roads and other infrastructure has generated over 39 million tons of debris, it added, “some of which is contaminated with unexploded ordnance, asbestos and other hazardous substances. Human remains are buried in this vast quantity of building debris.”

Lior Soroka and Miriam Berger contributed to this report.

Vatican charges Viganò, leading internal critic of the pontiff, with schism

BY ANTHONY FAIOLA
AND STEFANO PITRELLI

ROME — He has called Pope Francis a liberal “servant of Satan,” demanded his resignation and suggested that the Vatican’s Swiss Guard arrest the 87-year-old pontiff. Now, after receiving years of withering verbal attacks, Francis appears to have struck back against Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, the former Vatican ambassador to the United States and the pope’s most ardent internal critic.

The Vatican’s disciplinary body, the Dicastery of the Doctrine of the Faith, issued a formal decree — made public by Viganò on Thursday — assigning the senior cleric to a penal canon trial. The charges: the “crime of schism” and “denial of the legitimacy of Pope Francis.”

Such trials are exceedingly rare, and the move underscores a recent effort by the Vatican to take

more-formal action against a gaggle of archconservatives who have sought to undermine Francis’s papacy from the inside. Conviction could lead to Viganò’s defrocking and excommunication, ending the career of the 83-year-old Italian who has been the leading symbol of resistance to a pope viewed by some traditionalists as wildly liberal.

On Thursday, Viganò said in a statement that he sees the “accusations against me as an honor.” He referred to Francis as he always does, eschewing his official title and using his name from before he was pope. “It is no coincidence that the accusation against me concerns the questioning of the legitimacy of Jorge Mario Bergoglio and ... the ideological, theological, moral, and liturgical cancer of which the Bergoglian ‘synodal church’ is the necessary metastasis,” Viganò wrote.

Viganò hasn’t made many public appearances since calling for

Francis’s resignation in 2018. But he has continued to deliver stinging missives on X and the conservative U.S. outlet LifeSiteNews. He has also talked about creating a seminary free of Vatican interference.

The crime of schism is defined as a rupture with the church’s “unity” under the pope. In this case, the Vatican cited Viganò’s public statements that have “resulted in a denial of the elements necessary to maintain communion with the Catholic Church,” as well as his rejection of Francis’s “legitimacy” and the reforms laid out by the Second Vatican Council of the 1960s.

The trial amounts to an answer to just how far the Holy See, where the pope rules as the supreme power, is willing to go in allowing dissent.

Francis has weathered conservative criticism for years, including vitriolic attacks from within clerical ranks. But church

codes require clerical fealty, and as criticism has grown louder in recent months, the Vatican has taken more-decisive action. Bishop Joseph Strickland of Tyler, Tex., was stripped of his diocese, while American Cardinal Raymond Burke lost his pension and Rome apartment.

“Now they’re hitting at the most visible character, who recently said this pope is an usurper of the throne of St. Peter, and that can’t be accepted,” said Marco Politi, a Rome-based author of several books on Francis. He added that Francis “no longer wants, within the church, organized groups that are frontal enemies of the pope.”

Viganò was ordered to appear at the Vatican’s disciplinary office on Thursday and told that he would be tried in absentia if he didn’t, according to a document advising him of the charges. It was not clear if he had presented himself after publicly signaling his defiance.

The conservative Italian prelate was recalled as U.S. ambassador, or apostolic nuncio, in 2016 amid allegations that he’d gotten caught up in the political fight against same-sex marriage.

Two years later, he made headlines with a bombshell letter that latched on to a vulnerability of the church — its record of dealing with sexual abuse cases — to accuse Francis of misconduct. Francis, he asserted, had ignored early warnings about Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, the former archbishop of Washington who had just resigned from the College of Cardinals.

The Vatican trial of Viganò comes three weeks after he published fresh allegations on X, claiming that Francis had committed the “same abuses” as McCarrick when serving in a senior church position in Argentina. He again offered no evidence.

Viganò appeared to escalate his missives after a December ruling,

authorized by Francis, allowing Catholic priests to conduct short blessings of people in same-sex relationships. He referenced the ruling in his lengthy response to the trial, writing, “Bergoglio authorizes the blessing of same-sex couples and imposes on the faithful the acceptance of homosexuality, while covering up the scandals of his protégés and promoting them to the highest positions of responsibility.”

On Thursday, the Vatican’s secretary of state, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, told journalists in Rome that “Archbishop Viganò has taken some attitudes and some actions for which he must answer.”

“I am very sorry because I always appreciated him as a great worker, very faithful to the Holy See, someone who was, in a certain sense, also an example. When he was apostolic nuncio he did good work.

“I don’t know what happened,” Parolin said.

Reported rape of Jewish 12-year-old linked to rising antisemitism in France

BY LEO SANDS

The reported rape of a 12-year-old Jewish girl in a suburb of Paris has brought protesters into the streets and drawn condemnations from top politicians, who have linked the episode to rampant antisemitism.

French authorities indicted two 13-year-old boys on charges of aggravated rape, making religious insults and death threats, and recording or sharing images of a sexual nature, among other crimes, prosecutors said in a Wednesday statement. A third boy, age 12, was charged with being an assisting witness to a rape, as well as making religious insults and death threats.

According to prosecutors, the girl said in a police interview that she had known one of the boys before the attack. In police interviews, all three boys expressed regret toward the girl without addressing their alleged involvement, prosecutors said. Authorities did not identify any of the minors.

Details of the case have sent shock waves through France.

“Raped at 12 years old because she is Jewish,” Prime Minister

Gabriel Attal wrote on X, denouncing “a monstrous and abject act.”

The chief rabbi of France, Haïm Korsia, said he was “horrificed” by reports of the attack. “No one can be excused from this unprecedented surge of antisemitism,” he said in a social media post.

Reports of antisemitic acts have skyrocketed in France, with French Jews expressing alarm for their safety. The Interior Ministry recorded 1,676 antisemitic attacks last year, a fourfold increase over 2022. The majority of the recorded acts took place in November and December, after Hamas’s Oct. 7 attack on Israel and the start of Israel’s war in Gaza.

In April, French Interior Minister Gérald Darmanin ordered local officials to step up security at synagogues and Jewish schools.

Activists have called for a mass demonstration against antisemitism in Paris on Friday.

On Wednesday, French media reported that more than 1,000 people attended a rally at Paris’s City Hall. Its organizers said they gathered to stop the rise of anti-Jewish hatred and to offer soli-

darity to the 12-year-old victim. Addressing the crowd, French Justice Minister Éric Dupond-Moretti warned against minimizing instances of antisemitism: “After words, there are acts. And after fiery words, there are fires,” he said.

Across the political aisle, Jordan Bardella, the 28-year-old far-right leader of the populist National Rally, said it was essential to combat the atmosphere of antisemitism in France.

The French far right has itself been historically linked to antisemitism. National Front party founder Jean-Marie Le Pen was repeatedly fined for diminishing the Nazi gas chambers as a mere “detail” in the history of World War II.

But his daughter Marine Le Pen has rebranded the party, moderating its tone and expanding its appeal. In European Parliament elections this month, National Rally claimed victory over French President Emmanuel Macron’s centrist coalition. The party is also expected to perform well in the upcoming snap legislative elections, potentially getting a chance to govern for the first time.



JEAN-PHILIPPE KSIAZEK/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A crowd in Lyon holds signs Wednesday reading “Antisemitism is not residual,” among other slogans. France’s Interior Ministry recorded 1,676 antisemitic attacks last year, a fourfold increase over 2022.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

BY TAYLOR LORENZ

You already knew Taylor Swift was a generational megastar whose shows can swell local economies and literally shake the earth. But now Swift's gravitational force is set to change the face of another cultural phenomenon: TikTok.

The ubiquitous social platform has built an entire in-app experience to celebrate Swift's Eras Tour, offering users the opportunity to add digital profile frames and create in-app friendship bracelets by completing Swift-themed challenges. TikTok users who complete 11 weeks of tasks will receive a limited edition Swift-themed profile frame.

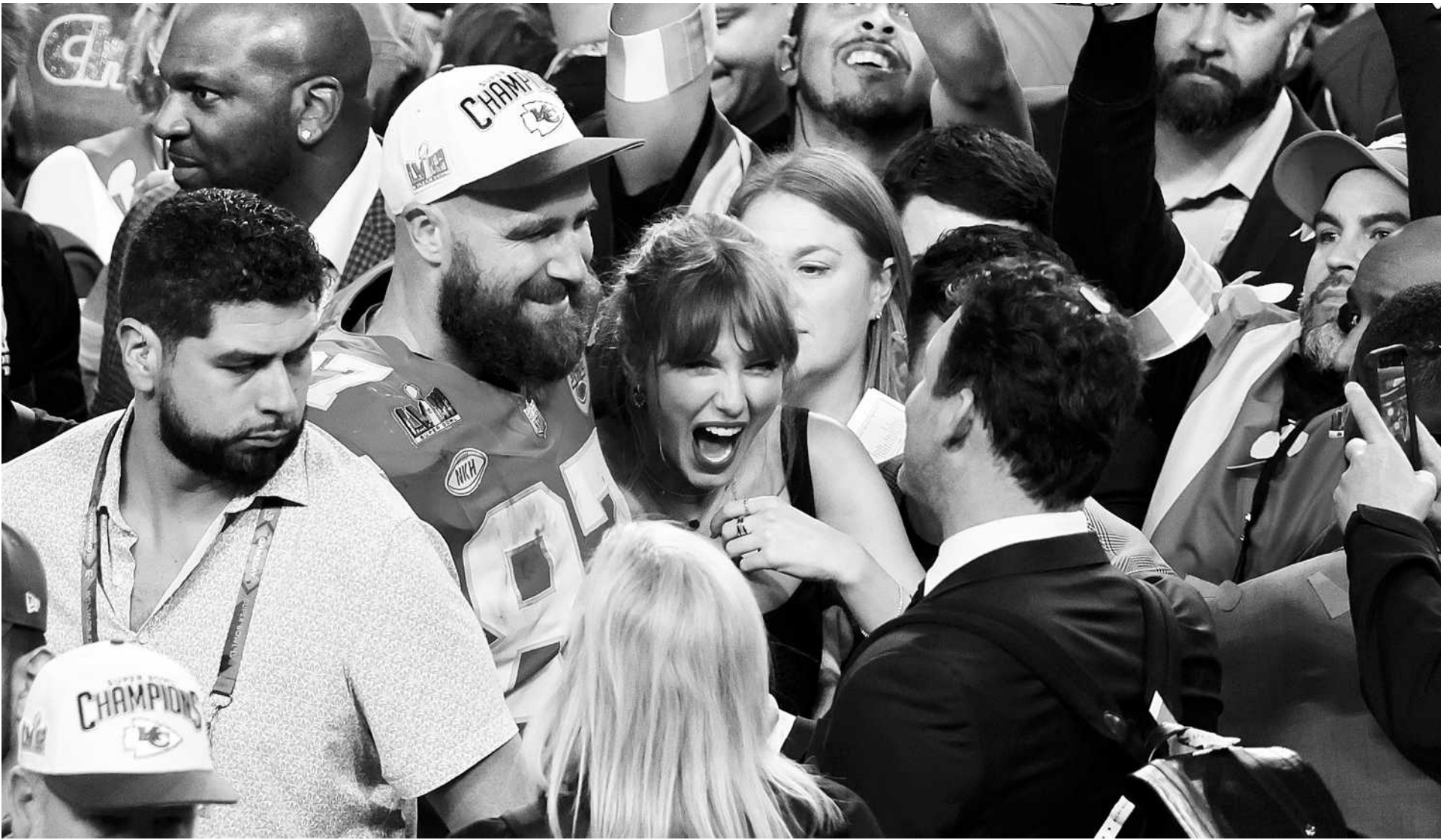
The announcement Thursday makes TikTok the latest platform to build custom features for the pop star as part of an intense competition to leverage her hyper-online fandom. In April, Instagram added a new feature to Swift's account, allowing users who swipe down on her profile to access a secret countdown for her latest album, "The Tortured Poets Department." And last September, Elon Musk implored the star to begin sharing content on his social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter.

"I recommend posting some music or concert videos directly on the X platform," Musk tweeted at Swift.

Swift, too, has fanned the digital flames, joining YouTube Shorts in 2022 to launch a challenge that invited fans to share reaction videos to her then-new album "Midnights." With 550 million followers across all social platforms, according to the San Francisco analytics firm Exploding Topics, Swift is one of the five most-followed people in the world.

"Taylor Swift, I would argue, is the most famous person and the biggest name in the entire world right now. It makes 100 percent sense for apps and brands to associate with Taylor, because Taylor brings eyes to everything she touches," said Ari Elkins, a Gen Z music curator and online culture expert with more than 2.2 million followers on TikTok.

Even the mighty National Football League benefited from Swift's presence at football games featuring her boyfriend, Kansas City Chiefs tight end Tra-



ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

Taylor Swift celebrates with boyfriend Travis Kelce of the Kansas City Chiefs on the Allegiant Stadium field after the team won the Super Bowl in February in Las Vegas.

TikTok, Swift team up to celebrate her Eras Tour

An interactive feature in the app is the latest attempt by a social media platform to grab the attention of her hyper-online fandom

vis Kelce, Elkins noted, with viewership and sales of Kelce's jersey rocketing skyward. TikTok, too, stands to benefit from the association, he said.

"Taylor Swift is a major driver of internet culture," added Freddie Morris, a digital music marketer in Los Angeles, who has worked with artists such as Maroon 5, A\$AP Rocky and Miguel.

Others in the music business also hailed the move — though Josh Epple, vice president of streaming and promotions at Hopeless Records and co-founder of Version III, an independent

record label, said he hopes TikTok continues to boost up-and-comers in addition to major artists like Swift.

"It's very cool that apps like TikTok are willing to lean in and serve superfans, but I'd hope it wouldn't be at the expense of smaller artists," said Epple, who recently released "Austin," a hit song by the artist Dasha, which amassed billions of views on TikTok and hundreds of millions of streams.

"My hope would be that TikTok continues to be a platform where emerging artists can be discov-

ered," Epple said. "It's so great right now that, on TikTok, no matter what size artist you are, you can reach a ton of people."

Swift, who has more than 32 million followers on her TikTok account, launched an earlier TikTok campaign aimed at encouraging fans to promote the "Tortured Poets" album. More than 3.1 million videos have used the #TheTorturedPoetsDepartment hashtag, while other tags related to Swift also have seen skyrocketing engagement, according to the company. More than 2.6 million videos have been

posted bearing the #SwiftTok hashtag and more than 2.1 million videos have used the hashtag #TaylorsVersion.

Swift's music was briefly pulled from TikTok earlier this year amid a heated dispute between the platform and Universal Music Group, which halted music licensing to TikTok after the company's contract with the platform expired in January. The day before the contract was set to end, Universal Music published a scathing open letter accusing TikTok of proposing "paying our artists and songwriters at a rate

that is a fraction of the rate that similarly situated major social platforms pay."

Unlike many other artists, Swift owns the copyright to her music, which allowed her to push her work back onto the platform ahead of the "Tortured Poets" release April 19, contributing to the album's success online.

In May, Universal Music's catalogue returned to the app after the dispute was settled. At the time, TikTok CEO Shou Chew said in a statement that "music is an integral part of the TikTok ecosystem."

HELP DESK

What we know about social media's effect on kids' health

BY TATUM HUNTER

There is no clear scientific evidence that social media is causing mental health issues among young people. Public health officials are pushing for regulation anyway.

U.S. Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy on Monday called for social media platforms to add warnings reminding parents and kids that the apps might not be safe, citing rising rates of mental health problems among children and teens. It follows an advisory Murthy issued last year about the health threat of loneliness for Americans, in which he named social media as a potential driver of social isolation.

But experts — from leading psychologists to free speech advocates — have repeatedly called into question the idea that time on social media like TikTok, Instagram and Snapchat leads directly to poor mental health. The debate is nuanced, they say, and it's too early to make sweeping statements about kids and social media.

Here's what we do know about children and teens, social media apps and mental health.

Why it's hard to get a straight answer

There is evidence that adverse mental health symptoms among kids and teens have risen sharply,

beginning during the global financial crisis in 2007 and skyrocketing at the beginning of the pandemic. But research into social media's role has produced conflicting take-aways.

While many studies have found that social media use is correlated with dips in well-being, many others have found the opposite. One problem may be that terms such as "social media use" and "mental health" have been defined broadly and inconsistently, according to analyses of existing studies. Whatever the reason, it's challenging for researchers to find causal relationships (meaning A causes B) between social media and mental health without closely controlling children's behavior.

That hasn't stopped health organizations from issuing warnings, such as a 2011 statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics Council on Communications and Media urging parents to look out for "Facebook depression." A 2013 study suggested such warnings were "premature."

To help answer the question, "How does social media impact kids?" researchers need more robust data.

In a Monday opinion essay in the New York Times, Murthy also called for social media companies to share data and research into health effects so independent experts can examine it. "While the

The surgeon general's proposal for a warning label was loud and clear, but the scientific research isn't

platforms claim they are making their products safer, Americans need more than words. We need proof," he wrote.

Vulnerable kids are more likely to struggle

Sometimes, social media appears to boost anxiety and depression. Other times, it appears to boost well-being and connectedness, according to a 2022 analysis of 226 studies.

So when we ask whether social media is a community hub for LG-BTQ+ youths or a rabbit hole of warped information, the answer can be "both." Bigger factors may be a teen's existing vulnerabilities and what they're actually doing on social media apps, American Psychological Association Chief Science Officer Mitchell Prinstein has said.

Some studies have found that kids and teens who already struggle with their mental or emotional health are more likely to come away from social media feeling anxious or depressed. It's hard to determine whether social media is causing depressive symptoms. One 2018 study found that while time on social media didn't correlate

with depression, young women with depression tended to spend more time on the apps.

It's not clear why social media might affect mental health

Social media leaves some people feeling bad, some studies suggest, but scientists still don't understand why.

David Yeager, a developmental psychologist at the University of Texas at Austin, said some possible contenders are social comparison, where we weigh our own life next to another person's. Or maybe it's guilt, where we feel lazy or unproductive after spending time scrolling. Of course, disappointment and guilt are age-old feelings, but social media may provoke them, Yeager said.

Social media isn't the first new technology to raise concerns. A newspaper clipping from 1882 shows an author claiming the telephone was "an aggravation of so monstrous a character as to merit public denunciation." People in the 1920s were worried that the radio would make people stop socializing in person.

Instead of fighting about whether social media is good or bad, it's

more important to figure out how to minimize the harm of social media's negative elements and maximize the benefit of its good ones, Yeager said.

"Our technology has changed, but human nature hasn't," he said. "The things that drive us, compel us and trap us are still the same."

Social media companies design products to keep us scrolling

Like all businesses, social media companies exist to make money. That means creating experiences to keep users scrolling on their apps — and viewing advertisements. One way they accomplish that is by gaming our attention or emotions. Washington Post reporting has shown, for instance, that Facebook's algorithm at one point weighed the anger reaction more strongly than a "like" because outrage tended to create more engagement.

"Rather than scaring kids and parents with half-truths, we should demand policies that force companies to end harmful business practices like surveillance advertising and manipulative design features," said Evan Greer, director at the digital rights nonprofit Fight for the Future. Surgeon General Murthy called for similar measures in his Times essay.

Why some people are playing

up (or down) playing risks and worries

Most experts call for a measured approach to discussing social media's potential health impacts, but not all. For example, social scientist Jonathan Haidt recently published "The Anxious Generation," a book that attributes poor mental health among teens to social media. In it, Haidt calls for parents to keep kids off the apps before high school and off smartphones altogether until age 16. Other researchers, including University of California at Irvine psychologist Candice Odgers, have said the book misinterpreted existing studies to fuel a moral panic.

"This book is going to sell a lot of copies, because Jonathan Haidt is telling a scary story about children's development that many parents are primed to believe," Odgers wrote in an essay for Nature. Some of Haidt's readers, meanwhile, celebrated what felt like direct acknowledgment of a difficult problem.

Future research may come at this contested question from new directions. An article published in Nature last month, for instance, recommended researchers consider how changes to behavior and cognition during adolescence might interact with social media and put mental health at risk.

Taylor Lorenz contributed to this report.

DIGEST

AUTOMOTIVE
Cyber outage hits U.S. car dealers for 2nd day

A cyber outage at retail technology and software provider CDK entered its second consecutive day Thursday, affecting automobile dealers across the United States, the dealers said Thursday.

"The CDK outage is impacting automotive dealerships across the U.S. and Canada, including a portion of BMW Group dealers," a spokesperson for BMW North America said.

CDK said it was working to

reinstate its services and get its dealers back to business "as quickly as possible."

The company, which provides software to car dealerships, briefly shut down all of its systems Wednesday, saying it was investigating a cyber incident.

— Reuters

LENDING
Average long-term mortgage rate falls

Home loan borrowing costs eased again this week as the average rate on a 30-year

mortgage declined to its lowest level since early April.

The rate fell to 6.87 percent from 6.95 percent last week, mortgage buyer Freddie Mac said Thursday. A year ago, the rate averaged 6.67 percent.

This is the third consecutive weekly decline in the average rate, which has hovered around 7 percent since April.

— Associated Press

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
Oracle to invest over \$1B on AI in Spain

Oracle said Thursday that it

will invest more than \$1 billion over the next 10 years in artificial intelligence and cloud computing in Spain, as it looks to meet increasing demand for its services in the country.

The investment will be used to set up a new cloud region that will allow customers to move workloads from their data centers to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, while also helping them address regulations like the European Union's Digital Operational Resilience Act (DORA) and the European Outsourcing Guidelines.

— Reuters

ALSO IN BUSINESS
The World Health Organization and drugmaker Eli Lilly and Co. are warning people to be wary of fake versions of popular weight-loss and diabetes medicines.

WHO said Thursday that it has fielded several reports of fake semaglutide — the active ingredient in Novo Nordisk's Wegovy and Ozempic — since 2022. Lilly said in an open letter that it was "deeply concerned" about growing online sales and social media posts involving phony or compounded versions of tirzepatide, the active ingredient behind its drugs

Mounjaro and Zepbound.

The union representing mechanics at Canadian airline WestJet said it withdrew a notice to begin a strike Thursday night after the airline agreed to return to the bargaining table.

The strike threat had prompted WestJet, Canada's second-biggest airline, to cancel about 50 flights this week to avoid travelers and planes being stranded. The Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association represents about 680 WestJet mechanics, who voted overwhelmingly to reject the company's last contract offer.

— From news services

TikTok says punishment ‘was the point’ in challenge to potential U.S. ban

TIKTOK FROM A1

internal documents from years of failed negotiations with the federal government that it says show the administration was not operating in good faith.

The company included a roughly 100-page draft national security agreement it offered to the government in August 2022 in hopes of resolving its concerns — a proposal that would have given federal officials extraordinary power to shape and oversee TikTok’s U.S. operation, including a nationwide kill switch the government could deploy if they believed the app remained a threat.

The Biden administration declined the offer, arguing that it was insufficient to neutralize their concerns but without detailing why. In First Amendment cases, judges have traditionally called for the government to pursue its goals with the ‘least restrictive’ impact on Americans’ speech.

The high-profile Washington brawl might have a dramatic impact on the future of online speech. Upholding the law could decimate an online cornerstone for news and entertainment used by 170 million nationwide. But overturning it would rebuke a largely bipartisan act of Congress and undercut one of its few substantial pieces of tech legislation in decades.

The administration has said the law is critical to protect national security, citing fears that the Chinese government could boost propaganda through the popular app’s video recommendations or spy on Americans’ personal lives — neither of which it has shown evidence of occurring. The Justice Department, which declined to comment to The Washington Post, is expected to officially respond to TikTok’s brief next month.

But TikTok argued in its brief that the law would turn the U.S. app into an “island” where American users would be walled off from videos created outside their national borders and have an “experience detached from the rest of the global internet” — an echo of the splintered and suppressive Chinese internet laws that American lawmakers have long criticized.

A group of TikTok creators also filed a legal challenge last month, with funding from TikTok; the cases have since been consolidated. In a legal brief Thursday, the creators — a cookie baker in Mem-



TED SHAFFREY/AP

A man carries a sign reading “Free TikTok” outside the courthouse as former president Donald Trump’s hush money trial got underway in April. Trump’s administration did attempt to ban the app, though it was thrown out of court as a government overreach.

phis, a skin-care entrepreneur in Atlanta, a football coach in North Dakota — said the law would be a “devastating blow” to their online communities and livelihoods.

Topher Townsend, an Air Force veteran and conservative rapper in Mississippi, said the law “betrays the values that I sought to protect.” Brian Firebaugh, a Texas rancher who posts under @cattle-guy, added, “If you ban TikTok, you ban my way of life.”

TikTok’s proposal had followed years of negotiations with the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, a multi-agency federal group known as CFIUS that reviews business deals for national security risks. The company has said the group abruptly ended talks without a clear explanation. (An administration official said last month that the company was told a forced sale was the only path forward.)

TikTok also gave the court a last-ditch letter ByteDance attorneys had sent in April to a Justice Department official pleading for the talks to resume. In the 13-page letter, the attorneys said the government had offered only “vague

and inchoate responses” to the company’s concerns and seemed glued to a position that was “unmoored from reality.”

While the company had stayed silent to protect the negotiation’s confidentiality agreements, the attorneys argued, it had been repeatedly undercut by “problematic and damaging” comments from administration officials and leaks to the media.

“The Company has approached this process responsibly and constructively in the face of ... an extraordinary public campaign against it, increasingly led by the very officials in the U.S. government” involved in the negotiations, the attorneys wrote. “We fear ... that CFIUS has become compromised by political demagoguery.”

In its brief, TikTok attacked the government’s reliance on “speculative” worries and Congress’s “collection of ‘cans,’ ‘coulds,’ ‘mights,’ and ‘potentials’” in the deliberations that preceded the law’s passage.

“Congress reached for a sledgehammer without even considering if a scalpel would suffice,” the brief said.

The law, the brief added, suffered from a “fatal” constitutional flaw: It singles out TikTok by name while affording other “foreign adversary controlled applications” a process for review, which TikTok called a “unique, two-tiered system of speech regulation.”

“Congress itself laid down a generally applicable standard and process” and denied TikTok “alone the protections ... for no reason it saw fit to share,” the brief said. “That is a powerful indication that punishing [TikTok] was the point.”

In its brief, TikTok argues that a sale would be financially and technically impossible within the government’s one-year deadline and would basically guarantee a ban. Past ban attempts by the Trump administration and the state of Montana have been thrown out of court as government overreaches.

The TikTok app runs on roughly 2 billion lines of code written and maintained by more than 4,000 software engineers, the company has said; a new buyer would largely need to start from scratch. And any sale would prob-

ably be blocked by the Chinese government, which added recommendation algorithms — TikTok’s backbone — to its export-control list after the failed Trump ban order in 2020.

Severing TikTok’s U.S. app from the ByteDance engineers in China who built it and the global sales, marketing and creator-relations teams who maintain it would dismantle its operations into a “shell of its former self,” the brief argued. It would also put the company at an unfair disadvantage to U.S.-based companies, such as Meta and Microsoft, which employ technical personnel in China.

In a declaration filed alongside the brief, TikTok’s head of operations, Adam Presser, sought to drive home the value of Americans’ connection to the rest of the world. U.S. users posted more than 5 billion videos last year, he said, and half of the 13 trillion views they received came from foreign viewers. A quarter of the videos those Americans watched came from outside the country, too.

Doubts over TikTok’s U.S. survival had already damaged the

company, Presser said, adding that “competitors have been aggressively trying to recruit our talent” since the law was passed.

The briefs kick off a fast-tracked schedule ordered last month by a panel of judges at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. Both TikTok and the Justice Department asked the court to offer a ruling by Dec. 6, so as to allow for a possible Supreme Court review before the law takes effect. Oral arguments are slated to begin Sept. 16 — just four months before the Jan. 19 divestment deadline.

Because the sale-or-ban law set the appeals court as the “exclusive jurisdiction” for any challenge, the brief offers TikTok one of its only chances to defend itself in court. Unlike in district court, where a fact-finding process involves submitting evidence and calling witnesses, the appeals judges review legal briefs and weigh in on constitutional arguments, and the only way to overturn their ruling is through the Supreme Court.

Alongside its brief, TikTok filed hundreds of pages of supporting documents, including declarations from TikTok-retained experts who argued on the company’s behalf.

Christopher Simkins, a former CFIUS negotiator and DOJ investigator, said TikTok’s proposal was “the most sophisticated and thorough mitigation agreement” he had seen in decades of reviewing similar contracts.

Randal Milch, a New York University law professor, outlined the complexities of past tech-company transactions to argue that the law was effectively a ban because a forced-sale option on the government’s timeline was “entirely illusory.”

And Steven Weber, a professor at the University of California at Berkeley, said the government’s concerns about propaganda, disinformation and data security were “industry-wide issues that are not unique to TikTok.”

The data TikTok collects is “not meaningfully different” from what’s gathered by Google, Facebook and Snapchat, he said, and many U.S. tech companies have China-based subsidiaries that “therefore face the same theoretical risk.”

“There is no evident national security rationale for the Act’s particular focus on TikTok,” he wrote. “It is arbitrary to select one market participant for policy issues that an entire industry faces.”

Justices keep one-time Trump-era tax on offshore earnings

TAX FROM A1

ing, of course, on ordinary Americans. The Constitution does not require that fiscal calamity.”

Justices Clarence Thomas and Neil M. Gorsuch dissented.

The ruling landed near the end of a Supreme Court term that has been unusually slow-moving and marred by fresh ethics questions.

The justices plan to deliver a slew of major decisions by the end of June or the first days of July, including whether and when Trump’s prosecution for alleged election interference can proceed in D.C.; the viability of a key charge against the rioters who attacked the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021; access to emergency abortion care; and the future of free speech on social media platforms.

It is rare for so many high-profile cases to remain undecided this late in the term. Metal barricades lined the streets outside the court Thursday, a show of heightened security that reflected the potential for protests. The justices return to the bench Friday to deliver more opinions, starting at 10 a.m.

An unusual political coalition defended the offshore-earnings tax at issue in Thursday’s ruling, from the Biden administration to conservatives including former House speaker Paul D. Ryan (R-Wis.). Not because they favor a wealth tax, but because they worried a ruling against one little-known provision could undermine a large number of existing taxes on investments, partnerships and foreign income, which together raise billions or even trillions in revenue.

“The Supreme Court heeded the warnings of a broad and bipartisan set of tax experts,” Chye-Ching Huang, executive director of the Tax Law Center at NYU Law, said in a statement after the ruling. “Today’s decision will allow Congress to continue to exercise its power to tax income to fund the government and to make sure that all taxpayers — including multinational corporations and wealthy tax-



ALLISON ROBBERT/THE WASHINGTON POST

The Supreme Court rejected a lawsuit against an obscure provision of a 2017 tax package. In a divided decision, the justices said the one-time tax was permitted under Congress’s limited powers.

payers — pay their fair share.”

The challenge to the tax was initiated by a Washington couple backed by the Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI), an anti-regulatory advocacy group. Charles and Kathleen Moore were subject to \$15,000 in taxes because of the 2017 law, springing from investments they had made in a company based in India that supplies equipment to small-scale farmers. The law created a one-time tax on certain offshore earnings that had previously been exempt from taxation unless the taxpayer brought the money back to the United States.

Dan Greenberg, CEI’s general counsel, said in a statement that the court’s decision “lets the government levy income taxes on foreign shareholders who have never received income. We think that is unfair, because the Constitution authorizes Congress to tax people on their income, not the income of foreign businesses that they do not control.”

Over the course of 11 years, the

value of the Moores’ initial investment of \$40,000 in the KisanKraft company grew to more than half a million dollars. Until the 2017 law took effect, the couple paid no taxes on that increase. They argued that they should not be taxed because they never actually took in money, even as the value of their share in the company grew.

When considering the case of *Moore v. United States*, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit took an expansive view and said the tax was within Congress’s power and permitted under the 16th Amendment regardless of whether the Moores received the money. In tax terminology, the 9th Circuit said Congress can tax both “realized” and “unrealized” gains.

The Supreme Court’s reasoning for upholding the 2017 tax is much narrower. Kavanaugh said the high court did not need to decide the broad question of whether Congress has the constitutional authority to tax unrealized gains because the Moores’

share in the company should simply be treated as realized income.

Citing previous cases in a lengthy review of tax policy going back to the American Revolution, the justice wrote that U.S. tax law has long permitted taxation of partners on their share of income taken in by a partnership, even if the individual partners don’t receive the money. Someone realized the income — in this case, the KisanKraft company — and Congress has the power to attribute that real income to the Moores.

Without that long-standing practice, Kavanaugh wrote, major sections of the tax code that take in billions of dollars a year to fund the government would be unsupported. Kavanaugh’s opinion was joined by four colleagues: Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and the court’s three liberal justices, Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Ketanji Brown Jackson.

The specific tax that the Moores objected to paying, known as Section 965, was forecast to raise more than \$300 billion over 10 years. Some major corporations have already paid billions under this tax.

David M. Schizer, an emeritus Columbia Law School professor who wrote a brief urging the court to view the Moores’ income as realized and taxable, said the majority’s ruling was limited.

“The court said we are not reaching the question of whether someone can be taxed without a sale. And we’re not reaching the question of whether you can be taxed on wealth as opposed to income,” Schizer said. Instead, he continued, the ruling only concludes that “you can tax owners in some circumstances on what their business is earning.”

In dissenting from the majority, Thomas wrote that the Constitution requires realization to levy a tax and that the Moores did not realize income from their investment.

Justice Amy Coney Barrett, joined by Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr., agreed with the outcome in the case but for different reasons

and said the tax at issue “may or may not be constitutional” but that the Moores failed to properly prove a problem with the tax, if it exists.

Barrett and Alito agreed with Thomas and Gorsuch that a taxpayer must realize — or take in — some income for a tax to be valid, but came up with their own interpretation for the different business scenarios that allow Congress to consider shareholders to have realized income.

The majority left open for another day the question of whether realization is necessary for a tax to be valid. If Congress were to pass a wealth tax, or other types of taxes that are very different from the one at issue in this case, the court would probably revisit the question of realization.

The idea of a wealth tax has been proposed by Democrats including Sen. Elizabeth Warren (Mass.) and several state legislatures but has not come close to being enacted anywhere in the United States. The Moores and the conservative legal group that represented them in the case sought to block the concept in theory before it could ever come to pass in practice.

The Moores’ case was not without controversy. Some tax experts said the couple were more involved in the company than they disclosed in court filings and urged the court not to decide the constitutional question based on an inaccurate, incomplete record. One of the couple’s lawyers defended the record as accurate and candid.

In addition, Democratic senators asked Alito to recuse himself from the case because one of the attorneys in the matter interviewed the justice twice for articles that appeared on the Wall Street Journal editorial page. Alito, who did not attend the court’s public session Thursday, refused to recuse, saying he never discussed the Moores’ case with the attorney, David B. Rivkin Jr., whose involvement in the matter was disclosed in the second article.

FRIDAY OPINION

Strong parties are a recipe for weak policy

BY MITCH DANIELS

My home state's citizens last month elected their next governor. No, I misspeak. Five percent of them elected him. Seven percent preferred a different candidate, and 88 percent never had a say in the decision.

The party now dominant in Indiana held its May primary, in which 12 percent of the 4.7 million registered voters participated. The winner captured 39 percent of that vote, or 5 percent of the electorate. November's general election will be a laydown formality; the polls are basically closed, six months ahead of time, with a Republican assured of victory. This is "early voting" of a kind no one should advocate.

We have watched the national polarization that divides Americans in eerily equal numbers play out in vastly uneven ways, state to state. But talk of "red" and "blue" doesn't capture either the full extent of the imbalance, or the knock-on consequences for the formation and pursuit of sound public policy.

The issue isn't simply that states lean reliably Republican or Democratic. It's that now a big majority are heavily, maybe irrevocably, tilted in one direction or the other. Where that obtains, office seekers pitch their initial appeals to the hardcore on their side, as primary candidates always have. The difference is that, instead of the winner's traditional post-primary imperative to reach out to nonpartisans and even open-minded members of the opposing party, now their job is finished.

It happened pretty quickly. In the early 2000s, three-fifths of the states saw reasonable political balance between the two major parties. Today, "trifecta" government, meaning one-party control of the governorship and both legislative bodies, has become the norm across the 50 states. In 40 states, containing 83 percent of the American population, one party enjoys trifecta dominance, and often by overwhelming margins.

The roots of this phenomenon have been well studied. They include the cultural aggression of elite institutions and the predictable reaction to it, the nationalization of issues abetted by the collapse of local media and the pernicious effects of the antisocial media.

In many jurisdictions, one would have to reverse gerrymander, mixing geographies and crossing all kinds of legal boundary lines, to produce a truly competitive electorate.

The gerrymandering that once exaggerated a dominant party's political margin is no longer much of a factor; social clustering and these other factors have often done a more effective job than the political bosses ever did. In many jurisdictions today, one would have to reverse-gerrymander, mixing geographies and crossing all kinds of legal boundary lines, to produce a truly competitive electorate.

Political campaigns need not necessarily be dispiriting, narrowcasting mudfests. They can be vehicles, in fact the best possible vehicles, for floating constructive ideas to an attentive public. Ideas proposed by a successful campaign have a higher likelihood of enactment after the election. Ideas fashioned not to stroke the erogenous zones of a riled-up minority of left or right, but to speak to the broader public in pursuit of a general election victory, evoke our common interest instead of our differences and antagonisms. But such campaigns rarely make sense these days.

In 2024, 30 states feature not only trifecta government but 2-to-1 majorities in at least one house. In that setting, both campaigns and governance look totally different than they do in genuine two-party polities.

I served as Indiana's Republican governor from 2005 to 2013, limited to two four-year terms. In the first term, the Democratic opposition controlled one house of the General Assembly. The two gubernatorial contests during that period were hotly contested, and thought to be in doubt for most of the two election seasons. Once in office, to make effective change, we had to engage with our Democratic counterparts, even in the years when we achieved full but narrow legislative control.

Our campaign messages, as they had to, mostly centered on specific, new ideas: ethics reforms, access to health insurance, property tax caps, automatic tax refunds and many more, all couched in rhetoric stressing people's commonality, and the need for every part of the state to participate fully in its better future. Boy, is that passé.

This year, our next governor ran a smart race and won his victory fair and square. The problem is that neither he nor any of his competitors had an incentive to offer their soon-to-be employers a sense of how Indiana could move forward.

What voters saw instead, besides attacks on each other, were political advertisements centered on "standing up to China," taking on foreign drug cartels and closing the Mexican border. It became difficult to tell whether these folks were running for secretary of state or secretary of homeland security. If they had any concrete suggestions more relevant to the job they were seeking, it obviously didn't make sense to share them.

Wise policy and good government can and do emerge in lopsided states. But competition, always and everywhere, fosters innovation. In politics, it also compels a sensitivity and an outreach to the widest possible audiences. The contours of the current system don't conduce to those outcomes; until that changes, we have to hope for candidates who, elected by 5 percent of the state, somehow come to consider their duty of service to all the rest.

The writer is a senior adviser to the Liberty Fund, president emeritus of Purdue University and a former governor of Indiana.



JAHÍ CHIKWENDUJ/THE WASHINGTON POST

Heat rises from the pavement along Pennsylvania Avenue near the Capitol on Tuesday.

EUGENE ROBINSON

A climate solution called hope

On climate change, as we swelter through this heat wave, both denialism and fatalism are mere postures, not serious points of view. With evidence of human-induced global warming all around us, hopeful realism is our only choice.

A relentless and punishing heat dome has settled over the Midwest and Northeast, roasting half of the country, day after day. The first named storm of the hurricane season made landfall in Mexico on Thursday morning and is bringing heavy rain and flooding to Texas. Florida is struggling to recover from record-setting rains that caused widespread flooding. New Mexico and California are battling to contain huge wildfires. And all of this is happening in June — before summer even begins.

It is true that no single weather event, including this oppressive heat, can be definitively blamed on climate change. But it is also true that no single case of lung cancer can be definitively blamed on cigarette smoking — yet the percentage of U.S. adults who smoke has plummeted from 45 percent in 1954, before the deadly correlation between smoking and cancer was widely understood, to just 12 percent today, according to Gallup. Anyone who claimed there is no link would be dismissed as a dangerous crank.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis sounded like an ad for Marlboro cigarettes last week when he claimed the "rain bomb" that dumped up to about two feet of precipitation on parts of his state was nothing out of the ordinary. Like most Republicans, he seeks political points by pretending climate change does not exist. In May, he signed legislation to ban offshore wind turbines, which supply clean energy, and to weaken rules on natural gas pipelines, which do not.

"We don't want our energy policy driven by climate ideology," DeSantis said Friday. But that is exactly what he's doing. Only blind ideology — plus personal ambition — could lead a public official to willfully ignore the link between fossil fuels and climate change. One of our two major political parties has chosen, disgracefully, to posture on an issue that is already changing the way we live.

People get what's happening, though. Gallup reports that 62 percent of U.S. adults worry "a great deal" or "a fair amount" about climate change, and 61 percent understand that the planet is warming primarily because of "pollution from human activi-

ties." And the Pew Research Center has found that 67 percent of Americans believe the nation should prioritize developing alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar, while just 32 percent would prioritize expanding production of oil, coal and natural gas.

President Biden is doing both. The United States is producing more fossil fuels, including crude oil, than ever before — no matter what lies Donald Trump tells about his administration having been more oil-friendly. Meanwhile, Biden's signature Inflation Reduction Act included the biggest-ever investment in the transition to clean energy and making the country carbon-neutral by 2050 — a goal supported by more than two-thirds of Americans, according to Pew.

But for now, what is the deal with this heat? Why was it hotter near Burlington, Vt., on Wednesday (94 degrees) than it was in Miami (89 degrees)?

That's where uncertainty and the jet stream come in.

Michael E. Mann, director of the Center for Science, Sustainability and the Media at the University of Pennsylvania, is the climate scientist that climate deniers love to hate. He was lead author on the 1998 paper that produced the famous "hockey stick" graph showing how the Earth's temperature has risen sharply since the Industrial Revolution. That was when humans started burning fossil fuels on a large scale, spewing vast amounts of heat-trapping carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Mann is careful and cautious in his analysis. While some on social media reacted to a spike in sea surface temperatures with sky-is-falling alarm, Mann attributed the phenomenon to a rare and transient combination of factors — not some headlong rush toward the end of the world.

In fact, Mann told me this week, global temperatures are rising at the rates climate scientists predicted decades ago. But these extreme weather events reflect an important uncertainty, Mann said, and "uncertainty isn't our friend."

He explained that the polar jet stream, which circumnavigates the globe from west to east, is driven by the contrast in temperature between colder air to the north and warmer air to the south. What climate scientists didn't anticipate was that the Arctic would warm much faster than more temperate latitudes. Some parts of Alaska and Canada were 7 degrees

warmer last summer than during an average summer in the 1990s.

That means there is less temperature contrast between the Arctic and moderate air masses, which disrupts the jet stream. Normally, it looks like a wavy line. Now, more often than in the past, it forms big loops that dip far to the south.

"Those patterns tend to get locked in place," Mann said. "Some of the greatest outbreaks of extreme weather in the U.S. and Europe are due to that phenomenon." He included the heat dome that's currently locked above our perspiring heads.

Because polar regions are warming more rapidly than the rest of the planet, ice caps and glaciers are melting faster than scientists anticipated, and the rate of sea-level rise has surpassed expectations.

"We are seeing the warming of the planet that was predicted," Mann said. "But what is true is that some of the impacts of that warming are exceeding what the models predicted."

In other words, the road toward a warmer world got bumpy quicker than scientists anticipated. Now, it is uncertain what's around the next bend.

Mann believes "we've sort of moved beyond denial," despite the GOP's performative rhetoric, because people can see that climate change is happening. But now he has a different concern.

"Doomism is becoming a real threat to action," he told me, noting that "bad actors are fanning the flames" behind the idea that it is already too late to do anything and that they point to these weather extremes as evidence.

"The idea that we're in some kind of runaway feedback loop — that's just not happening," Mann said. "I want to communicate the urgency, but at the same time I want to stress the agency we have."

Humans have already raised the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere by a full 50 percent. The more fossil fuels we burn, the worse the effects of climate change will get. But there is still time to make the transition to clean energy, and we should see the task before us not just as a duty but as an opportunity.

I've been following the fight against climate change since I covered the first U.N. Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. I agree with Mann: We haven't lost this battle — not yet, not by a long shot. Keep in mind how Stephen Schneider, one of the legendary pioneers of climate science, used to dismiss fatalism: "The truth is bad enough."

You say the bald eagle is our national bird? Try again.

BY JACK E. DAVIS

Members of Congress from Minnesota recently introduced legislation to name *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* — the bald eagle — the national bird of the United States. The National Eagle Center, a nonprofit educational organization in Minnesota, spearheaded the initiative, and the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes, representing 35 indigenous nations, has adopted a resolution of support.

I know what you might be thinking: *Wait, what? Everyone knows the bald eagle is already the national bird.*

After all, its gleaming white-headed image fronts the seal of the United States and the seals of nearly every federal agency. It is imprinted on our currency, stitched onto military uniforms and perched on millions of flagstaves. Just about everywhere we turn, we encounter its elegance: on bumper stickers and business logos, motorcycle jackets and tote bags, T-shirts and drink labels, as well as on rugs, curtains, lampshades, cereal bowls, oven mitts, bath towels, bedspreads, pillowcases and pajamas. Like Wikipedia, any number of government websites will tell you, as The Post also did on April 3, that the bald eagle is our national bird.

Except it's not. Although the bison has been officially recognized as the national mammal, the oak as the national tree and the rose as the national flower, neither Congress nor any president has bestowed the honor of national bird on any feathered creature.

The confusion stems from the Great Seal of the United States. In 1782, with victory over Great Britain imminent, Congress approved a seal for our new nation with a handsome bald eagle emblazoned at the center. (And, no, Benjamin Franklin never proposed the turkey for the seal. That's a myth for

another day.) Ever since, we've conflated the bird's public perch with an appointed position. Some say its presence on the seal makes it our national bird. But if we follow that reasoning, we could say that the pyramid, which also appears on the seal, is our national edifice.

With a national bird as yet unnamed, Congress could confer the honor on any avian of its choosing. Votes could swing to a species tied to a legislator's favorite sports team, such as an oriole, cardinal, jay or penguin. Those are all fine birds, but none project the gravitas of the bald eagle. It has no rival in the qualities we associate with our country and culture — most strikingly its intense yellow eyes, fixed beneath a heavily brow, that lend it a piercing "don't tread on me" stare, an anatomical equivalent to the Patriots' cry for independence.

It also has inviolable historical credentials: Eagles have been the face of national emblems since the early Roman Empire. Before 1782, however, other symbolic eagles were generic types never actually found in nature, typically featuring solid-black feathering, a menacing head crest, and blood-red claws and beaks. The Founders insisted on authenticity for the Great Seal. The bald eagle represented both a bona fide species and one that lives only in North America. A true all-American, it asserted national and cultural distinction from European influences.

No less compelling among its qualifications for national bird is the bald eagle's historically complicated relationship with the American people. Embracing the high-flying raptor as a spirit bird and relative, Native peoples lived peaceably with it for thousands of years. But for more than two centuries, other Americans tried to exterminate it. Accusing the winged predator of stealing livestock and even kidnapping babies, they executed a slaughter resembling that of the hapless bison. By the late 19th century, sightings of bald eagles in the East and

Midwest had become rare.

Fortunately, the country redeemed itself when Congress passed landmark legislation in 1940 to protect bald eagles from willful harm. Unfortunately, DDT hit the commercial market five years later, fouling land and water and passing up the food chain to the top. By 1963, an already unstable population had tumbled to a despairingly low 487 nesting pairs in the contiguous states.

Once again, Americans rose to the occasion. In 1972, the EPA banned the domestic sale of DDT, clearing the way for federal-state restoration initiatives that culminated in a defining conservation success story of our age. Continent-wide, today's bald eagle population thrives at around 500,000, returning to numbers that last existed when Congress adopted the Great Seal.

Elevating the bald eagle to high status as the national bird will have arguably greater meaning today than in 1782. More than a third of national animals worldwide are imperiled. Having proudly graduated from the federal endangered species list, the bald eagle is a model for those struggling to survive. Nesting in our parks, schoolyards, neighborhoods and recreational areas, the noble birds have accepted the company of a people who once sought to eradicate them.

Today, we can't imagine living without them. That we relish sightings in the wild, follow couples and their broods on nest cams, and remain unflinchingly dedicated to their protection is a testament to the country's evolving sensibilities. We owe it to the American people, to Native peoples and to the persevering species to finally and officially recognize the bald eagle as the national bird of the United States.

Jack E. Davis is a distinguished professor of history at the University of Florida and the author of "The Bald Eagle: The Improbable Journey of America's Bird."

OPINION

The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

On the debt, the U.S. faces a leadership deficit, too

THE UNITED STATES will soon break a record that has stood for 78 years. Because the record has to do with federal debt, however, this is not a cause for celebration. If present trends continue, the debt in 2027 will equal 106.2 percent of annual economic output, according to the latest forecast from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. That would exceed the all-time high of 106.1 percent of gross domestic product in 1946, a year when the United States was still demobilizing from World War II and had not begun paying down the massive borrowing needed to fund a global military effort. Nearly every part of this latest CBO report is alarming. Most troubling is how much the debt picture has worsened since the CBO's last estimate in February. The budget deficit for fiscal 2024, which ends Sept. 30, is now expected to be \$1.9 trillion — up 27 percent from the previous CBO projection. It is basically double the pre-pandemic level even though the nation is not at war and no longer in a health crisis. And the debt is growing rapidly amid unexpectedly strong economic growth, which usually helps bring deficits down. Democrats and Republicans alike know the nation is in a difficult budget hole — and just keep

digging. They have done it again over the past few months, which is partly why the CBO's forecast worsened. Some new spending, such as the aid bill for Ukraine and Israel, was justified. Much, however, was not. President Biden forged ahead with more costly student debt cancellation that benefits a select few Americans while doing nothing to make college more affordable. Congressional Republicans demanded that money be clawed back immediately from the IRS, a foolhardy move that the CBO forecasts will reduce revenue by hampering the IRS's ability to go after tax cheats. These policies are especially reckless at a time of high interest rates: Interest payments this fiscal year will be larger than defense spending. The CBO forecasts that federal debt will reach 122 percent of economic output a decade from now, a figure that seemed unthinkable in the not-too-distant past. Expenditures are set to rise sharply in the coming decade while revenue remains flat. Republicans portray this data point as proof that the United States has a “spending problem” only, but this is a half-truth. Yes, future deficits are driven by increases in mandatory spending on Social Security and health care, along with interest costs. If we recall correctly, however, the GOP now rejects entitlement reform. The rest of the budget —

discretionary spending, including defense — is actually declining as a share of GDP. If leaders in both parties were interested in getting the nation on a more sustainable path, it actually wouldn't be that painful. This is the utterly

The CBO forecasts that federal debt will reach 122 percent of economic output a decade from now, a figure that seemed unthinkable in the not-too-distant past.

maddening part: Social Security, for example, could be largely fixed by raising the amount of wages on which the government levies Social Security payroll tax, currently capped at \$168,600 a year. That would go a long way toward shoring up the program with minimal sacrifice — and no benefit cuts. We laid out a full plan last year. The choice is either make modest changes now or face reduced

Social Security benefits in about a decade. Perhaps because both parties are complicit in it, there's almost no discussion of debt in the presidential campaign. If anything, the two leading candidates are promising to do things that could make it worse. Former president Donald Trump is touting tax cuts. President Biden is pushing more spending, along with potential tax increases that would not realistically offset it. Both candidates added substantially to the debt during their terms in the White House due largely to expenditures to fight the pandemic. But Mr. Trump's tax cuts also reduced revenue by nearly \$2 trillion, over a 10-year period, while Mr. Biden has increased spending on infrastructure, industrial policy and student debt relief. Mr. Trump's tax cuts for individuals are set to expire next year. There will be pressure on Congress and whoever is in the White House to extend them, but that would cost trillions more. And don't forget: Gloomy as the CBO's projections are, they are based on the rosy assumption that those cuts will not be extended. Ideally, Mr. Biden and Mr. Trump will be asked about the debt in the upcoming CNN presidential debate. We don't expect a real answer. But we do expect that the eventual winner, whoever it is, will have to deal with this issue.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The tragedy of the Supreme Court's bump stock ruling

Regarding The Post's June 15 front-page article “High court rolls back bump stock device ban,” E.J. Dionne Jr.'s June 15 op-ed, “The court's bump stock ruling puts dictionaries above human lives,” and the June 16 editorial, “The court misfired on bump stocks. Congress can still succeed.”:

Father's Day 2024 took on a somber note for me this year in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' ban on bump stocks.

The ruling was delivered the same week that Newtown, Conn., celebrated its high school graduates — and remembered the 20 students who would have been graduating with the class of 2024 had they not been killed in their classrooms at Sandy Hook Elementary School, along with six faculty members, in December 2012. And the Supreme Court handed the decision down on the same day officials began demolishing Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., where 14 students and three faculty members were killed in a mass shooting in 2018.

I spent this Father's Day feeling sorrow for the fathers (and mothers, brothers and sisters) who lost children and who will lose sons and daughters in the future. They deserve better than “thoughts and prayers.” It is especially tragic when meaningful action to protect Americans from mass shootings seems thwarted at every turn, whether by our political leaders or by Supreme Court justices who strike down even small efforts by an administrative agency.

Larry K. Houck, McLean

A lack of common sense

The Supreme Court's 6-3 decision to strike down the federal bump stock ban imposed by the Trump administration after the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history reveals a court sadly divorced from reality.

Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. admits that the Las Vegas mass shooting in 2017 “demonstrated that a semiautomatic rifle with a bump stock can have the same lethal effect as a machinegun,” and there is a “need” to ban bump stocks, yet concurs with Justice Clarence Thomas that such a gun is not a machine gun because “forward pressure” is required to keep firing.

Twelve years in the military has taught me that what matters is whether guns kill, not whether guns that fire repeatedly meet a laughably technical definition of machine gun. To paraphrase Justice Sonia Sotomayor's dissenting opinion, when I see a gun that fires like a machine gun, recoils like a machine gun and kills like a machine gun, I call that gun a machine gun.

Alan Kennedy, Williamsburg, Va.

Not to mention, time to think

The Post quotes the rate of fire for a bump stock as 400 to 800 rounds per minute, which works out to 0.075 to 0.15 seconds per bullet fired. This is far below the human reaction time for applying the brakes in a car, which the University of Idaho suggests takes up to 2.5 seconds for 90 percent of the population. Presumably, the purpose of having someone squeeze the trigger once per bullet is to make sure the person using the gun has thought about what they are doing for at least a minimum human reaction time. In the case of the bump stock, there is judgment in firing the first shot. But what about all those that follow?

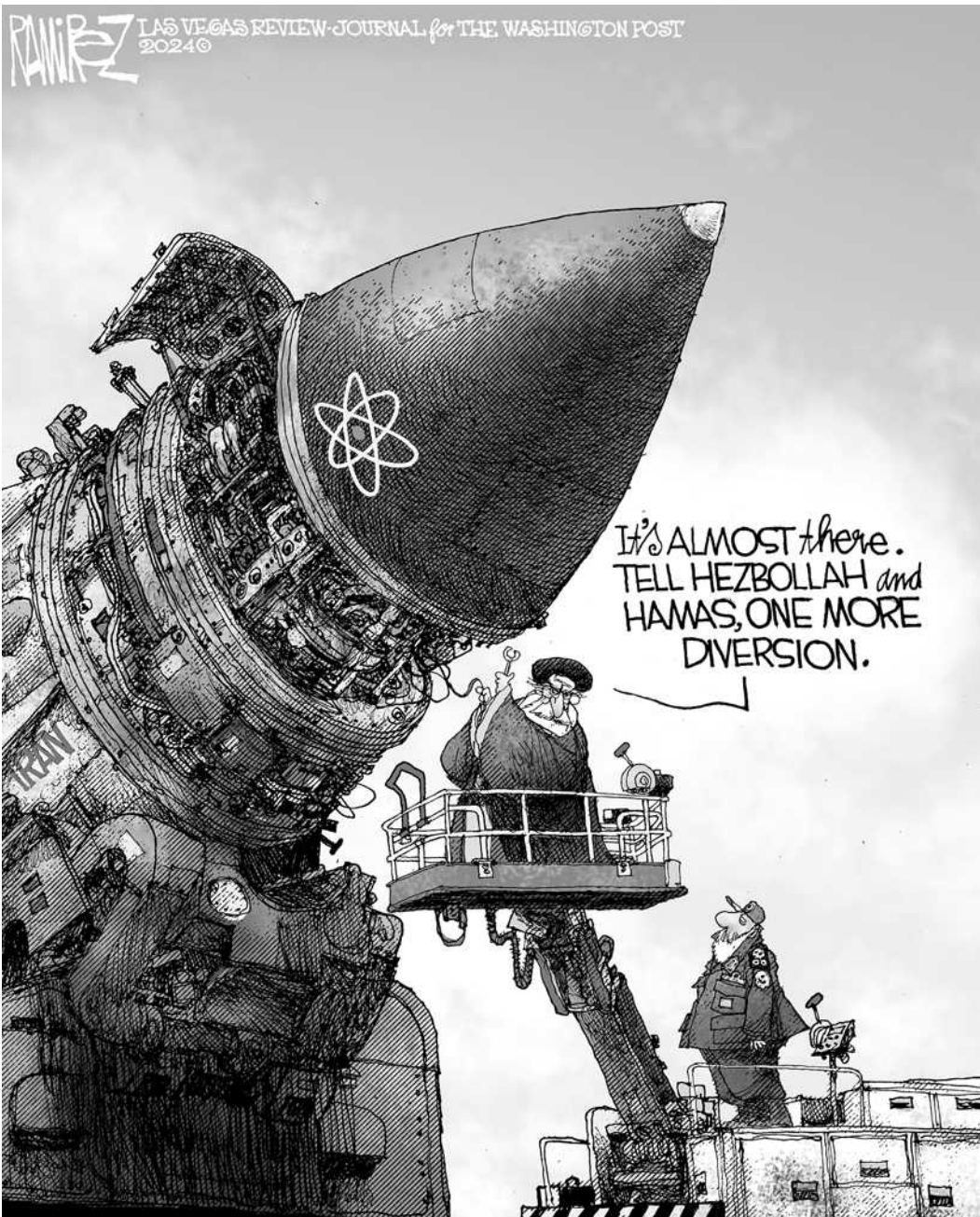
Zachary Levine, Rockville

Safety for me, but not for thee

I was struck by the last line of E.J. Dionne Jr.'s June 15 op-ed on the Supreme Court's decision overturning the federal regulation banning semiautomatic rifles equipped with a bump stock.

MICHAEL RAMIREZ

Iran's diversion



His remark that the justices “will be protected from accountability the next time a mass shooter affixes a bump stock to his weapon and starts firing” reminded me of my reaction after the Supreme Court's 2022 decision that the Second Amendment protects “an individual's right to carry a [concealed] handgun for self-defense outside the home,” but not in “sensitive places” where weapons were altogether prohibited — e.g., legislative assemblies, polling places, and courthouses.”

So while handguns and rifles with bump stocks are permitted on our streets, they are not permitted in the very courthouse in which these decisions were made and announced. The justices are not only “protected from accountability.” They are protected from the very threats they have unleashed on the rest of us.

George Chuzi, McLean

The Supreme Court ruling that struck down the federal ban on bump stock devices served up an opportunity for advocates of gun safety legislation supported by most Americans.

The Post reported that justices Neil M. Gorsuch and Brett M. Kavanaugh suggested during oral arguments that “Congress needed to explicitly” ban the devices rather than relying on a machine gun ban, an idea also emphasized by Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. in his concurring opinion.

Members of Congress and candidates at every level should seize the moment to trumpet their intentions and to enthusiastically campaign on

their plans to address gun violence. Given that, as The Post noted, there were 39 mass shootings in the United States last year, the highest number since 2006, voters from every demographic are through with “thoughts and prayers.” We expect gun violence prevention legislation that will lead to solutions. We are ready to elect legislators who will act with courage on this issue — and to replace those who haven't and won't.

Judy Fisher, Fairfax

The justices' job

E.J. Dionne Jr.'s column criticizing the Supreme Court decision on bump stocks misapprehends the court's role. He seems to think the court's job, in this case, was to decide whether bump stocks are a good thing. That is wrong. The court was addressing a statute that banned machine guns.

The issue before the court was whether ATF's ruling that bump stocks converted semiautomatic rifles into machine guns within the meaning of the statute was correct. The court's job is to rule on whether decisions of the Congress or administrative agencies are lawful. It is not to make gun control policy.

Personally, I would have held that the ATF ruling was reasonable and should be upheld under Supreme Court precedent that administrative agency actions should be upheld unless they are unreasonable.

Peter L. Faber, New York

Don't blame the dictionaries

E.J. Dionne Jr.'s condemnation of the Supreme Court's decision in *Garland v. Cargill* captures what feels to many of us like the court's indifference to the potentially deadly consequences of its decision to strike down regulation of bump stocks.

But no one should believe the conservative justices' claim that dictionaries made them do it. The majority not only ignored the potential consequences of its decision; it ignored what the text and history of the law Congress passed require as well.

As my organization, the Constitutional Accountability Center, explained in its amicus brief in the case, the key terms in the current statutory definition of “machine gun” — “automatically” and “by a single function of the trigger” — were passed into law in 1934. In the dictionaries from that era, as in our understanding today, those terms plainly encompass a weapon that could continue to fire after the shooter's single initial pull of the trigger. Bump stocks set off precisely that cycle.

The history of the National Firearms Act confirms what its text makes clear: Congress defined “machine gun” to apply to any gun that fires continuously after the shooter initially pulls the trigger because it was seeking to end exactly the kind of dangerous circumvention of the machine gun ban that bump stock manufacturers exploit today.

Mr. Dionne correctly described this case as an example of the “distorted and radical conservative jurisprudence” coming from the court, and what makes it even worse is that the court's majority failed to follow its own professed method of interpreting the laws to get there. In other words, the court's fig leaf of “textualism” doesn't hold up to scrutiny. The bump stock ban didn't fail because the majority considered only dictionaries, not consequences. The bump stock ban failed because the majority followed only its ideological preferences, not what the dictionaries it looked at actually required.

Nina Henry, Washington
The writer is counsel at the Constitutional Accountability Center.

Or hide behind technicalities

In his opinion on allowing bump stocks, Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas asserts they are permissible because they do not fire more than one shot with one pull of the trigger. What Justice Thomas is slyly saying is that it's only important that the trigger mechanically returns after each shot, not that the process is automatic from the perspective of the shooter.

The shooter has to apply only one continuous pull, and the bump stock fires repetitively by forcing the finger off the trigger briefly after each shot so that the trigger can return for another shot. The bump stock is moving the shooter's trigger finger involuntarily in an oscillatory feedback loop.

The result is that a semiautomatic weapon can fire at the rate of an automatic weapon. Who cares whether the trigger technically returns or not? Certainly not the shooter's victims or their families.

Dean Poirier, Lilburn, Ga.

Guest opinion submissions

The Washington Post accepts opinion articles on any topic. We welcome submissions on local, national and international issues. We publish work that varies in length and format, including multimedia. Submit a guest opinion at oped@washpost.com or read our guide to writing an opinion article at wapo.st/guestopinion.

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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



ABIR SULTAN/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

Israeli soldiers on a tank at an undisclosed location near the border fence with the Gaza Strip, in southern Israel on May 21.

Can Israel and the U.S. agree on the beginning of the endgame in Gaza?

BY DENNIS ROSS AND DAVID MAKOVSKY

For Israelis, it's still Oct. 7. It is not just the shock and the horror of that day. The hostages are a daily reminder of a continuing trauma. President Biden has focused on a deal that gets the hostages released and sets in motion a process that leads to the end of the war in Gaza. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says the war can only end with Hamas's military destroyed, it no longer being in control of Gaza and with the hostages returned.

The two share the same basic objective, but neither has offered a clear enough explanation of when and how the war can end. From the beginning, Netanyahu has spoken of "total victory," which is a slogan and not an objective. True, sloganeering leaves room for Netanyahu to maneuver. But his desired end point is clearly broader than Biden's goal of making Hamas "no longer capable" of carrying out large-scale attacks on Israel.

If Netanyahu's definition is too broad, Biden's is too narrow. It leaves open the possibility of Hamas being able to reconstitute and rebuild itself. But there is a path forward that both leaders could forge together. And it would be based on the demilitarization of Gaza and the guarantee that it could never again be militarized.

Israel is already close to dismantling Hamas as a military force. Once Israel completes the destruction of the remaining battalions in Rafah and central Gaza, Hamas will no longer have organized military units with clear command and control. To complete demilitarization, Israel must destroy enough of the Hamas military infrastructure — its weapons labs, production facilities, depots and tunnels — so that reconstitution becomes impossible without ongoing resupply.

These are measurable objectives. Because the Israelis are close to defeating Hamas as a military, the Biden administration should now seek to reach an agreement with the Israeli government on how much

is enough when it comes to destroying the military infrastructure. In turn, the Israelis should ask the Biden administration to outline everything the United States and its allies will collectively do to cut off money, materials and weapons to Hamas, ensuring it can never rebuild itself.

Gaza's border with Egypt must be secured to prevent smuggling above and below ground. Even though Israel tried to restrict what went into Gaza, Hamas successfully smuggled everything it needed to build both the 300 miles of tunnels and a military-industrial base capable of producing missiles and bombs. A U.S.-Egyptian agreement on managing this border is therefore essential. The United States can provide sensors to detect and stop any tunnels from being rebuilt, but Egyptian President Abdel Fatah El-Sisi must know that shutting down smuggling will be a test of the U.S.-Egyptian relationship. The Biden administration could provide a significant financial incentive to Egypt to stop the smuggling by allowing Egyptian contractors to take the lead in the reconstruction of Gaza.

Stopping the smuggling is crucial. But if there isn't a credible team on the ground to manage the reconstruction process, Hamas will end up diverting legally imported reconstruction materials for its own purposes. Let's be clear: A U.N.-brokered effort to halt the diversion of reconstruction materials clearly failed after the Israel-Hamas war of 2014. The United States will have to do better. It will have to put in place a mechanism to track materials from their point of entry, to storage, to end use. Any diversion would need to immediately halt reconstruction.

For the "day after," the Biden administration has been planning an international task force with Egyptians, Emiratis and others providing security as the Israel Defense Forces withdraw following the hostages being released. Such a task force needs to have Palestinians as part of the administration. But these Palestinians need to be untainted by association with Hamas or any other faction. Palestinians with proven

track records, like Salam Fayyad or Jihad Alwazir, could play such a role. Both are products of the International Monetary Fund system and know a great deal about development and the realities in Gaza.

Though the Israelis might be on the verge of demilitarizing Gaza, they have not disarmed all Hamas fighters and have little prospect of doing so no matter how long they stay. The question, therefore, is how the international forces deal with the remaining Hamas holdouts. Will they try to impose order? Or will they seek some kind of understanding with these fighters to keep the peace? And will there be any circumstances in which they would accept Israel responding to a threat they cannot contain? (Certainly, they must know that Israelis will act against any direct threat to Israel.) Any outside actor planning to stabilize Gaza must be prepared to answer these difficult questions. But they are particularly sensitive for Arab leaders who do not want to be seen as using force on Palestinians on behalf of Israel.

We have not tried to address all issues, including whether this process can begin without a political horizon for eventual Palestinian self-governance — or at least clarity on whether the Palestinian Authority is actually going to be reformed. But not all questions need to be answered to start thinking about an endgame.

If the United States and Israel can agree on an end point to the war, many other things can fall into place. If not, far worse outcomes are looming in the region.

Dennis Ross, a special assistant to President Barack Obama, is the counselor at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and teaches at Georgetown University's Center for Jewish Civilization. David Makovsky, who has worked in the Office of the Secretary of State on the U.S. Middle East peace negotiating team, is the Ziegler distinguished fellow at the Washington Institute and adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins University's Nitze School of Advanced International Studies.

KEITH B. RICHBURG

South Africa just dodged a bullet. Your turn, Europe.

That giant whooshing sound you may have heard coming from Africa's southern tip was a collective sigh of relief. South Africa's top two political parties — the ruling African National Congress and the longtime opposition Democratic Alliance — managed to put aside their differences to form a national unity government and reelect Cyril Ramaphosa as president.

And that popping noise? That would have been the sound of heads exploding among the country's radical socialists, populists and ethno-nationalists. They can't countenance the idea of the continent's most storied Black liberation movement sharing power with the party known as the representative of wealthy White suburbia.

Such a governing alliance seemed unlikely before the May 29 election, which left the ANC shorn of its parliamentary majority and needing a coalition partner to stay in power. But this alliance of the sensible center should allow South Africa to tackle its myriad problems, attract foreign investment and reach its potential as the continent's economic engine. Stocks and the local currency, the rand, were buoyed by the news.

This governing coalition also avoided what many South Africans feared would be the "nightmare scenario": an alliance between the ANC and extremists on the fringes. They include former ANC youth leader and firebrand Julius Malema, a red beret-wearing socialist who advocates sweeping nationalization of industry and confiscation of White farmland, as well as corrupt former president Jacob Zuma, whose tenure accelerated South Africa's downward slide.

Zuma's new Zulu-centric party, uMkhonto we-Sizwe, or MK, finished third, mostly on the strength of its support from Zuma's KwaZulu-Natal heartland. Malema's Economic Freedom Fighters party came in a distant fourth. The two have joined in an opposition alliance with other leftist parties calling themselves the Progressive Caucus. Zuma blasted what he called the "White-led unholy alliance" between the DA and the ANC.

Zuma and Malema can still make trouble in Parliament, but for now they are consigned to the fringes. It must be particularly galling to Malema, a



NIC BOTHMA/REUTERS

President Cyril Ramaphosa and coalition partner Annelie Lotriet in Cape Town on June 14.

notorious race-baiter who likes to chant "kill the Boer," meaning kill White farmers, to now sit powerless on the opposition benches while a White woman, Annelie Lotriet of the Democratic Alliance, serves as deputy speaker of Parliament.

You know what they say about karma. Achieving the governing partnership required some sleight of hand by Ramaphosa.

After the ANC received just 40 percent of the vote, he called for a government of national unity. That harked back to South Africa's first all-race democratic election in 1994 after the end of apartheid. The ANC that year won more than 62 percent of the vote and 252 seats in the 400-member National Assembly. Nelson Mandela was elected the country's first Black president, and he invited all other parties to join a unity government as a show of magnanimity and reconciliation. He asked the country's last White apartheid leader, F.W. de Klerk, to become a deputy president.

This time, with just 159 seats, the ANC needed a partner, or partners, to form a majority. Ramaphosa cleverly called for a government of national unity and invited all the competing parties to join. Malema swiftly rejected any government that included the White-led Democratic Alliance. Zuma, doing his best imitation of Donald Trump, called the elections rigged and ordered his newly elected MK members to boycott the opening of Parliament.

These self-defeating maneuvers freed the ANC

to form a coalition with the DA, which won nearly 22 percent of the votes and 87 seats in the National Assembly, giving the unity government well over a majority. Other smaller parties joined, and the radicals were left seething on the outside.

The new government is not a natural or easy coalition. And it's uncertain how long it will last. Cabinet seats have to be divided up. And the parties have to reconcile their starkly different policy positions on everything from affirmative action for the Black majority to reining in rampant corruption.

Foreign policy will be a particular challenge. The ANC has leaned toward Russia in its war against Ukraine. The DA leader, John Steenhuisen, made a six-day visit to Ukraine and said South Africa needed to "stand with the free world and come out hard against Russian aggression." The ANC government took Israel to the International Court of Justice over its war in Gaza, and all the ANC members of Parliament backed a nonbinding resolution to close the Israeli Embassy in South Africa and cut diplomatic ties. The DA opposed that resolution and has adopted a more evenhanded approach to the conflict.

As a former liberation movement, the ANC always felt bound by loyalty to its old friends during the struggle, including Russia, the Palestinians, Cuba, Libya and China. But South Africa needs more trade and investment from the West, especially the United States. This new centrist alliance gives Ramaphosa the chance to sideline the more radical faction of his party and jettison some of the country's more controversial foreign policy positions.

A government of the sensible center is what most South African voters clearly wanted.

Maybe this is a lesson for Europe, which is grappling with the rise of the far right after E.U. parliamentary elections. And the United States, where bipartisan centrist governing used to be commonplace but where House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) now finds himself vilified on the far right for relying on centrist coalitions with Democrats to avoid government shutdowns and pass major legislation.

If South Africa can make it work, their model of unity might become the country's most valuable export.

JASON WILLICK

Three surprise outcomes for the 2024 race

The Trump-Biden rematch is too close to handicap with confidence, and too frozen to deliver much horse-race drama. But if the candidates remain as neck-and-neck as they currently appear, some unexpected things could happen after the polls close in November. Three wild-card outcomes deserve closer consideration.

The first is the possibility that Trump ekes out the most votes — and loses the presidency. Yes, it's unlikely; FiveThirtyEight's data wizards assign this possibility a 1-in-100 chance, compared with an 11-in-100 chance that Biden loses despite a popular-vote lead. But the winner-take-all electoral college is a fickle institution. It tilted toward Democrats in 2012, only to deliver the presidency to Trump in 2016 despite Hillary Clinton's popular-vote plurality.

There are some signs the GOP's alleged "structural advantage" in elections — its propensity to win more political power than its raw vote totals would suggest — is slipping. In the 2022 midterms, Republican candidates won 3 million more votes than Democrats in races for the House of Representatives. That decisive margin would have yielded an overwhelming GOP House majority in previous elections. Yet Republicans only barely won control of the chamber. It turned out that the GOP coalition was less geographically "efficient" than it had been during the 2010s.

Could a similar dynamic manifest in the electoral college in 2024? It's not currently apparent in swing-state polling. But if Trump *did* end up coming up short in electoral votes despite a strong popular-vote performance, it would likely be because he overperformed in solidly Democratic states without actually winning them.

For example, it's safe to say Biden will easily win New York's electoral votes this November. But while Biden won the state by 23 percentage points in 2020, some recent polls have shown a single-digit race there. It's also possible to imagine Trump's widely reported demographic inroads among Hispanics cutting into Biden's margin in California without affecting the electoral college result.

Partisan views of the electoral college have been polarized since 2000, with the institution more popular among Republicans. Democrats are more likely to decry it as an instrument of "minority rule." If Biden secured a second term despite failing to win the most votes, Trump would cry foul and Democrats would rejoice. Would views of the institution flip? Or would efforts to change it gain momentum?

Then there's the possibility that Trump wins the presidency but Democrats hold the Senate. Most analysts take for granted that a Trump victory would come with a Republican Senate majority. That's certainly a very good bet. States usually vote for the same party for senator and president.

But as the Cook Political Report's Amy Walter has pointed out, there is a surprising divergence between presidential and Senate polling this cycle. Republican Senate candidates are losing in a number of states that Trump is winning. In Cook's Nevada poll, for example, Trump leads Biden by nine points while the Republican Senate candidate is trailing incumbent Democratic Sen. Jacky Rosen by seven. "Democratic Senate candidates aren't paying as big a price for voters' economic frustrations" as Biden is, Walter writes, "while Republicans have not created separation between themselves and Trump's most problematic positions."

There probably are not enough split-ticket voters in states such as Ohio, Montana and Florida to give Trump the presidency and Democrats continued control of the Senate. But peculiar polling trends at least raise the possibility. That would make for an extraordinary second Trump term. Trump's Cabinet picks would be at the mercy of the Democratic Party, and few if any federal judges could be confirmed. The power struggle between the White House and Congress would likely reach new levels of intensity.

Finally, consider the possibility of an electoral college tie, throwing the election to the House of Representatives. FiveThirtyEight's model gets that result in about five out of 1,000 simulations. One route to a 269-269 electoral college split would be Trump winning back Pennsylvania and Michigan from Biden's 2020 column and the map otherwise staying the same.

The House would then break the tie as the 12th Amendment requires. But that doesn't mean the majority party in the House would necessarily get its way. The amendment says "in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote." It's possible, for example, that Democrats win control of the House but that Republicans make up a majority in more state delegations.

The process hasn't been tested since the election of 1824, and could be vulnerable to procedural subterfuge. In a brief in the Supreme Court case on whether the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol riot disqualified Trump from the ballot, election law specialists considered what might happen in the case of an electoral college tie:

"To start, the House would need to establish rules for conducting the election . . . Democrats in the House would have a partisan incentive to adopt a rule provision first requiring a majority vote on each candidate's qualification to hold office. If they held a majority of the House, Democrats could sustain an objection to Mr. Trump's candidacy on Section 3 grounds and exclude him from the ballot in its Twelfth Amendment election."

That warning rings true. Next Jan. 6, when the new Congress would resolve the matter, if Democrats hold the House majority — and especially if Biden had just prevailed in the popular vote — would they really allow the House Republican minority to elect Trump under the process prescribed by the 12th Amendment, enacted in 1804?

These scenarios are all unlikely. But the probability of each increases in the event of a close presidential race. If there's any common lesson from them, it's that narrow electoral margins put strain on the political and governing processes. A healthy political party would defeat either Trump or Biden decisively. But alternating razor-thin margins might be all our current dilapidated parties can deliver. Buckle up for the fallout.

Only 3 in 10 Veterans know they can qualify to buy a home without a down payment.*

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Help Educate the Buyer, Build a Relationship

1. Explain agency relationships to the buyer, what is done to advocate on behalf of the buyer, how it is done, and get state-required legal consent to represent the buyer, if needed.
2. Establish your commitment to the buyer by providing personalized service. Demonstrate active listening by understanding the buyer's needs, preferences, and concerns.
3. Clearly state your commitment to maintaining the confidentiality of the buyer's personal and financial information throughout the process.
4. Provide support to buyers whose primary language is not English. Whenever possible, brokerages should offer agents and support staff who are fluent in non-English languages commonly used in the community to assist with translation and documentation.
5. Understand a buyer's culture and heritage. Be sensitive to their preferences regarding housing, such as multigenerational living spaces or specific home features. Learn about and respect the buyer's cultural practices in the negotiation and decision-making processes.
6. Explain federal and state fair housing laws to the buyer. Advocate for the buyer to ensure they are not denied the opportunity to make an offer on a home or secure financing based on their race, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and/or family status.
7. Research local and national down payment assistance programs available to the buyer. These programs can help make the home purchase more affordable and could potentially put the buyer in a better position for mortgage loan approval.
8. Help the buyer determine whether they're eligible for these down payment assistance programs and help them apply.
9. If your buyer is a Veteran, offer information about Veterans Affairs loans, including benefits such as no down payment, no private mortgage insurance (PMI), and competitive interest rates.
10. If your buyer is a Veteran and wants to apply for a VA loan, help them obtain a Certificate of Eligibility (COE). Identify state and local programs that offer additional benefits to veterans, such as tax exemptions or grants.
11. Provide information on purchasing incentives that may be available. Inform the buyer of local, state, and federal incentives, such as first-time homebuyer programs or grants. If applicable, discuss builder incentives on new-construction homes.
12. Introduce the buyer to online platforms, including Realtor.com and local government websites, that provide comprehensive neighborhood information, school ratings, and reviews.
13. Emphasize your commitment to honesty and integrity. Inform the buyer that you will always disclose all known material defects of the home they are interested in pursuing.
14. Explain the local market and how it affects the buyer. Whether the market is balanced or favors the seller or buyer can affect pricing, inventory, and offer strategy.

Help the Buyer Identify Their Goals and Budget

15. Identify the buyer's homeownership wants and non-negotiable needs. Help them consider lifestyle needs like proximity to work, schools, public transportation, and amenities such as parks, shopping centers, and medical facilities.
16. Inform the buyer of home features that are popular, including open floor plans, modern kitchens, energy efficiency, outdoor living spaces, home offices, etc.
17. Ask the buyer about home features they are seeking. Including number of bedrooms and bathrooms, type of kitchen, yard size, home office space, garage or parking, and architectural style.
18. Learn about the buyer's future plans: potential for family growth, aging-in-place considerations, or resale value concerns.
19. Understand the buyer's budget, and collect information on the buyer's current income, savings, and other financial resources, as well as financial obligations like student loans, car payments, and credit card debt.
20. Determine the amount the buyer has available for a down payment, and agree on a monthly housing budget. The budget should include the mortgage payment, taxes, insurance, and maintenance costs.
21. Help the buyer understand what they can afford in the local market on their budget. Provide a market analysis that includes local trends (current property prices, neighborhood data, and how long homes take to sell) and recent sales of similar properties so the buyer knows what to expect.

Start the Home Search

22. Explain the timeline for house hunting, mortgage approval, and closing.
23. Partner with the buyer to locate suitable properties for consideration. Use the multiple listing service (MLS) to find properties that match the buyer's criteria.
24. Network with other agents to source properties not yet in the local MLS broker marketplaces.
25. Contact homeowners in focus areas to see if they are considering selling.
26. Collaborate with the buyer on properties they may have learned about through their sphere contacts.
27. Research all unlisted properties the buyer wishes to see. Conduct a thorough background check on unlisted properties, including ownership and property history.
28. Set up an email system to alert the buyer of properties for sale that fit their criteria (e.g., location, price range, home features).
29. Explain to the buyer the potential risks of posting their home search details on social media to avoid being targeted for fraud.
30. Adjust the buyer's search parameters based on the buyer's evolving preferences and market conditions.
31. Work with the buyer to prioritize homes to tour, identifying the homes that best fit their needs.
32. Preview properties to assess their condition and suitability to the buyer's needs.
33. Create comprehensive packets with information on local schools, municipal services, public transportation, and community amenities.
34. Schedule and conduct home viewings, providing detailed insights and a comparative analysis for each property.
35. Arrange tours of neighborhoods, including visits to local schools, parks, shopping centers, and other amenities.
36. Gather immediate feedback after each viewing to capture the buyer's initial impressions. Adjust search criteria based on what the buyer liked or disliked about each property.
37. For properties the buyer is interested in, research

- nearby venues or operations (e.g., industrial sites, busy roads, noise issues) that might affect the market value or quality of living. Inform the buyer of the findings of your research.
38. Check applicable zoning and building restrictions. Verify how they affect property use and potential modifications.
39. Maintain open feedback and constantly monitor the buyer's needs, reevaluating property showings as needed.
40. Schedule regular meetings or calls to discuss new listings, market changes, and shifts in the buyer's priorities.
41. Help the buyer understand the property's environmental risks, if any. For risks such as flooding, wildfire, heat, wind, and air quality, discuss any relevant mitigation measures (e.g., flood insurance, fire-resistant landscaping).
42. Discuss how the neighborhood aligns with the buyer's lifestyle and long-term plans before making an offer. Encourage the buyer to visit the neighborhood and talk to current residents.
43. For a property the buyer is interested in, collect and share pertinent data on market values, taxes, utility costs, etc. Provide details about average utility costs (electricity, water, gas) and other expenses such as homeowners association (HOA) fees, maintenance costs, and insurance premiums.
44. Prepare a comparative market analysis (CMA) in advance of making an offer.

Preparing Financing

45. Suggest at least three mortgage lenders. Provide a list of reliable lenders with favorable ratings, industry recognition, and preferably those with experience in the local market.
46. Assist in comparing different financing options. Explain the different mortgage options (fixed-rate, adjustable-rate, FHA, VA loans), interest rates, and terms.
47. Help the buyer analyze the loan estimates. Compare interest rates and APR from the different lenders. Help the buyer understand the loan components such as the principal, interest, taxes, and insurance (PITI).
48. Discuss the mortgage pre-approval process with the buyer. The buyer will need to provide proof of income (pay stubs, tax returns), credit report, bank statements, and identification. Lenders will perform a hard credit inquiry to assess the buyer's creditworthiness. A pre-approval letter indicates the maximum loan amount the lender is willing to offer, strengthening the buyer's position when making offers. Pre-approval letters are typically valid for 60-90 days, after which the buyer may need to resubmit their financial information.
49. Help the buyer decipher public property and tax information. Discuss tax implications for the purchase, including property taxes and the potential for reassessment.

Preparing the Offer

50. Before making an offer, walk the buyer through a sample sales contract, highlighting key terms and contingencies.
51. Share MLS data on what percentage of the list price sellers in specific neighborhoods are currently receiving.
52. Review the average days on market (DOM) to assess if the property is priced correctly and how competitive the market is.
53. Share the dangers of using the price per square foot to figure home values. This metric doesn't account for lot size, upgrades, or the unique features of a property.
54. Share the estimated out-of-pocket costs to complete the transaction. Depending on the loan type, the down payment is typically 3%-20% of the purchase price. Closing costs are generally 2%-5% of the purchase price, including loan origination fees, title insurance, appraisal fees, and attorney fees. A home inspection may cost \$300-\$600. And moving expenses will vary based on distance and volume of belongings.
55. Ensure the buyer receives and understands all the state and federal disclosure forms.
56. Work with the buyer to develop an initial offer plan that is competitive yet leaves room for negotiation. Make sure the buyer knows their maximum budget and sticks to it during negotiations.
57. Ensure the buyer has a mortgage pre-approval letter to show financial readiness during the offer stage.
58. Write an offer that has a reasonable chance of being accepted. Ensure the offer is in line with current market conditions and comparable sales. Consider what the seller values most, and address those needs in the offer.
59. Suggest flexible closing dates or lease-back options to appeal to the seller's needs. Recommend a substantial earnest money deposit to demonstrate that the buyer is serious about the home.
60. Explain common contract contingencies, and include approved protective clauses in the purchase offer. These contingencies may include inspection, appraisal, financing, and title.
61. Recommend other optional contingencies, and explain their pros and cons. If the buyer is also selling a home, explain the risks and benefits of including a home sale contingency, which allows the buyer to sell their current home first.
62. Use strategies such as an escalation clause to maintain a competitive offer. Set a maximum price the buyer is willing to pay to avoid overextending.
63. Use hyperlocal expertise and strong communication skills to present a successful offer on behalf of the buyer.

Create a Winning Negotiating Strategy

64. Prioritize contract negotiation goals with the buyer. Identify and prioritize the buyer's key goals, such as price, closing date, and repairs.
65. Help create a negotiating strategy. Plan potential concessions to offer during negotiations, ensuring they align with the buyer's goals.
66. Prepare the buyer for a multiple-offer situation, and have a solid game plan for negotiation.
67. Manage counteroffers effectively, ensuring the buyer's interests are protected and there is a balance between the price and terms.

Advocating for the Buyer and Facilitating the Close

68. Advocate for your buyer as their fiduciary throughout the process. Let them know what communications to expect and when.
69. If the transaction involves a short sale, foreclosure, or bank-owned property, you may need to provide the buyer additional assistance, including access to specialists who focus on these types of transactions.
70. Ensure the transaction goes as smoothly as possible by explaining the different contracts that need to be signed and the importance of meeting all contract deadlines.
71. Using your knowledge of the local market, present a

- list of required and optional inspections your buyer should consider. For example, environmental, roofing, and mold inspections.
 72. Work with your buyer to fully investigate their options for engaging a real estate attorney, home inspector, title company, appraiser, and other service providers.
 73. Review the home inspection report with your buyer. Discuss options for potential repairs or seller concessions.
 74. Based on your buyer's feedback on the home inspection report, negotiate repair requests or seller concessions with the seller's agent.
 75. Collect the down payment from your buyer. Arrange to transfer the down payment to the seller's agent along with the corresponding documentation.
 76. Prepare your buyer for the final walk-through, including what to expect. Create a checklist of your buyer's concerns regarding the home, and then confirm that any agreed-upon repairs were addressed by the seller.
 77. Schedule and accompany your buyer on the final walk-through. If there are issues or concerns during the walk-through, immediately bring them up to the seller's agent.
 78. Order the appraisal. Confirm with your buyer's lender whether they will accept an independent appraiser or require an appraisal management company to conduct the appraisal.
 79. Counsel your buyer in questioning the appraisal report if it affects the financing. Check for errors like square footage, faulty home comparisons, or inaccurate descriptions of the home or neighborhood.
 80. Confirm clear-to-close status with the lender. Make sure all documents and conditions to approve your buyer's loan have been met.
 81. Explain the closing process to your buyer, what they need to bring with them, and what to expect when they arrive.
 82. Confirm the closing date, time, and location with your buyer, and notify all parties. Make sure to confirm the verification process with the seller's agent if there are any last-minute changes to prevent fraud.
 83. Gather all the required forms and documents for closing. Typically, your buyer will need photo identification and a cashier's or certified check (or receipt of a wire transfer).
 84. Ensure all parties have all the forms and information needed to close the sale.
 85. Explain flood insurance to your buyer. If the home they purchase is in a FEMA-identified flood zone, the buyer must obtain flood insurance as a condition of ownership.
 86. Explain title insurance to your buyer, and refer them to a qualified insurance broker.
 87. Review the title insurance commitment with your buyer to ensure all the information is accurate.
 88. Ensure that the necessary property surveys are ordered.
 89. Discuss with your buyer what a title search is and why it's important to order one for any property that goes under contract.
 90. Review the property title search results with your buyer. A clean property title means your buyer and lender agree there are no claims on the property that could become an issue after ownership is transferred.
 91. Confirm the status of the loan funding, and coordinate with the lender on discount points—if any—being locked in with notes.
 92. Contact your buyer's lender weekly to verify the loan process is on track, following it through to the underwriter.
 93. Ensure any necessary funds, like the earnest money or down payment, are received by deadline to avoid any risk of the seller terminating your contract.
 94. Check addendums and alterations for agreed terms, and review them with your buyer to make sure there are no unexpected changes.
 95. Review the closing statement for accuracy. With your buyer, go over the terms of the mortgage, the projected monthly payments, and the closing costs.
 96. Double-check all taxes, homeowners association dues, utilities, and applicable prorations. If relevant, are accounted for and paid by your buyer.
 97. Explain the risks of wire fraud to your buyer. Verify all wiring instructions with the seller's agent before transferring funds. Get detailed instructions from the closing company. Stay vigilant and verify any messages (using the agreed-upon process) your buyer receives that request changes to the original instructions.
 98. Request final closing figures from the closing agent (often an attorney or title company). Explain to your buyer that this is the total amount of money they will have to bring to the closing table.
 99. Review documents with the closing agent (attorney), and perform any remaining closing activities to help your buyer complete the transaction.
 100. Provide the receipt of the escrow deposit to the seller's broker to verify this financial step has been completed.
 101. Verify the final offer is signed by all parties.
 102. Distribute final documents to all parties, including your buyer, the seller, title company, lender, seller/buyer's broker, and closing agent. Make sure the complete set of documents is compiled for your buyer.
 103. Support your buyer in any final closing activities, and stress the importance of keeping all of the paperwork safe and secure.
- ### Post-Closing Activities
104. Verify the transfer of all keys and codes, including house, mailbox, HOA/community, security/gate access, garage door openers, pool equipment, and appliance manuals.
 105. Advise your buyer to rekey their locks and update the access codes to safeguard their newly purchased home from anyone who may have had access prior to their ownership.
 106. Assist the buyer with filing claims with the homeowner's warranty company, as needed. Your buyer's homeowner's warranty policy will cover the cost of major repairs or appliances.
 107. Prior to move-in day, inform your buyer that they need to transfer utilities and services to their new residence to prevent incurring costs on their former residence.
 108. Stay engaged and proactively follow up with your buyer on any pending items or concerns. Provide any additional information required from office files.
 109. Encourage your buyer to maintain a running checklist of warranties, including their expiration dates.
 110. Work with your buyer to find a moving company that is best suited for the type and size of move they need.
 111. Leave a lasting impression by celebrating the closing with your buyer in a thoughtful and personalized way. For example, gifting them a bottle of Champagne.

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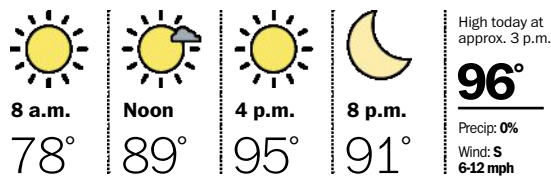


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**Actual services or to-dos will depend on the needs of the buyer and the transaction – not all 111 things will need to be done in every transaction.



VIRGINIA
Lake Anna is the “likely source” of E. coli infections that sickened dozens of swimmers. **B3**



OBITUARIES
Physicist Edward C. Stone, 88, served as the chief scientist of NASA’s Voyager mission. **B4**



OBITUARIES
Coach Frank Carroll, 85, guided figure skaters such as Michelle Kwan to glory on the world stage. **B4**

Md. unveils system for survivors to keep track of rape kits

BY TOM JACKMAN

In Angela D. Wharton’s long journey as a sexual assault survivor, Thursday was a day that signaled there should be no more cases like hers in Maryland.

In 1996, Wharton was raped at gunpoint outside her apartment building in Baltimore. Two years later, her untested sexual assault kit and other evidence were destroyed by police — an act she

5,000-KIT BACKLOG TO ALSO GET BAR CODES

Officials hope initiative will help boost accountability

didn’t discover until 20 years later.

“The very evidence that could have brought my assailant to justice had been callously discarded,” Wharton said, “At that moment, I was devastated, revic-

timized and began to spiral into a deep depression.”

Wharton, who founded a support group for assault survivors after her attack, joined advocates and Maryland political leaders Thursday morning to announce

a new tracking system for sexual assault evidence kits. When a rape kit is collected in Maryland now, it will receive a bar code that victims can track, so they can see exactly where the kit is located and whether it’s been tested, state officials said.

Maryland joins about 40 other states and D.C. that have already implemented case tracking for victims, according to End the Backlog, a project that aims to

reduce the number of untested kits across the country. Maryland also will place bar codes on its backlog of about 5,000 untested rape kits, enabling more victims to monitor their investigations, and it will require kits to be preserved for 75 years.

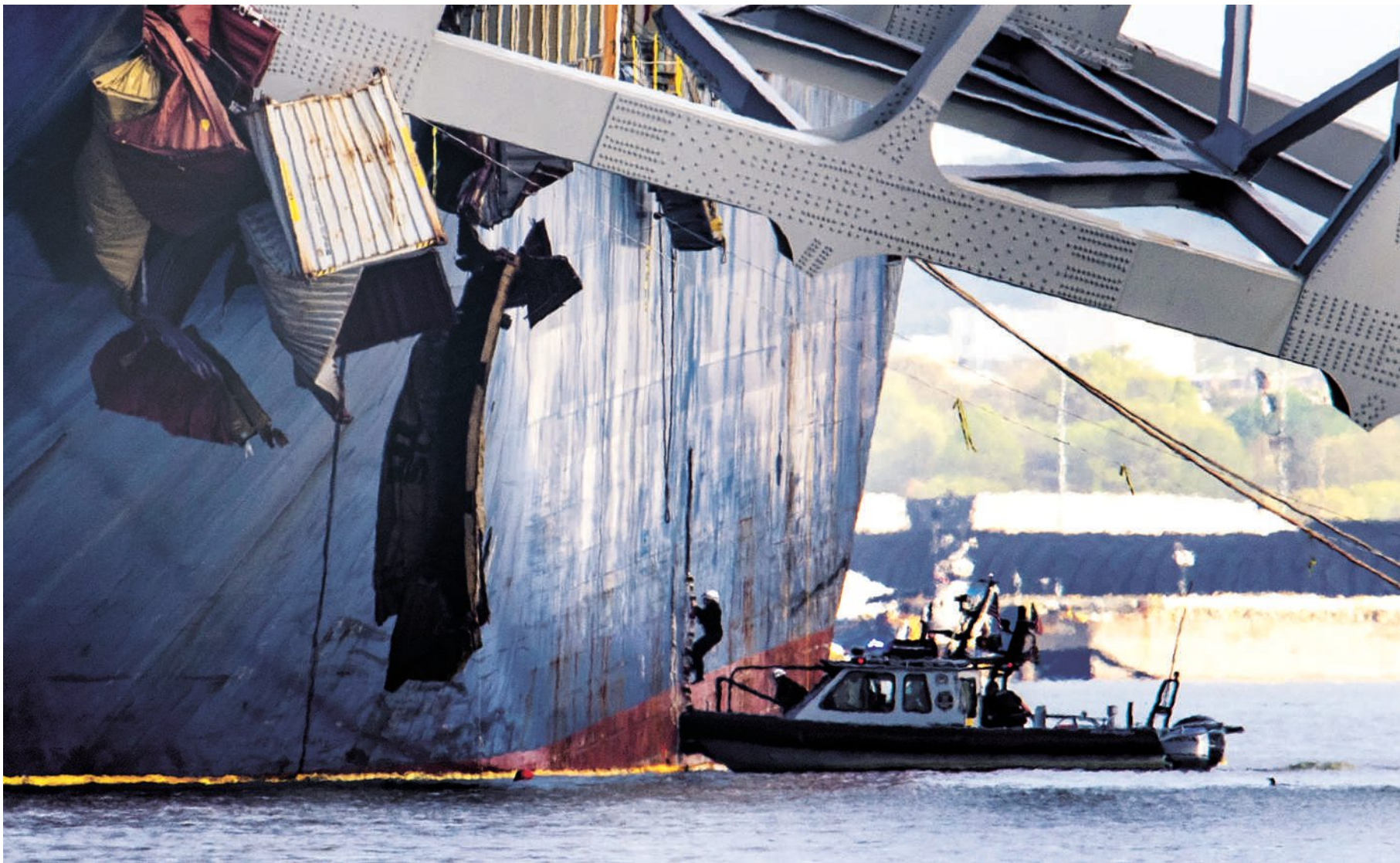
“What a glorious day this is,” Wharton said, adding that her “heart overflowed with a mixture of emotions: gratitude and hope and a profound sense of respon-

sibility.”

The system was unveiled at a news conference held by Gov. Wes Moore (D) and Attorney General Anthony G. Brown (D), but it actually became operational May 24. Brown said it had already been used 90 times by 14 assault survivors.

“Survivors want action,” Brown said. “They expect all of us to do our jobs. The tracking

SEE RAPE KITS ON **B6**



JONATHAN NEWTON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

8 from Dali can leave U.S.

Baltimore reaches deal with ship operators allowing some crew members to return to their home countries

BY STEVE THOMPSON

The city of Baltimore has reached a deal with operators of the Dali container ship that toppled the Francis Scott Key Bridge three months ago, allowing some of the ship’s crew to leave the United States without a legal fight ahead of their likely depositions in a civil case over liability for the disaster.

Under an agreement aired before a federal judge in Maryland on Thursday, eight members of the Dali’s crew may soon return to their home countries of India or Sri Lanka.

The legal dust-up began Tuesday morning after a lawyer representing the Dali’s owner told opposing lawyers that eight of about 20 crew members remaining on the ship would probably head to the airport this week, as ship operators arranged for a replacement crew ahead of the ship’s departure from the port.

William Bennett III, a lawyer for the ship’s owner, said the U.S. Coast Guard had requested that some crew members remain on the vessel but would allow others to leave the United States.

Those permitted to leave, he wrote in the notification email, included the ship’s cook, an oiler and several able seamen — who work on the deck of the Dali.

Bennett said that he or colleagues had asked the Coast

SEE DALI ON **B2**



STEPHANIE SCARBROUGH/AP

Justice Department attorneys, above, leave the federal courthouse in Baltimore on Thursday. Crew members from the Dali container ship, top, which toppled the Francis Scott Key Bridge, are likely to be deposed in a civil case over liability for the disaster.

Ex-council member faces theft charges

Jamel ‘Mel’ Franklin of Pr. George’s is accused of misusing campaign funds

BY KATIE METTLER, LATESHIA BEACHUM, JASMINE HILTON AND NICOLE ASBURY

Former Prince George’s County Council member Jamel “Mel” Franklin has been charged in a felony theft scheme in which authorities say he embezzled at least \$130,000 of his campaign funds to pay for personal expenses, including rent, loans and cosmetic procedures for himself and a close friend.

The scheme included falsifying information on reports filed with the State Board of Elections, located in Anne Arundel County, where the charges were filed Thursday. The Office of the Maryland State Prosecutor said the charges include 20 counts of felony theft scheme, embezzlement and perjury.

Franklin did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The charges come less than a week after Franklin abruptly resigned his seat as an at-large

SEE FRANKLIN ON **B3**

Nominee is uplifted by South Asian community

Diaspora support and suburban appeal help Subramanyam win nod

BY ANTONIO OLIVO

In his successful bid to win Virginia’s Democratic nomination for Rep. Jennifer Wexton’s (D) seat Tuesday, state Sen. Suhas Subramanyam (Loudoun) appeared in campaign ads goofing around with his two young daughters, wearing his gear as a volunteer firefighter and EMT, and taking a romantic stroll with his wife through a leafy suburban neighborhood.

Meanwhile, a D.C.-based organization dedicated to building Indian American political power in the United States was sending out its own pro-Subramanyam mailers to 90,000 likely voters in the 10th Congressional District, 22 percent of whom are South Asian, with hopes of seeing Virginia elect its first South Asian member of Congress.

The combination — an all-American dad and husband with massive behind-the-scenes support from one of the country’s fastest-growing communities — helped Subramanyam beat his 11

SEE 10TH DISTRICT ON **B3**

Washington area faces its hottest summer weekend in years

BY IAN LIVINGSTON

Thursday marked the District’s fourth day in a row of 90-degree weather. But the heat the region has experienced so far is tame compared with what is on the way. This weekend, there is a strong chance that parts of the Washington area will hit at least 100. Heat indexes, which take humidity into account, could near 105.

According to the National Weather Service, the area’s Heat-

Risk, on a scale from 0 to 4, is set to escalate from Level 1 (minor) on Thursday to Level 4 (extreme) by Sunday. The HeatRisk scale takes into account how unusual and long-lasting the heat is, as well as the anticipated threats to human health.

If it does reach 100, it will be the first time since 2016. The nearly eight years without a 100-degree day in Washington mark the longest stretch since the 1970s and the fifth-longest on record.

The superhot days and very warm nights will lead to increased risks to health over the coming days. A heat emergency plan in place for the District through Friday is likely to be extended through at least Sunday. Officials advise hydrating, taking frequent breaks if exercising or spending long periods outside, and finding air-conditioned places to cool off. Outdoor workers, older adults and homeless people are particularly vulnerable to extreme heat.

Here’s how hot it will get

After the last few days, which saw highs in the low 90s, temperatures will start climbing Friday and peak this weekend.

On Friday, highs will be mostly in the mid-90s. Some areas north and west of the Beltway may reach only around 90. Humidity won’t be too bad yet.

Saturday has the look of the hottest day in many years, but it may hold that title only briefly. Temperatures in the afternoon should range from the mid-90s

to around 100, with much of the local area in the upper 90s. Rising humidity levels (dew points near 70) make it feel like it’s about five to eight degrees hotter. An isolated cooling storm is possible, but don’t plan on it.

Sunday could be a degree or two hotter than Saturday for most locations. The forecast calls for 100 in the District and along much of the Interstate 95 corridor from Richmond to

SEE HEAT ON **B2**



MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Little relief from heat wave in sight, and records could fall

HEAT FROM B1

Philadelphia. Like Saturday, high humidity makes it feel more like 105 or so. There's also a better chance of late-day storms, but probably after peak heating.

Low temperatures will also become increasingly uncomfortable through the weekend and will probably break records. On Sunday, the low in Washington may drop to only 80, which would be the warmest morning low since July 2019.

Heat alerts are probable

Heat advisories, which are issued when the heat index is forecast to reach at least 105, are possible both weekend days, according to the Weather Service office serving the region.

An excessive heat warning would be issued if the heat index is forecast to reach at least 110, but that is not expected at this time.



JAH CHIKWENDU/THE WASHINGTON POST

TOP: The White's Ferry boat ramp in Montgomery County has been a popular place for people to cool off. ABOVE: Heat rising from the pavement distorts the view looking east on Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Records could fall

With predicted highs no higher than the mid-90s on Friday, most spots should fall just short of records. Dulles International Airport could come close, with a forecast of 96 and a record of 98.

Better odds for records arrive Saturday, but they are all near or above 100, so many spots could fall just short again. The forecast at Dulles is 99, compared to a record of 99. In the District, the 99 in the forecast compares to 101 for a record.

Sunday seems to have the best shot to hit 100 and set some records. Washington, Dulles and Baltimore are all forecast to top records, with highs around the century mark.

A lengthy stretch of 90-degree days

The District has a streak of four days reaching at least 90 degrees, and that could keep going for a while, given the forecast. If the streak runs to at least eight days, it will be as long

as any since 2020, when there was a 20-day streak, the second-longest on record.

There has already been a big turnaround in the number of 90-degree days this year. Before late last week, the District had posted just one, but now that count is up to seven, which is near normal for the date.

Little end in sight

Highs of 90-plus could continue until at least the middle of next week.

A passing dip in the jet stream may cool the area down closer to average (mid- to upper 80s) for a time thereafter. This could break the 90-degree streak, but the heat may reload after any brief cool-down.

Heading into July, the summer heat dome may reestablish itself over much of the country, keeping temperatures high in the Mid-Atlantic. The Weather Service is projecting high chances for above-normal temperatures over much of the country next month.

Lawyers strike deal that allows Dali cook, oiler and seamen to leave U.S.

DALI FROM B1

Guard to "assist with securing temporary parole" from U.S. Customs and Border Protection to allow those crew members to briefly remain in the United States, but that the Coast Guard had denied the request.

Bennett noted that a criminal defense lawyer for the crew members had "indicated that, if his clients were noticed for depositions, he would advise them to invoke their 5th Amendment privilege." (The FBI is investigating — a probe that will look at least in part at whether the crew left the port knowing the vessel had serious system problems.)

In civil cases, the invocation of Fifth Amendment rights can have significant implications.

Lawyers for the city and another civil claimant, an inspector who narrowly escaped the bridge collapse by running to a surviving section, requested that a federal judge intervene in the



STEPHANIE SCARBROUGH/AP

William H. "Billy" Murphy Jr., an attorney for an inspector who narrowly escaped the Key Bridge's collapse by running to a surviving section, speaks outside a Baltimore courthouse on Thursday.

crew members' potential departure from the country.

Under the deal reached ahead of an emergency hearing in federal court Thursday morning, lawyers for the shipping interests agreed to accept service of subpoenas for the depositions, which would be taken "in London or elsewhere" sometime after October. The shipping lawyers also agreed to turn over certain records regarding the crew members.

U.S. District Judge James Bredar went ahead with the hearing mostly to upbraid lawyers for the inspector for not withdrawing their emergency motion before Thursday morning, though the deal had been substantially hammered out the day before, he said.

Bredar, who said he had rescheduled two criminal proceedings and called seven U.S. government lawyers to the packed courtroom at taxpayers' expense, expressed his frustration that the lawyers had not

gotten things squared away the day before, saying the attorneys needed to "dot all the I's and cross all the T's."

Litigation over the disaster would be long and complex, and he expected lawyers to "bring their A game," Bredar said. He directed his ire primarily at the inspector's lawyers, Jason P. Foster and William H. "Billy" Murphy Jr.

Foster declined to comment afterward. Murphy, asked whether they should have filed to withdraw their emergency motion sooner, said, "I don't think so, but the court obviously felt differently."

It's not clear what, if anything, Bredar could have done to prevent the crew members' departure from U.S. soil had the lawyers not reached the agreement. The judge noted in a memorandum calling the hearing that the lawyers asking him to enjoin the crew members from leaving cited no authority for him to do so.



The Guide to Offers
The Washington Post

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VIRGINIA

Lake Anna is ‘likely source’ of E. coli

BY JENNA PORTNOY

Lake Anna, a popular summer vacation spot in Central Virginia, is the “likely source” of infections that sickened dozens of swimmers over Memorial Day weekend, Virginia Department of Health officials investigating the outbreak said Thursday.

Public health officials say they may never know what caused harmful strains of E. coli bacteria to contaminate the freshwater reservoir, but parents have voiced concern about the lack of restrictions during and after the outbreak.

Some of the affected families have retained veteran trial attorney Bill Marler, who represented hundreds of victims in the 1993 E. coli outbreak involving the Jack in the Box restaurant chain, to investigate the source.

Is it safe to visit Lake Anna?

It depends on whom you ask. The exact cause of the outbreak has not yet been identified, but VDH spokeswoman Brookie Crawford said Thursday that lake water is the “likely source” and that officials previously ruled out food as a possible source of contamination.

The health department confirmed Thursday that livestock have been in Lake Anna but could not say if the animals were present on Memorial Day weekend when the infections occurred. In

addition to livestock, other potential sources of illness in waters like Lake Anna are environmental pollutants from heavy rains, failing septic systems, boating discharge and swimmers.

Lake water samples collected June 11 and Monday indicated “all fecal bacterial concentrations were well below a public health level of concern,” officials said. Additional testing is scheduled for Tuesday.

How many people got sick after Memorial Day?

At least 25 people came down with gastrointestinal illness after having contact with the water at Lake Anna State Park, including seven children who developed a severe complication of an E. coli infection known as hemolytic uremic syndrome, or HUS, which can cause kidney failure, according to a website on the outbreak.

Some children spent up to two weeks in the hospital undergoing blood transfusions and dialysis. Medical experts say generally of HUS that a quarter of cases will require long-term dialysis or even a kidney transplant.

About three-quarters of the Lake Anna cases occurred in children, who along with the elderly and people with underlying health conditions are at higher risk of contracting illness from open waters, which are more likely to have bacteria than disin-

fected pool water would be.

What is E. coli, and what are the symptoms of an infection?

Most kinds of E. coli, or *Escherichia coli*, are harmless, but some can make people sick with stomach cramps, vomiting, fever, chills and diarrhea that is often watery or bloody. These bacteria can cause infection when someone ingests food or water contaminated with a small, often invisible, amount of animal or human feces, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Symptoms of an E. coli, or STEC, infection should not be treated with anti-diarrheal medication, which could increase the chance of HUS, according to the state.

Health officials ask that anyone experiencing GI illness after visiting the Lake Anna area during Memorial Day weekend or since to contact their local health department and seek medical care if symptoms are ongoing. Anyone with questions can contact the state health department call center at 877-829-4682 (option 2). The call center is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays.

Who is responsible for the outbreak?

That’s what health department investigators and the families aim to find out.

Marler’s Seattle-based firm is representing six families, includ-

ing four with children who developed HUS. He is requesting health department and property records in hopes of linking the cases to a source.

“We’re going to take a hard look at whether we can show who was responsible for the contamination,” he said in a phone interview Monday.

Lakes, petting zoos and county fairs are often overlooked culprits of infection because patrons focused on having fun may not consider pathogens that weren’t a problem decades ago and neglect to adapt their behavior accordingly, he said.

What other safety measures should you consider?

The Virginia health department offers tips for people who are visiting natural water sites like Lake Anna:

- Never swallow untreated water, and don’t swim if you have cuts or open wounds.
- Avoid swimming near livestock. Farm animals can carry germs that can cause a variety of illnesses in people.
- Avoid swimming if you are vomiting or have diarrhea.
- Shower or bathe after swimming to wash off possible germs and contaminants.
- Avoid swimming for three days after a heavy rain, which can result in the spread of germs via overflowing sewage, polluted stormwater and runoff from land.



MARVIN JOSEPH/THE WASHINGTON POST

Prince George’s County Council member Jamel “Mel” Franklin, seen last year, abruptly resigned from the council last week.

Franklin is accused of embezzling \$130,000

FRANKLIN FROM B1

member of the council, a body he served on for nearly 14 years, including as chair from 2013 to 2015. During his time in office, Franklin wrote more than 100 pieces of legislation that were adopted or enacted into law. He had a reputation as an advocate of fiscal prudence.

Derrick Leon Davis, a former council member who served two years as vice chair under Franklin, said in an interview after Thursday’s charges that he was at a “loss for words.”

Council Chairwoman Jolene Ivey (D-District 5) declined to comment, and several other members of the current council could not be reached for comment. Council member Wanika Fisher (D-District 2) told The Washington Post that she hadn’t read the full charging documents but said what she knows of the charges shows that “nobody is above the law, especially elected officials who are given public trust.”

A practicing attorney, Franklin joined the all-Democratic council in December 2010, representing District 9 for two full terms until December 2018, when he became an at-large member.

After he resigned last week, council administrator Jennifer A. Jenkins said in a statement that Franklin’s legislative work “significantly shaped” the county and that his wisdom had been “invaluable in guiding the council over many years.”

But his tenure was also marred by controversy, including a 2017 conviction for driving under the influence in a crash that wrecked a government vehicle and injured two people. In a distracted-driving incident in 2012, Franklin damaged another government vehicle, public records show. Two months before that, he had damaged the same SUV in a crash that he didn’t report to police.

In a statement Thursday, Larry Stafford, executive director of Progressive Maryland, said his organization had raised concerns

about Franklin’s “ethics” over the years “due to past transgressions.”

“Unfortunately, I am not surprised, though I am frustrated to see this happening once again in our county,” Stafford said.

According to charging documents filed in Anne Arundel County Circuit Court, the Office of the Maryland State Prosecutor’s investigation into Franklin focused on a “Friends of Mel Franklin” campaign committee that the lawmaker established in 2009 to raise funds for his bid for the District 9 council seat.

Franklin opened a bank account with his campaign treasurer, who resigned in December 2009. Authorities said in court documents that Franklin’s new treasurer was not “added as a signatory” to the bank account and that Franklin had sole access to the account.

Capitol One Bank closed the account in October 2020 because of a negative balance, and two months later, Franklin allegedly opened another account with a new bank, Truist, under the same name, “Friends of Mel Franklin.” Again, prosecutors allege, he was the sole signatory.

Franklin then created a personal PayPal account and an account for his political committee, according to the charging papers. Authorities allege Franklin acted as the treasurer of his own committee, while also being listed as the chairperson. The council member had “no authority to utilize the money in the Friends of Mel Franklin bank accounts for his personal use or benefit,” prosecutors wrote in court documents.

Authorities allege that from 2020 through at least October 2023, Franklin took \$124,450 from the Friends of Mel Franklin campaign account by writing checks or electronically transferring the funds to his personal bank account. According to prosecutors, Franklin transferred an additional \$8,718 of campaign funds to “third parties” to pay for his personal expenses.



VALERIE PLESCH FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Virginia state Sen. Suhas Subramanyam (D-Loudoun) speaks with voters during a candidate forum in Leesburg on April 28.

South Asian backing boosts Subramanyam in 10th

10TH DISTRICT FROM B1

opponents in a Democratic primary in which most of the candidates were aligned on key issues such as gun control and women’s reproductive rights.

“It’s incredible for our community,” said Chintan Patel, executive director of Indian American Impact, the advocacy group that sent out the mailers. Its political action committee — Impact Fund — spent about \$600,000 to help Subramanyam become the Democratic nominee. Much of the \$1 million raised by Subramanyam’s campaign also came from South Asian donors.

“We’ve seen over the last few years a real awakening within the South Asian American diaspora of the political power we can wield in our government,” Patel said, noting that since his organization was founded in 2016, the number of South Asians elected to office in the country has climbed from about 50 to more than 300, including Vice President Harris. “It’s part of this real trend we’ve been seeing.”

In November, Subramanyam will face tech company executive Mike Clancy, who easily won the Republican primary Tuesday and vowed to wage an aggressive campaign against the Democrat. But, given the district’s steadily changing demographics — including 65,000 residents of South Asian descent — the seat is considered to be safely Democratic, said Erin Covey, who analyzes House races for the Cook Political Report.

“It’s not a district where either party expects to invest lots of outside resources in because it’s just simply not seen as part of the

House battleground,” Covey said. “You’d have to see significant environmental shifts for that to change.”

The region’s diversity was reflected in the diversity of the candidates themselves. Three others with South Asian heritage were in the race: Atif Qarni, who is Pakistani American and the state’s former secretary of education; ex-CIA officer Adrian Pokharel, who is Nepalese American; and Krystle Kaul, the owner of a defense technology company, whose family is Kashmiri Sikh.

Among the other candidates, Travis Nembhard and Marion Devoe Sr. are African American, Del. Michelle Lopes Maldonado (Prince William) is Cape Verdean, and Del. Dan Helmer (Fairfax) and former House speaker Eileen Filler-Corn (Fairfax) are Jewish American.

Subramanyam, 37, grew up in Texas after his parents emigrated from India. He previously worked in the Obama administration as a technology policy adviser and

won his first election in Virginia — to the House of Delegates — in 2019.

For voters who picked him Tuesday, Subramanyam’s appeal lay in his understated demeanor and in a key endorsement from Wexton, who did not seek reelection because of health reasons.

Catherine Fernstrom, 42, said she saw in Subramanyam someone who better understands local concerns in the area and offers a good counter to the “extreme ideologies” in the Republican Party. “I want [Congress] to mitigate the damage that our extreme, court-appointed officials have done,” she said.

Tom Zaug, 75, echoed the all-American message he saw in Subramanyam’s ads. “He worked as a legislator, as a senator, and he was an EMT and firefighter — he was more of a man of the people in my book,” Zaug said.

Patel said that if Subramanyam is elected in November, he will join five other South Asians in Congress.

The expectation from Patel’s group and its financial backers is that any South Asian they help get into office will champion issues affecting their community and broader policy initiatives they care about, such as supporting abortion rights, dealing with climate change, improving access to health care and advocating on behalf of immigrants, he said.

“We’re hoping that as more and more of our community finds a voice, we can add a strong voice for these inclusive American values,” Patel said.

In an interview Wednesday, Subramanyam mentioned several of the same issues that would be his priorities if he is elected in

the fall. But, he said, another major hope is to try to eliminate the ugly political rhetoric in Congress that he believes has led to government dysfunction.

“I’d like to fix the dysfunction,” he said. “I’d like to be part of the solution and a new generation of legislators who just put their community first and care less about how many Twitter likes they have.”

That was the message he delivered to voters at their doorstep as his campaign focused on winning voter-rich Loudoun County — where the 10th District is anchored — while winning enough support in the other counties to remain formidable, Subramanyam said.

The ads — one of which shows Subramanyam allowing his daughter to apply makeup to his face while he dons a tiny pink hat — and the support he received from South Asians are just reflections of who he is, he said.

“One of the reasons, I think, I’ve been successful in elections in this area is because I’m a lot of what the new demographics in this area embody,” Subramanyam said. “I’ve got a family, which takes up a lot of my time. I also have bills to pay, and we’re affected by rising costs.”

He will probably convey that again during his contest with Clancy.

For now, he said, he was going to spend some quality time with his family. On the agenda that day: picking blueberries in rural Middleburg, Va., then a night out with his wife, where they would try line dancing.

“It will be my first time,” Subramanyam said. “So, yeah, I’m nervous.”

The Washington Post

SUNDAY PREVIEW

BUSINESS

The new heroes of spaceflight: In a previous generation, the stars of the Space Age were the astronauts bearing the “Right Stuff.” Today, it’s software engineers and computer scientists who power the space economy from their laptops.

ARTS & STYLE

Folger makeover: After a more than four-year renovation and expansion, the Folger Shakespeare Library unveils a bigger, brighter look. Join Post architecture critic Philip Kennicott for an early peek inside.

BOOK WORLD

Anthony Fauci, ‘On Call’: A review of the new memoir by the scientist, public health official and unlikely political lightning rod in which he writes candidly about Donald Trump, the covid pandemic and other subjects.

TRAVEL

Little luxuries: Traveling can be a stressful, hectic experience, so even small acts of self-care along the way can be extraordinarily restorative. We offer several dozen suggestions to help brighten your mood when chaos strikes.

SUNDAY COUPONS

Save nearly \$100 with coupons in this Sunday’s Post!

*Some stories may not run due to breaking news

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OBITUARIES

FRANK CARROLL, 85

Guided figure skaters to world titles, Olympic medals

BY HARRISON SMITH

Frank Carroll, one of America's most storied figure skating coaches, who helped guide Michelle Kwan to multiple world championships and had a golden Olympic moment near the close of his Hall of Fame career, died June 9 at his home in Palm Springs, Calif. He was 85.

His lawyer, Jonathan Geen, said that Mr. Carroll had cancer and died of side effects and complications from the disease and its treatment.

For more than four decades, Mr. Carroll was a ubiquitous and debonair figure in American skating, watching from the boards — always nattily dressed in a suit — as his skaters collected national titles, world championships and Olympic medals. He coached Linda Fratianne to two world championships in the 1970s, taught the charismatic but troubled skater Christopher Bowman and spent 10 years coaching Kwan, a five-time world champion who dominated the sport in the 1990s and early 2000s.

“To me, figure skating is a divine sport,” Mr. Carroll told USA Today columnist Christine Brennan. “It’s a sport made by the gods. It’s frictionless, there are beautiful, flowing costumes done by a costume designer, there is musical interpretation, there is emotion, there is athleticism and tremendous physical strength involved. It inspires people to cry, it inspires people to cheer, it pulls the emotions out of people.”

A former skater who competed for national titles while in college and later danced with the Ice Follies, Mr. Carroll was self-deprecating and unassuming, attuned to the stresses and anxieties the sport inflicted on his students. Even his youngest skaters, children 10 or younger, were



CHRISTOPHER POLK/GETTY IMAGES

Frank Carroll holds his Order of Ikkos medal, named for the first recorded Olympic coach in ancient Greece, as he poses with U.S. figure skater Evan Lysacek, whom he coached to Olympic gold in 2010.

told to call him “Frank,” never “Mr. Carroll.” At competitions, he would calm their nerves by talking about the books he was reading (he adopted the title of “Undaunted Courage,” Stephen E. Ambrose’s account of the Lewis and Clark expedition, as a mantra) and by playing a game to see who could keep their hands more still.

Far beyond some other coaches in the sport, he also insisted on rigor and discipline. When he began working with Timothy Goebel before the 2001 competition season, he surprised the skater by bringing in a ballet

master and other specialists to improve Goebel’s artistry and posture.

“It was unsettling,” Goebel later said. “We didn’t really even spend time on my jumps.” (The regimen paid off, as Goebel won the U.S. national championship in 2001 and took home the bronze medal at the Olympics the next year.)

Between 1976 and his retirement in 2018, Mr. Carroll coached skaters at 10 of the 12 Winter Olympics. He could be a ferocious advocate on behalf of his athletes, as when he declared that Fratianne, the runner-up at

the 1980 Olympics, was a victim of Cold War-era intrigue when she fell short and received the silver medal instead of the gold. For years, he accused five German-language judges of conspiring to rig the results by giving the women’s gold medal to an East German, Anett Pöttsch, and the men’s to a Brit, Robin Cousins.

“I thought that I might not continue in skating after that,” he told USA Today, recalling his dismay at Fratianne’s defeat.

Mr. Carroll was disappointed again at the Olympics in 1998, when Kwan placed second in Nagano, Japan, behind her

American rival Tara Lipinski. He blamed the loss on Kwan’s father, saying that he had discouraged her from being aggressive. “Her father told her, ‘Be slow, take your time, stay on your feet and you’ll win,’” Mr. Carroll recalled in an interview with the New York Times. “She stayed on her feet and she didn’t win.”

But in 2010, Mr. Carroll had his Olympic breakthrough in Vancouver, coaching Evan Lysacek — the previous year’s world champion — to an upset victory over Evgeni Plushenko, the reigning Olympic gold medalist, 257.67 points to 256.36. Lysacek gave most of the credit for his gold medal triumph to his coach, saying that “today was 99 percent him, maybe 1 percent me.”

Nonsense, said Mr. Carroll, who insisted the victories belonged to the athletes, not him. “People would tell me, ‘You’ve got to motivate these kids,’ but a kid is either motivated or not,” he told sportswriter Philip Hersh much later. “Those I taught who became champions always wanted it themselves. I was along for the ride. I helped but didn’t make anyone a champion.”

The younger of two children, Francis Michael Carroll was born in Worcester, Mass., on July 11, 1938. His father was a shop teacher, and his mother worked for the city as a clerk.

Mr. Carroll grew up skating outdoors on a frozen pond, inspired by newsreel footage of two-time Olympic champion Dick Button. He later trained under Maribel Vinson, a champion skater turned coach whose toughness served as a model for his own disciplinarian rigor. She was killed in 1961, along with the entire U.S. figure skating team, when their plane crashed near Brussels as the group was traveling to the world championships.

Although he was not part of the team, Mr. Carroll had by then

established himself as an elite skater, winning bronze medals at the U.S. junior national championships in 1959 and 1960, the year he graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester with a bachelor’s degree in sociology.

He toured for four years with the Ice Follies before moving to Los Angeles, where he attempted to launch a career as an actor and appeared in a few forgettable beach movies. “I would go to auditions, and when they would ask what I did, I said, ‘I ice skate,’” he said. “I was like a joke to them.”

Mr. Carroll began working as a skating teacher to occupy himself between screen roles. Soon he was coaching full-time, working with skaters who eventually included Olympic athletes Gracie Gold, Mirai Nagasu and Denis Ten of Kazakhstan, who won a bronze medal at the 2014 Games.

His most decorated skater, Kwan, was about 11 when she met Mr. Carroll through Fratianne’s mother, a skating judge, and began working with the coach. They continued their partnership until October 2001, four months before the Olympics, when Kwan announced that she wanted to pursue a gold medal on her own, without a coach. The two remained close, and Kwan went on to win bronze.

Mr. Carroll leaves no immediate survivors. He was inducted into the U.S. Figure Skating Hall of Fame in 1996 and the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame in 2007, although he preferred to keep the focus on his skaters’ accomplishments rather than his own.

“One of the basic sayings of my family was, ‘Don’t be so full of yourself,’” he told the Times in 2010. “When I’m alone and start thinking about accomplishment, and whether people revere me, I stop and say, ‘Get over it Frank.’”

EDWARD C. STONE, 88

Physicist oversaw journey of NASA’s Voyager spacecraft to distant planets

BY HARRISON SMITH

Edward C. Stone, who opened a window on the farthest reaches of the solar system while serving as the chief scientist of NASA’s Voyager mission, supervising a pair of spindly, plutonium-powered spacecraft that continue to operate billions of miles from Earth, died June 9 at his home in Pasadena, Calif. He was 88.

His death was announced by the California Institute of Technology, where he was a professor emeritus of physics, and by NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which he directed for 10 years beginning in 1991. His daughter Susan Stone said he had been in declining health but that the cause of death was not yet known.

Dr. Stone launched his physics career at the dawn of the Space Age, turning his attention to the cosmos after the Soviet Union launched Sputnik — a shiny metal ball that became the world’s first artificial satellite — when he was a graduate student at the University of Chicago in 1957.

Over the next six decades, he designed some of the first scientific instruments for U.S. satellites; oversaw the construction of the W.M. Keck Observatory, which boasted the world’s two largest optical telescopes when it was completed in Hawaii in the mid-1990s; and spearheaded the establishment of LIGO, a billion-dollar physics experiment that in 2015 made the first direct observations of gravitational waves, ripples in space-time that had eluded scientists for years.

He remained best known for serving as project scientist — and, less officially, chief spokesman — for Voyager 1 and 2. Launched two weeks apart in 1977, five years after Dr. Stone was hired for the mission, the twin probes have brought back mesmerizing photos of the giant outer planets and their moons, as well as a wealth of data about the solar system.

“We were on a mission of discovery,” he told the New York Times in 2002, looking back on the project’s origins. “But we didn’t appreciate how much discovery there would be.”

Both spacecraft visited Jupiter and Saturn, with Voyager 2 continuing to Uranus and Neptune, aided by a rare alignment of the outer planets that happens once every 176 years. The one-ton probes are now traveling through interstellar space, farther than



CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ARCHIVES



NASA/JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

TOP: Physicist Edward C. Stone, left, with a student in 1996. ABOVE: Dr. Stone in front of a model of the Voyager spacecraft. He directed NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory from 1991 to 2001.

any other human-made objects in the universe. Along with cameras and scientific instruments, they each carry a celestial message-in-a-bottle: a gold-plated record, devised with help from astronomer Carl Sagan, bearing sounds and images that would introduce potential extraterrestrials to the diversity of life on Earth.

“It was a wonderful notion,” Dr. Stone told the Los Angeles Times in 2011, reflecting on the record’s inclusion as Voyager 1 prepared to enter interstellar space. “At the time, though, just making it to

Saturn was what I focused on.”

Beginning in 1979, the probes took the first close-up images of Europa, one of Jupiter’s moons, revealing the cracked, fractured surface of a frozen world that “looked like an ice pack,” as Dr. Stone put it. They studied Saturn’s vast ring system; found evidence of a thick atmosphere rich in organic compounds on Saturn’s moon Titan; tracked 1,000-mph winds gusting on the surface of Neptune; and discovered five-mile-tall geysers erupting from the icy surface of Neptune’s large

est moon, Triton.

One of the mission’s most striking early findings was the revelation of volcanic activity on Jupiter’s moon Io. It was the first time active, ash-spewing volcanoes had been discovered outside Earth, and it surprised scientists who assumed that the moon would be much like the Earth’s — inert, cratered, cold and dead.

“Time after time, we just found that nature was much more inventive than our models,” Dr. Stone told a Caltech interviewer.

As Voyager passed the outer planets, Dr. Stone appeared on the nightly news and gave frequent interviews. While overseeing 11 investigative teams and some 200 researchers, he was credited with speeding up the pace by which the team’s scientists announced their findings, leading daily meetings in which he sought to identify the group’s most fascinating findings, then working with researchers to help make the material accessible for a general audience.

“He was like this machine,” his onetime boss Norman Haynes, who served for three years as Voyager’s overall project director, told the New York Times in 1990. “You’d wind him up and, zoom! He went zipping around all day getting things done.”

Astronomer Bradford A. Smith, who led the team that interpreted Voyager’s photos, told the newspaper in 2002 that

the flood of images and data sent back by the probes made Voyager “the most successful mission that NASA has carried out” — praise that was echoed by plenty of scientists over the years.

“What we know of the outer planets is a direct result of Ed Stone’s contribution,” A. Thomas Young, the former director of NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center, once said. “He was one of two or three people that made Voyager tick.”

The success of Voyager helped launch Dr. Stone to wider prominence, leading to his appointment as head of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, or JPL, a storied planetary science center managed for NASA by Caltech. The lab faced budget cuts in the aftermath of the Cold War, although Dr. Stone still managed to work on high-profile missions that included Mars Pathfinder, which landed the Sojourner rover on Mars in 1997; the spacecraft Galileo, which orbited Jupiter for eight years; and Cassini, which orbited Saturn for 13 years.

A tribute from the lab noted that Dr. Stone was the rare scientist involved with the mission that traveled farthest from the sun — Voyager — as well as the mission that has come closest to the sun: the Parker Solar Probe, which flew through the corona, the sun’s upper atmosphere, in 2021.

“I keep asking myself why is there so much public interest in space,” Dr. Stone told the New York Times before taking over at JPL. “It is, after all, just basic science in the end. The answer is that it provides us with a sense of the future. When we stop discovering new things out there, the concept of the future will change. Space reminds us that there is something left to be done, that life will continue to evolve. It gives us direction, an arrow in time.”

The oldest of two sons, Edward Carroll Stone Jr. was born in Knoxville, Iowa, on Jan. 23, 1936. He grew up in Burlington, Iowa, where his father ran a small construction company that his mother helped manage. His parents supported his early fascination with science, including his efforts to take apart his transistor radio and put it back together again.

“I was always interested in learning about why something is this way and not that way,” Dr. Stone recalled. “I wanted to understand and measure and ob-

serve.”

After graduating from Burlington Junior College (now Southeastern Community College) in 1956, he enrolled at the University of Chicago, receiving a master’s degree in 1959 and a doctorate in physics in 1964. By then he had married Alice Wicklick, a fellow UChicago student. She died in December. Survivors include their two daughters, Susan and Janet Stone, and two grandsons.

With his PhD in hand, Dr. Stone joined one of his former UChicago colleagues, Rochus “Robbie” Vogt, in helping launch a space physics program at Caltech. He was named a full professor in 1976 and chaired the university’s physics, math and astronomy division in the mid-1980s, around the same time he began work on the Keck, a complex of twin 10-meter telescopes near the summit of Mauna Kea in Hawaii.

His work on the project led him to champion the proposed Thirty Meter Telescope, an even larger observatory that scientists hoped to build nearby. Construction has been halted amid protests by Native Hawaiians and other critics who oppose development on the site.

Colleagues described Dr. Stone as shy and single-minded, with few interests outside physics. “My job is my relaxation,” he liked to say. He continued to work on Voyager for decades, juggling teaching and research duties while collecting honors that included the National Medal of Science in 1991 and the Shaw Prize in Astronomy in 2019, before retiring from the mission in 2022.

By then, the probes had traveled far beyond the orbits of Neptune and Pluto. Voyager 1, the more distant of the two, is now more than 15 billion miles from Earth, still operational even as engineers have had to come up with workarounds for malfunctioning computer chips and other communication issues. The spacecraft and its twin will eventually run out of power, although Dr. Stone proudly noted that the probes will “just keep going forever,” drifting through the cosmos with their golden cargo and silent instruments.

“As far as what will happen to me, nature will have its way, I understand,” he told the Los Angeles Times in 2011. “Even if I am not there we will keep exploring, keep figuring out the science. I’m optimistic about this.”

IN MEMORIAM

JONES



EARLE JONES
Happy 109th Birthday
We love you and cherish the many memories of your life. We continue to be guided by the many lessons you taught us.
Love, Sylvia, Earle, Jr., Yvonne, Steve, Linda, Heather, Laurent, Paul, Alexander, Samuel, Nawael, Ryan and Rachael

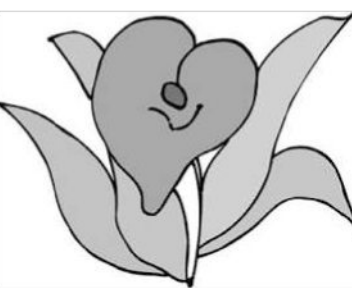


PAIEWONSKY

SABINA REISFELD PAIEWONSKY
June 20, 1932 — August 30, 1977

A Woman of Valor

Dearly loved,
profoundly missed,
an inspiration always.



DEATH NOTICE

BUCHANAN



ANNICK KERVOELEN BUCHANAN
(Age 95)

Annick Kervoele Buchanan, a longtime resident of Alexandria, Virginia, died peacefully at home on May 23, 2024. She was 95. A native of Brittany, France, she emigrated to America in the early 1950s. Annick was the first woman to be hired in the college of Georgetown University in 1959, where she taught French language and literature for 40 years. Annick is survived by her daughters, Joelle and Barbara, and their husbands, Tim Guter and Kirk Hampton. A private celebration of life will be held at a later date.

MOORMAN



JAMES WATT MOORMAN
1937-2024

James Watt Moorman, 86, passed away on April 23, 2024, after a brief illness. He was at home with Brenda, his beloved wife of 63 years.

Jim was a pioneer in the field of environmental law who had a successful career in government, public interest law, and private practice. He considered curiosity a great gift, and had a wide variety of interests including literature, history, classical music, birding, science, space, hiking, vegetable gardening, and baseball. Most of all, he was devoted to and loved his family.

Jim grew up in Rutherfordton, North Carolina where he was an Eagle Scout and counselor at the Piedmont Boy Scout Camp. He and Brenda Moorman met in elementary school and they attended Duke University. Jim was an Angier Duke Scholar. Jim and Brenda were married in 1961, and Jim graduated from Duke Law School in 1962. He served in the North Carolina National Guard and the Reserves in the 1960's.

Jim began his legal career at Davis Polk Wardwell in New York. He spent many weekends around the Beaverkill River in upstate New York, where he learned of the Sierra Club's conservation work. Intrigued with the new field of environmental law, Jim and Brenda moved to Washington, DC where he joined the Justice Department as a staff attorney in the Lands and Natural Resources Division.

In 1968, Jim joined a newly-formed public interest law firm, the Center for Law and Social Policy. During his time at the Center he brought a number of significant lawsuits, including those resulting in the de-registration of DDT and in enjoining construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipe Line. The latter case gave

DEATH NOTICE

CLARKE



EDDIE CLARKE (Age 90)
Eddie Clarke died peacefully at home on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at the age of 90. She was our dearly loved mother and grandmother and she will be greatly missed by her loving family and close friends. A funeral service will be held at Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church, 1701 15th St. NW, Washington, DC 20009 on Monday, June 24, 2024, 10 a.m. wake, 11 a.m. service; followed by interment at Saint Paul's Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington, DC. Eddie will remain in our hearts forever. Arrangements by McGuire-Service.com

DAVIS

CHARLES HOWARD DAVIS
Charles Howard Davis, known as Howard to his friends, passed away on May 24, 2024, at age 95. Born in 1929, in New Jersey, he devoted his life to education and public service. Howard's journey began at George School and Guilford College, followed by a Ph.D. in Economics from Vanderbilt University. He taught economics at Mercer University and University of Memphis. He then followed this with a 30-year career at the US Dept. of Labor and Dept. of Health and Human Services, retiring in 2007. Howard and his wife of 44 years, Mary K., were active members of Bethesda Friends Meeting. He served diligently on the board of Friend's House Retirement Community and remained a steadfast presence in his community until his move to Florida in 2011. Remembered for his quiet strength and reliability, Howard cherished his role as a father, a teacher, and friend, finding joy in reading, gardening, and fellowship. He is survived by his son, Charles Howard Davis, Jr.; and grandchildren, Sydney Frances Davis and Maxwell Johnston Davis. A Memorial Service for Howard will be held at the Bethesda Friends Meeting on June 22, 2024 at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Bethesda Friends Meeting to honor Howard's dedication to community and service.

DUNHAM

ELEANOR M. DUNHAM
Eleanor M. Dunham passed away peacefully on June 11, 2024. The beloved wife and mother is survived by her husband Willie Dunham; and two children William Dunham and Michelle Dunham. Funeral services will be held Friday, June 21 at Johnson and Jenkins Funeral Home, 716 Kennedy St. NW, Washington, DC with a 10 a.m. viewing and 11 a.m. service.

DUTTON

MICHAEL W. DUTTON
The members of the Retired Firefighters Association of Washington, DC regret to announce the passing of Brother Michael W. Dutton on June 19, 2024. Brother Dutton was appointed June 21, 1970 to Engine Company 4 and retired on November 17, 1990 from Engine Company 4 at the rank of Lieutenant.

LEWIS

STEVEN CHRISTOPHER LEWIS
Steve passed away on June 8, 2024. Service will be Friday, June 21, 2024, 11 a.m., Visitation 10 a.m., Carmody Hills Baptist Church, 6501 Sully Road, Sully, VA. Burial, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. Interment at Harmony Memorial Cemetery, Landover, MD.

DEATH NOTICE

OWEN

JAMES EDWIN OWEN
The Officers and Members of Local #10, International Union of Elevator Constructors, are hereby notified of the passing of Honorary Brother James Edwin Owen on June 6, 2024. His services were held Privately.

Fraternally,
The Business Office

SMITH

OTIS P. SMITH JR. (Age 93)
It is with regret that we notify the members of Steamfitters Local 602 of the death of Retired Brother Otis P. Smith, Jr. on February 14, 2024. Private services were held by the family. Notice #1964.

Christopher M. Madello
F.S.T.

WALSH

DEBORAH I. WALSH
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BRANCH CHIEF RETIRED
(TREC PROGRAM)

20TH NORTHEASTERN SYNTAKTI SIGMA GAMMA RHO SORORITY, INC.
Quietly on June 3, 2024, our treasured Debbie entered into her eternal slumber peacefully to join her beloved family ancestors. She is survived by one brother, Thomas, three sisters, Valerie, Michelle, and Mynora; a host of nieces and nephews and sorority sisters. Funeral rites will be conducted Saturday, June 22, 2024 from Union Wesley AME Zion Church, 1860 Michigan Ave. NE, Washington, DC. Family visitation 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Celebration of Life 1 p.m. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority will hold their Omega Rho Service at 10:30 a.m. All Sorors of Sigma Gamma Rho are welcome.

YANKEY

LUCY KAILEY ASHTEY YANKEY
Lucy Kailey Ashitey Yankey, age 73, of Silver Spring, MD passed away on June 10, 2024, after battling illness. She was born on December 1, 1950 in Ada, Ghana and moved to the United States in 1970. She graduated from Howard University's Freedman's School of Nursing and dedicated her 41 year career to serving the patients of Howard University Hospital. Lucy shared 50 years of marriage with her devoted husband, Raphael Yankey and raised two daughters, Michelle and Jocelyn (Died in 2014). Lucy was an amazing wife, mother, grandmother, relative and friend. She was also instrumental in creating a Ghanaian Nurses Association at Freedman's Hospital and was a founding member of AGOSA (Accra Girls Old Student Association). Lucy leaves behind her husband, Raphael; daughter, Michelle; grandson, Cullen; as well as a sibling, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Relatives and friends may call at Collins Funeral Home, 500 University Boulevard West, Silver Spring, MD, (valet Parking), Friday, June 21, 2024, from 2 to 4 p.m. and at Good Hope Union United Methodist Church, 14680 Good Hope Road, Silver Spring, MD, on Saturday, June 22, 2024 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon where Funeral Service will be held at 12 noon. Interment Parklawn Memorial Park.
www.COLLINSFUNERALHOME.com

IN MEMORIAM

QUANDER



LETHIA QUANDER
Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Sugar is sweet and so were you.
Happy 132 years old, June 21, 2024.
You were the best grandmother in the entire world.
I will always love you.
Love, Maureen

DEATH NOTICE

DEATH NOTICE

EASLEY



WILLIAM BERKLEY EASLEY SR.
On Thursday, June 13, 2024, William Berkley Easley, Sr. of Silver Spring, MD, left behind his wife of 66 years, Florence, son, William Jr. (Tonya); grandchildren Deanna (Phillip) Sinex and William III; great-granddaughter, Breanna Sinex; brother, George (Mildred) Easley; and sister-in-law, Vivian Thurston, to dwell in the house of the Lord. Family will receive friends and relatives on Saturday, June 22, 2024, at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 5301 North Capitol Street NE, Washington, DC 20011, with viewing at 10 a.m. and funeral starting at 11 a.m. Interment at the Easley Family Cemetery on June 23, 2024 in Volens, VA.
www.COLLINSFUNERALHOME.com

DEATH NOTICES

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SATURDAY-SUNDAY: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

To place a notice, call:
202-343-4122
800-627-1150 ext. 4-4122

EMAIL:
deathnotices@washpost.com

Email and faxes MUST include name, home address & home phone # of the responsible billing party.
Email deadline - 3 p.m. daily
Phone-in deadline 4 p.m. M-F
3 p.m. Sa-Su

CURRENT 2023 RATES:
(PER DAY)

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Black & White:
1" - \$160 (text only)
2" - \$370 (text only)
3" - \$525
4" - \$725
5" - \$725

SUNDAY
Black & White
1" - \$191 (text only)
2" - \$405 (text only)
3" - \$580
4" - \$610
5" - \$790

6"+ for ALL Black & White notices
\$160 each additional inch Mon - Sat
\$191 each additional inch Sunday

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Color
3" - \$670
4" - \$725
5" - \$885

SUNDAY
Color
3" - \$710
4" - \$810
5" - \$985

6"+ for ALL color notices
\$268 each additional inch Mon - Sat
\$299 each additional inch Sunday

Notices with photos begin at 3" (All photos add 2" to your notice.)

ALL NOTICES MUST BE PREPAID

MEMORIAL PLAQUES:
All notices over 2" include complimentary memorial plaque

Additional plaques start at \$26 each and may be ordered.

All Paid Death Notices appear on our website through www.legacy.com

LEGACY.COM
Included in all death notices
Optional for In Memoriams

PLEASE NOTE:

Notices must be placed via phone or email. Photos must be emailed. You can no longer place notices, drop off photos and make payment in person. Payment must be made via phone with debit/credit card.

The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICE

DAMBRAUSKAS



LILLIAN MAE DAMBRAUSKAS (Age 92)
Lillian Mae Dambrauskas (nee Dennis) passed away May 26, 2024, in her home of nearly 60 years in Greenbelt, Maryland. She was 92 years old.

The oldest of four children, she was raised

in Elkridge, Maryland, and graduated from Elkridge High School in 1948. Lillian was an unassuming hero to her children, her neighbors, and to scores of others whose lives she touched through her volunteer work in her community and her compassionate caregiving. She was a talented seamstress and costumer, and an accommodating cook who always made room at the table and in her home for anyone seeking a good meal or friendship.

Lillian was preceded in death by Daniel, her loving husband of 67 years. She is survived by her son, Raymond (Louise) of Shepherdstown, WV; daughter Donna (Gabriel Iriarte) of Longboat Key, FL; daughter Susan of Silver Spring, MD; grandson, Mikhail Iriarte of Longboat Key, FL; and several cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews. She was also preceded in death by her sisters Mary Ann (Spioch), Jean Louise (DePriest), and Barbara Joan (Kroll).

Lillian and the remains of her beloved husband will be buried together at Crownsville Veterans Cemetery on July 1, 2024.
www.gaschs.com

DEATH NOTICE

DEATH NOTICE

COLLISHAW



WILLIAM CONOVER COLLISHAW
It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of William Conover Collishaw.

He left this world peacefully on June 16, 2024, at the age of 84. Bill was a cherished husband, father, grandfather, and friend whose memory will forever be held in the hearts of those who knew him.

Bill was born and grew up in Sutherland, NY, the youngest of three children (siblings also deceased were Barbara Ross and Robert Collishaw) born to James and Dorothy Collishaw. He attended Sudbourn High School, an excellent both academically and athletically. He played baseball and basketball, and was also an accomplished artist and musician. He went on to Dartmouth College, graduating cum laude in 1961, and then on to Yale Law School, graduating in 1964.

Throughout his legal career, Bill was known for his remarkable work ethic and integrity. He worked as an attorney for Squire, Sanders, and Dempsey, first in the Cleveland office, from 1964 to 1972, and then opened their Washington, DC office, becoming partner in 1974. Later in his legal career, in the mid-1990s, he served as General Counsel for the Resolution Trust Corporation, and subsequently as Assistant General Counsel for the FDIC, where he worked to ensure a strong financial banking system for our country. He retired from government work in 2001, after which he and his wife of 61 years, Judy, spent time traveling with friends, enjoying their Fenwick Island, DE beach house, and watching their seven grandchildren flourish.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Judy; his son, James (Mary); his daughter, Julie (Dan); and his grandchildren Anna, Sarah, Will, Patrick, Matthew, Hannah, and James. Bill's legacy is one of kindness, generosity, and an enduring love for those he held dear. He will be deeply missed, but his spirit will live on in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know him.

Family and friends are invited to a celebration of life for Bill on Saturday, June 22, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., at the home of Jim and Mary Collishaw. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Washington, DC, public television station, WETA, in Bill's honor. Bill will be buried in Sutherland, NY, next week - details are forthcoming.

Services entrusted to Philip D. Rinaldi Funeral Services, P.A.
www.Rinaldifuneralservice.com

DEATH NOTICE

BIRENBAUM



DAVID ELIAS BIRENBAUM (Age 86)
On Tuesday, June 18, 2024, DAVID ELIAS BIRENBAUM of Washington, DC, passed away.
A renowned lawyer, scholar, and public servant known for his groundbreaking work in international law and his influential role as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, David Birenbaum was a lifelong defender of democracy and tireless advocate for human rights. Mr. Birenbaum was a long-time partner at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, where he specialized in international trade and investment law. Born on November 30, 1937, in Waterbury, CT, to Max Birenbaum and Mollie Cooper, Mr. Birenbaum was a graduate of Brown University and Harvard Law School. His long and fruitful career began with a federal clerkship in Hartford before he moved to Washington, DC to join the firm, embarking on a path that would intertwine legal practice with public service. While the bulk of his career was spent in the private sector, Mr. Birenbaum never strayed from the love of politics that brought him to the nation's capital. He took multiple leaves of absence to work on Democratic campaigns and political assignments, buoyed by his passionate advocacy for civil rights forged through growing up in Waterbury's Jewish community in the wake of World War II. One of his first cases involved representing Native American tribes seeking compensation for the unlawful seizure of tribal land. During his legal career, Mr. Birenbaum spearheaded the lawful globalization of professional services organizations. He was a respected thought leader on the United Nations and matters of international law and trade, guest lecturing at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Georgetown University Law Center and the ESADE School of Law in Barcelona. Mr. Birenbaum's commitment to public service was unwavering. In 1968, he joined the landmark Kerner Commission, established by President Lyndon B.

Johnson to study the causes of the racial riots. As assistant general counsel, he played a role in organizing hearings and contributing to the report's sections on education and urban policy. Additionally, he provided legal expertise to several Democratic campaigns, including Hubert Humphrey's, and was a key advisor to Sargent Shriver during his 1972 presidential bid. In his retirement, Mr. Birenbaum edited Shriver's manuscript about his time running the Poverty Program, the forthcoming book "We Called it a War." A highlight of Mr. Birenbaum's career was serving as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform during the Clinton Administration. During this tenure, from 1994 to 1996, he worked on proposals to reform the institution while building relationships with ambassadors from various nations. Upon leaving the U.N., he created and chaired the Emergency Coalition for U.S. Financial Support of the United Nations. He was a Senior Scholar at the Wilson Center, where he undertook a project

His diplomatic and legal contributions extended to board memberships in organizations advancing international cooperation and democratic causes, including the Brady Center Freedom House to Prevent Gun Violence and Americans for Peace Now, with which he participated in study tours to advance peace prospects between Israelis and Palestinians.

Beyond his professional achievements, Mr. Birenbaum cherished his family life. He was an avid traveler who explored the globe, relished opera and danced with his wife. He was a passionate National Geographic Society reader with an extensive home library. He devoured the news, thought deeply and loved debating politics. He spent his final days surrounded by over 20 family members singing, eating cake and toasting to a life well lived.

Mr. Birenbaum is survived by his wife, the Honorable Vanessa Ruiz, who was president of the National Association of Women Judges and International Association of Women Judges; his children Tracy Barone and Matthew Birenbaum (Iona) with his first wife, Cynthia Barber; stepdaughter Alexia Elejalde-Ruiz (Rahul); grandchildren Zoe, Gabrielle, Aidan, and Santiago; and his brother Chuck Birenbaum (Molly). A second stepdaughter (Natalia Elejalde-Ruiz) predeceased him in 2017. He will be remembered fondly as a loving husband, proud father, fun grandfather, and dedicated public servant. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, June 23, 2024, 10:30 a.m., at Temple Rodet shalom, 2100 Westmoreland St., Falls Church, VA 22043. Memorial contributions in David's honor may be made to several of his favorite causes, including Americans for Peace Now, Freedom House, and the International Association of Women Judges. Arrangements entrusted to TORCHINSKY HEBREW FUNERAL HOME, 202-541-1001.

GATTI



PETER JOSEPH GATTI

In a word, Peter Gatti was a storyteller, a gracious Italian host, and a lifelong friend to many. Peter passed away peacefully in his sleep on June 13, 2024, and will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

Born Peter Joseph Gatti Jr. on September 28, 1951, to Dr. Peter J. and Edna F. Kelly Gatti, he grew up in Staten Island, NY. As a boy, Peter spent summers working at his parents' lake resort and, during high school, worked as many after-school tapings of Johnny Carson and other late 1960s TV greats as he could before taking the ferry back to Staten Island. His insatiable knowledge of sports, TV trivia and Yankees baseball was nothing

short of spectacular.

After earning his degrees from College of Staten Island and New York University, Peter worked on Capitol Hill as a staff member with the US House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. He dedicated over two decades to the National Industrial Transportation League, serving as vice president for international relations, interim president, and executive vice president before his retirement. During his distinguished career at the NITL, and time as vice president of the International Chamber of Commerce's maritime transport committee, Peter was able to travel the world, bringing back not just stories far-off places but a deep appreciation for diverse cultures, and a collection of lifelong friendships.

Peter was preceded in death by his parents and the love of his life, Sarah Dilworth "Worth" Gager Gatti. He is survived by his family, Scott and Jane Hager of Asheboro, NC; Annie Hager-Blunk and John Blunk of Chapel Hill, NC; Jamie and Michelle Hager of Greensboro, NC; Anne and Reynolds Neely of Asheboro, NC; and close friends Julie and David Bradsher of Arlington, VA.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Asheboro, NC.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The American Kidney Fund, 11921 Rockville Pike, Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852 or kidneyfund.org.

HAMECS



RICHARD MARK HAMECS

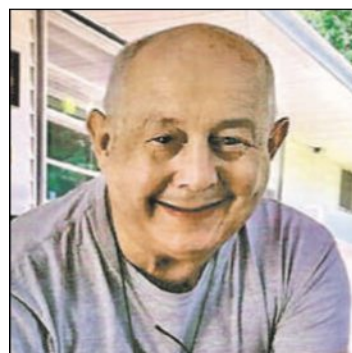
Richard Mark Hamecs, 72, of Washington, DC passed away on June 3, 2024, at the MedStar Washington Hospital Center. The proximate cause of death was respiratory failure and lung cancer, as well as multiple sclerosis (MS) and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

The son of World War II veteran Peter Hamecs, who worked at the Van Heusen factory, and Helen (Pepsy) Hamecs, who worked in local retail stores, Richard Hamecs was born on June 9, 1951, in Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

He was a graduate of St. Gabriels High School and Penn State University, where he received a BS in urban development. He also received an MPA in urban affairs from American University and pursued a PhD in urban economics at the University of Delaware.

Rick was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Robert L. Hamecs. He is survived by his wife, Michelle "Chelle" Hamecs, and goddaughter, Haley Wynne.

MARGOLIS



BRIAN DAVID MARGOLIS
Brian Margolis, 73, entered eternal rest on May 27, 2024.

Brian was born on April 12, 1951, in London, UK. He was a successful entrepreneur at an early age, working in his father's import-export business before opening a business of his own when, at 24, he bought and operated Sam's Bargain Store. In 1979, he was called by the lure of Hollywood where he quickly secured a key position on the management team for singer Olivia Newton-John where he lived and worked until his move to the Washington, DC area in 1997 for a position as Estate Manager.

Brian began his lifelong love affair with the English bulldog while working in Los Angeles. He started with two. Over the years, that number would grow to 22.

Also while in Hollywood, he was introduced to the teachings of Siddha Yoga, which profoundly influenced the direction of his life. With his work in Hollywood concluding, he chose to deepen his spiritual practices by moving to the Ashram in New York State where he lived and worked until his move to the Washington, DC area in 1997 for a position as Estate Manager.

His passion and reputation for saving Bulldogs continued to develop. While serving on the Board of Directors of On the Rebound,

a bulldog rescue foundation, he received a request from the retiring Chaplain of West Point to accept care of Aggh, the chaplain's pet bulldog. Aggh left West Point with full canine military honors and spent her last days in comfortable retirement with Brian.

In 2000, Brian continued his love of service when he secured a position as House Manager for a McLean, Virginia family, managing many of the owner's business affairs as well as their residence. He continued serving in this position until his death.

Brian was known to everyone he met as a loyal, kind, generous, and thoughtful person with an infectious British sense of humor. One of his trademarks was the presentation of small, unexpected gifts to almost everyone with whom he had frequent contact. This was particularly noteworthy during the last two years of his life as he was undergoing many visits to doctors and hospitals. He became known as "The Chocolate Man", presenting hospital staff and doctors with a personal bar of Cadbury chocolate at each visit.

Brian honored his heritage but loved the opportunities he had in this country. He often said that his proudest moment was when, in 2002, he was sworn in as a United States Citizen. He cherished the gift of a US flag that was flown over the Capitol and presented to him to commemorate the occasion.

Brian passed away quietly in his Falls Church home following a long illness with lymphoma. With him went his close friends and his two beloved bulldogs, Bentley and Ginger. He was a man of integrity, honor, and dignity whose constant goal in life was to serve others. He was part of the fabric of many lives and will be dearly missed.

Friends are invited to join in a celebration of Brian's life to be held in the chapel of Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia at 11:20 a.m., Saturday, June 29. Reception to follow.

Contributions in his honor may be sent to Friends of Homeless Animals (fona.org)

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Another day in the 90s

There will be lots of sun, but at least humidity won't be super high. Temperatures will rise into the low to mid-90s — probably more of the latter locally. Winds will be from the south around 5 to 10 mph.

Today

Sunny, hot

96° 77°

FEELS*: 101°

CHNCE PRECIP: 0%

WIND: S 6-12 mph

HUMIDITY: High

Saturday

Partly sunny, hot

98° 80°

FEELS: 106°

P: 10%

W: SSW 6-12 mph

H: Very High

Sunday

Very hot

101° 78°

FEELS: 104°

P: 25%

W: WNW 8-16 mph

H: Very High

Monday

T-storm

92° 73°

FEELS: 98°

P: 40%

W: WNW 8-16 mph

H: Very High

Tuesday

Mostly sunny, hot

97° 74°

FEELS: 98°

P: 15%

W: WNW 6-12 mph

H: Moderate

Wednesday

Very hot

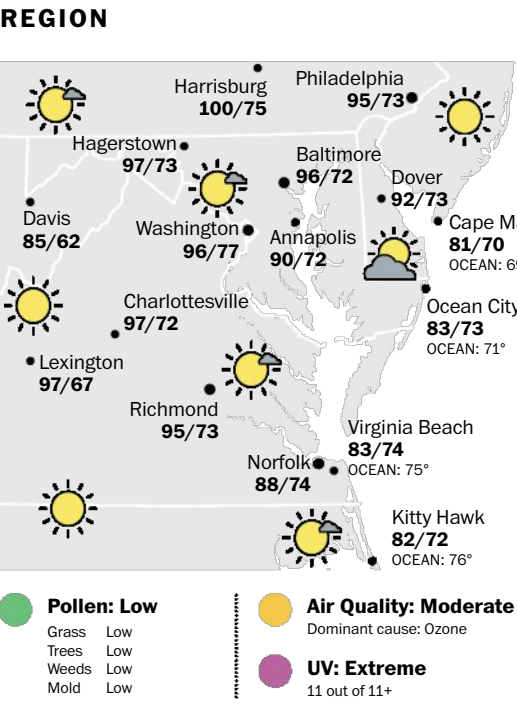
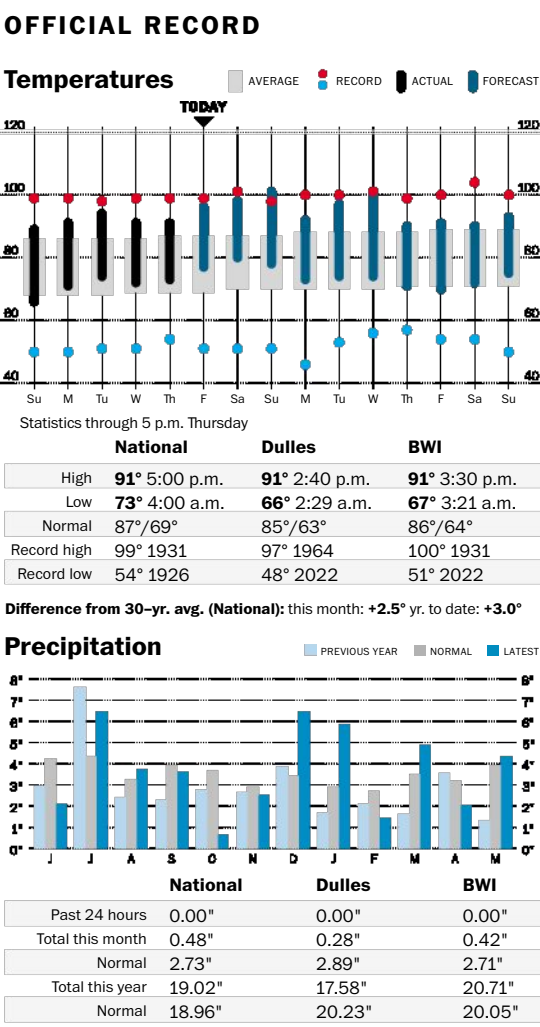
101° 74°

FEELS: 101°

P: 25%

W: WNW 7-14 mph

H: High



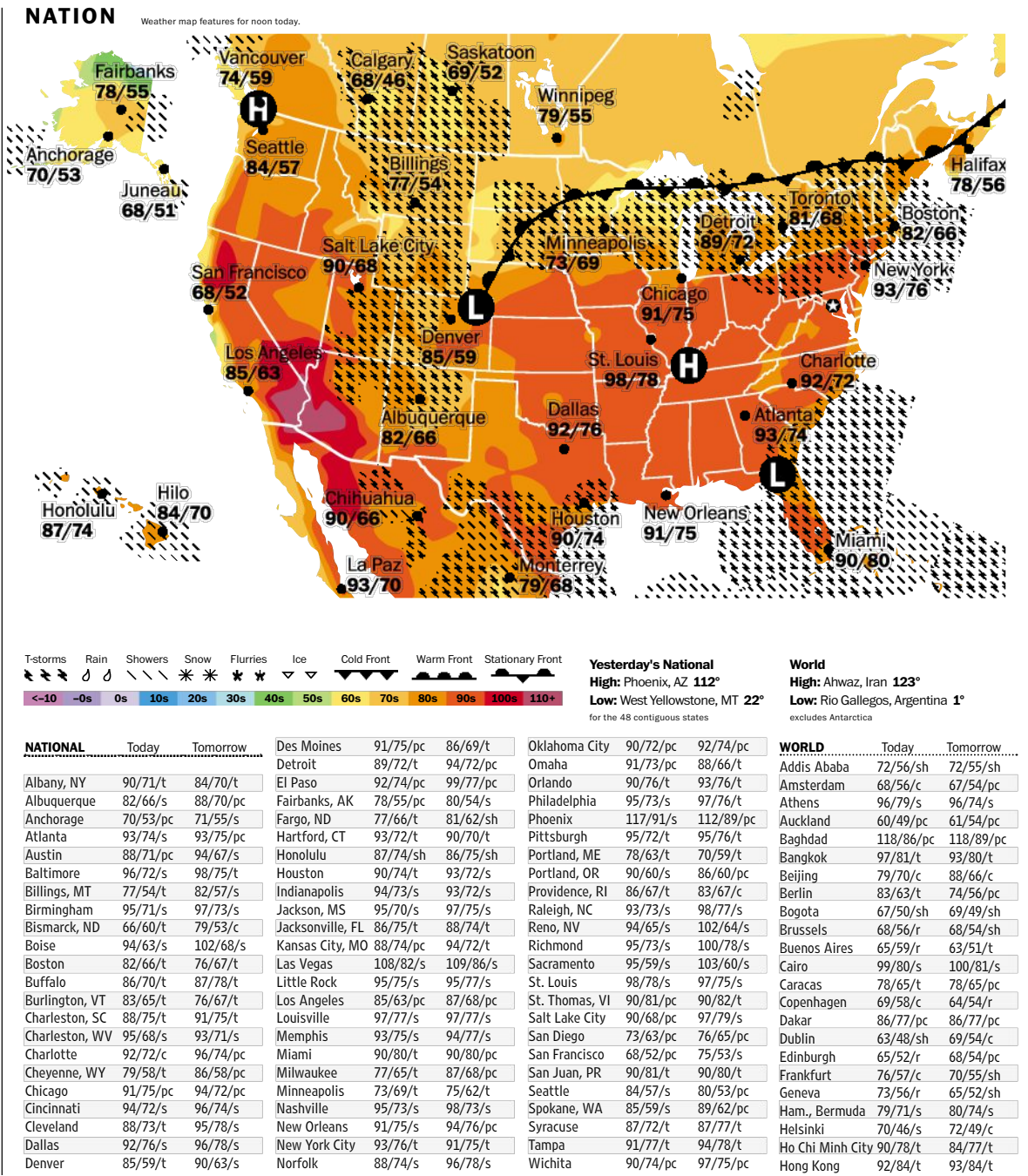
Blue Ridge: Today, mostly sunny; hot in northern parts. High 77 to 83. Winds south-southwest 4-8 mph. Tonight, warm, a moonlit sky; humid. Low 65 to 69. Winds southwest 4-8 mph. Saturday, sunshine, some clouds; very hot in northern parts.

Atlantic beaches: Today, mostly sunny; humid. High 82 to 88. Winds south 10-20 mph. Tonight, a moonlit sky. Low 68 to 74. Winds south-southwest 7-14 mph. Saturday, mostly sunny; hot in the south. High 86 to 96. Winds south-southwest 8-16 mph.

Waterways: *Upper Potomac River:* Today, mostly sunny. Wind south 4-8 knots. Waves less than a foot. Visibility clear to the horizon. *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay:* Today, sunny. Wind south 8-16 knots. Waves 0-1 foot on the Lower Potomac; 1-2 feet on the Chesapeake Bay. *River Stages:* The stage at Little Falls will be around 2.90 feet today, rising to 3.00 Saturday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

Today's tides (High tides in **Bold**)

	Washington	Annapolis	Ocean City	Norfolk	Point Lookout
2:30 a.m.					
8:07 a.m.					
3:37 p.m.					
8:46 p.m.					
11:18 p.m.					
1:50 a.m.					
7:36 a.m.					
1:34 p.m.					
8:04 p.m.					
3:52 a.m.					
9:42 a.m.					
3:33 p.m.					
10:02 p.m.					
1:24 a.m.					
8:53 a.m.					
1:32 p.m.					
6:47 p.m.					



Md. hopes for transparency in tracking system for rape kits

RAPE KITS FROM B1

program is going to give survivors the transparency, accountability, dignity and support they deserve.”

He said the program would help police and prosecutors find perpetrators, in part by tracking delays and monitoring compliance with laws requiring testing.

“Survivors of sexual assault will no longer be kept in the dark after forensic evidence is collected,” he said. “We will empower survivors.”

Ilse Knecht, director of policy and advocacy for the Joyful Heart Foundation, which runs the End the Backlog project, said that in states where the tracking system has already been operating, “it’s definitely had an impact in that backlogs don’t get created again.”

For states such as Maryland, which have deadlines on submitting kits for testing, the system can notify police, prosecutors and victims if a deadline has been missed, Knecht said.

“That’s a big issue,” Knecht said. “Most survivors leave the hospital and never hear about their kit. It’s very important for survivors to have information about their kit. ... It’s not always about the outcome. It’s how they’re treated during the process. This is a piece that’s giving them back some peace, some control over the process.”

The discovery that sex crimes victims had supplied police with physical evidence of their assaults and that vast amounts of this evidence had never been sent to a lab for DNA testing set off a nationwide surge of activity to remedy the problem. Maryland’s progress toward a tracking system — and the gradual reduction of its backlog of cases —



From left, Angela D. Wharton, Gov. Wes Moore (D), Maryland Attorney General Anthony G. Brown (D) and state Sen. Shelly Hettleman (D-Baltimore County) at a news conference on Thursday after the announcement of a statewide tracking system for assault evidence kits.

began with a 2017 law that standardized the way rape kits were preserved and tested, state Sen. Shelly Hettleman (D-Baltimore County) said. The kits are now required to be picked up by police within 30 days and sent to a lab within the next 30 days. In 2018, the Maryland General As-

sembly directed the governor’s office to apply for federal funding for a tracking system, and the state has received more than \$5 million for that purpose, Hettleman said.

But state officials also had to determine how many kits were already in police property rooms

or labs or hospitals around Maryland, according to Carisa A. Hatfield, an assistant attorney general who advised the state’s committee on evidence kits. The process involved counting every one by hand, retrieving victim information and other important data, and was delayed by the

pandemic, Hatfield said.

Finally, in October, after having assessed the size of their backlog and expected flow of cases, Maryland hired a vendor, Invita’s “Track-Kit,” which is used by about 15 other states, and got the system running by last month, Hatfield said.

Baltimore County State’s Attorney Scott Shellenberger (D) said he’d already used the system to check on an active case in which two people were sexually assaulted by a stranger.

“I actually went into the system and did a few clicks,” Shellenberger said, “and next thing I knew, I knew exactly where those two [evidence] kits were. They were still at the hospital.” He said he recognized the name of the nurse who had done the exam on the victims.

Shellenberger said he clicked on the tracking system again before the news conference and saw the kits were now in the Baltimore County police property room. “What has to happen next,” Shellenberger said, “is when I click on that the next time, in 30 days, 60 days, I better see that it’s not sitting in property evidence. I better see that it’s somewhere else being tested. And that’s where it comes to accountability. And that’s what this system does.”

“Today marks a huge step forward,” said Lisae Jordan, executive director of the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault. She said she looks forward to an expansion of the system to allow rape crisis centers, child advocacy centers, and sexual assault advocates and attorneys to also access the system. Jordan said MCASA also will probably be involved with locating and notifying victims whose cases are in the backlog.

“We stand ready,” Jordan said, “to help survivors navigate the tracking system itself, to use that tracking system to enforce the rights of survivors and to ensure that Maryland never again has a backlog of untested rape kits.”

Erin Cox contributed to this report.



Retropolis

Stories of the past, rediscovered.
washingtonpost.com/retropolis

The Washington Post



SOT29-6x1.5

Prosecutors cite videos in Baldwin ‘Rust’ case

BY JANAY KINGSBERRY

Prosecutors intend to introduce evidence in next month’s “Rust” shooting trial that they say shows Alec Baldwin being “reckless” and engaging in “horseplay” with firearms in the days and final minutes before a prop gun discharged in his hand, killing cinematographer Halyna Hutchins and injuring director Joel Souza.

In a notice to Baldwin’s attorneys filed Monday, New Mexico prosecutors Kari T. Morrissey and Erlinda O. Johnson outlined videos filmed on the “Rust” set over a 10-day period leading up to Hutchins’s death on Oct. 21, 2021. The footage allegedly shows Baldwin pointing a prop revolver and firing a blank round at a crew member, using a gun as a pointer to direct crew members on set, and FaceTiming with his family during firearms training, among other “erratic and aggressive behavior.”

Baldwin, who is starring in and producing the still-unreleased western film, has denied all charges and insisted he didn’t pull the trigger of the gun. The new filing paints a very different picture, accusing Baldwin of placing his finger on the revolver’s trigger in several scenes that didn’t require him to and pressuring armorer Hannah Gutierrez-Reed — who was sentenced to 18 months in prison for the shooting in April — to reload the weapon.

Before filming began, Baldwin “asked to be assigned the ‘biggest’ gun available,” the filing notes.

Most of the videos are under court seal, though prosecutors released an Oct. 14 clip that appears to show Baldwin firing a gun with blanks while crew members stand several feet away, filming him on their phones. He curses in the clip: “My f---ing hat came off. Let’s do it again.”

“This is another example of Mr. Baldwin engaging in horseplay with his gun and firing his gun when a scene is not being filmed and for no other legitimate purpose,” the filing claims.

Footage obtained from the day of Hutchins’s death, as described in the documents, allegedly shows Baldwin disregarding instructions on how to handle his firearm and cocking the gun despite not being asked to do so. Prosecutors also claim that a photograph, captured minutes before a 911 call was made to report the

SEE BALDWIN ON C3



ILLUSTRATION BY LUCY NALAND/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

Coalitions of fans have organized for Gaza. They want Taylor to join them — but they aren’t waiting for her.

BY JESSICA M. GOLDSTEIN

Two things Anamta Rehan has always believed in: Palestinian liberation and Taylor Swift. ¶ Rehan’s grandparents “left half their life in India to move to Pakistan,” says the 18-year-old, now a university student in Canada. They drew a parallel between “having to flee their own land” and the displacement of the Palestinian people following the establishment of Israel. “I come from a family that has always recognized what Palestine is and the suffering they’ve been going through since 1948,” Rehan says. “I’ve always felt very close to the cause.” ¶ Growing up in Pakistan, “half a world away” from the American Swift, Rehan loved listening to “1989,” Swift’s first official pop album. In 2019, she started a Twitter account through which she says she built friendships with Swifties from all over the world.

SEE SWIFT ON C2

ELDEN RING: SHADOW OF THE ERDTREE ★★★★★

Sprawling update again shatters expectations

BY GENE PARK

There’s been an electric anticipation in the gaming world.

In the past month, the Weeknd said he’s picking “Elden Ring” back up to prepare for the new chapter. He was speaking to Kai Cenat, the most subscribed Twitch streamer in the world whose recent 200-hour marathon of “Elden Ring” helped light this fire. Travis Scott is also preparing his character.

Everyone is suiting up for the gaming event of the summer, “Shadow of the Erdtree,” the concluding chapter of “Elden Ring,” which releases Friday on PlayStation 5, Xbox and PC. And like the 2022 release that’s sold 25 million copies, it is, once again, bigger than you would expect.

“Elden Ring” told the story of the Lands Between, a world torn

apart by the warring demigod children of its god Marika. One child, Miquella the Kind, who was cursed with eternal youth, was absent from the original game, but he left traces and clues everywhere. “Erdtree” is basically a mystery story: What is the true nature of the world to which Miquella has escaped, and just what is he doing here?

The answers are terrifying, enchanting and incredibly difficult to find. Game director Hidetaka Miyazaki, who wrote the story with “Game of Thrones” author George R.R. Martin, said in interviews that this new chapter’s world, the Land of Shadow, is about the size of Limgrave, the beginning region of the original game. He is a liar. “Shadow of the Erdtree” feels like 75 percent the size of “Elden Ring,” a game that’s already bigger than most games.

SEE ‘ELDEN RING’ ON C3



BANDAI NAMCO

“Shadow of the Erdtree” is nearly as large — and exhausting — as “Elden Ring,” the 2022 critically acclaimed game that was already one of the biggest ever made. “Erdtree” is being released Friday.

At Lamar show, beef with Drake continues

BY HERB SCRIBNER AND ANNE BRANIGIN

Sometimes, you just have to pop out and show someone that you’re really like that. Or, in the case of Kendrick Lamar, you gather your celebrity friends and thousands of fans for a massive Los Angeles show, and stomp your foot on the career of your biggest enemy.

“The Pop Out: Ken & Friends” was held for one night only Wednesday at the Kia Forum in Inglewood, Calif., marking Lamar’s first show since he dropped a slew of rap diss tracks against Drake, including the Billboard chart-topping “Not Like Us.” The concert, which was something of

SEE LAMAR ON C3

MOVIES IN WEEKEND



Thelma
★★★★★
Resplendent on a red mobility scooter, June Squibb proves you can still become an action star at 94 in this crowd-pleaser. **24**



The Bikeriders
★★★☆☆
The fantastic acting and cinematography are almost enough to make you ignore the lack of story. **25**



Flipside
★★★★★
Chris Wilcha’s moving documentary is about much more than a struggling record store in New Jersey. **26**

Fans to Swift: Speak up now

SWIFT FROM C1

Rehan didn't always see a connection between these pillars of her identity. Then came the Oct. 7 Hamas attack on Israel, which Israel says killed 1,200 people, and the country's subsequent invasion of the Gaza Strip. Since then, more and more public figures, including well-known musical artists, have pushed for an end to an Israeli military campaign that has killed more than 37,000 Palestinians, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, and has drawn international condemnation, including from Doctors Without Borders, which has called for "an immediate and sustained ceasefire." Rehan and her friends wondered out loud where *their* artist was. They were met, she says, with "a lot of backlash saying celebrities shouldn't engage with politics."

On May 29, hours before Swift took the stage for her Eras tour stop in Madrid, #SwiftiesForPalestine started trending on X, formerly Twitter. Some were using the hashtag to rally concertgoers to show support for Palestinians at the Eras tour: encouraging fans to paint watermelons (a symbol for Palestinian solidarity) on their hands, make pro-Palestinian posters and share their Eras photos with #CeasefireNow and #FreePalestine. Others tagged Swift's official account, urging her to speak out.

The Swifties for Palestine movement was growing by the day, spreading from X to Instagram and TikTok, from online-only engagement to real-world activism. But someone was missing: Taylor Swift.

At the Eras tour, Swifties take their attire extremely seriously. Fans show up in elaborate Taylor cosplay — homemade versions of her glittery stagewear, stitch-by-stitch recreations of her red-carpet looks — or in costumes referencing lyrics and inside jokes.

So when Lila Ahssaini, a 21-year-old student in France, was deciding what to wear to the Lyon show — her sixth stop on the Eras tour after attending all four nights in Paris — she went for something custom. At a Parisian flea market, she and a friend had T-shirts made emblazoned with "Speak now Taylor" above the Palestinian flag. The women hid their shirts under their hoodies for fear of being removed from the venue. (They had heard about security confiscating Palestinian flags at other shows.) They removed their sweatshirts for only 15 minutes but did post a photo on X.

"Obviously we're Taylor fans, so we consider Taylor as like family," Ahssaini says. "So it was important to us to know: What are her thoughts about it?"

Taylor Swift's relationship to #SwiftiesForPalestine is like that of God to the universe: She is everywhere and nowhere. Or perhaps a better analogy comes from folklore (as in storytelling tradition, not the album), and Swift is the stone in the soup: the inciting symbol without which nothing would be made but that, on its own, is technically doing nothing at all.

Swift has not made a statement about the war. Since #SwiftiesForPalestine started trending on X, Swift has been absent from the platform. Typically, she posts photos and a grateful caption to both X and Instagram after each Eras tour stop, but she has not posted on X since her May 26 shout-out to Lisbon ("muito obrigada"); instead she's stuck to Instagram, where her comments are turned off. (Swift's publicist did not return requests for comment.)

But these fans continued to rally around the #SwiftiesForPalestine hashtag as a parallel debate over celebrity activism raged. One Swiftie named Aya saw this back-and-forth as "pure chaos," the 23-year-old says in a phone interview. (Aya, who runs a large, anonymous Swiftie fan account, spoke on the condition that her last name not be used.) So she proposed an alternative course of action: Why not create a GoFundMe and call it Swifties For Palestine? Her May 29 tweet read, in part, "I think that would be more useful than us screaming at Taylor."

When Rehan, the university student in Canada, saw Aya's



COURTESY OF SUHA SYED

tweet, "I really started to think that maybe these two issues" — her love of Swift, her passion for the Palestinian cause — "are much more interconnected than I thought they were," she says. Rehan was already in a group chat of around 20 Swifties whose initial purpose was to share GoFundMe for Palestinian families so that everyone in the group could repost them, reaching all of their followers. But they wanted to do something more. While they would have been heartened to see Swift speak on the events in Gaza, they quickly came to believe their energies were better spent on Swiftie-to-Swiftie community-building.

One member, Rachel, a 20-year-old from the New York area, remembered how groups of K-pop fans rallied around Black Lives Matter in 2020, using their massive online presence to amplify that movement and raise money. (She spoke on the condition that her last name not be used, fearing backlash in her Jewish community.) Another Swiftie — Cristina Jones, 28, from Britain — already had experience leveraging fan accounts for the cause. She runs a Pedro Pascal fansite that had raised \$3,600 for Palestinian charities.

So on June 5, the group launched the Swifties For Palestine GoFundMe. The banner image was of a friendship bracelet spelling out the fundraiser's title — a nod to the wristwear-swapping tradition that Swifties started during the Eras tour. "Taylor's music brought us together, and together we can achieve social change," the GoFundMe reads. "What is Taylor's discography about if not love, empathy for others, and justice?" (Is it a bit of a reach to interpret Swift's discography this way? Much of her recent output is focused, allegedly, on the highs and lows of dating Matty Healy.)

The group first set the fundraising goal at \$130,000 — 13 being Taylor's lucky number — but lowered it to \$13,000 once they realized they could keep donations open after reaching their target. GoFundMe doesn't release money to recipients until campaigns hit their goals, and the Swifties wanted to expedite getting their funds to Medical Aid for Palestine Canada, a group providing Palestinians with food, medical equipment, funding for hospital treatment and evacuation assistance.

Jones contacted MAP Canada after the Swifties' efforts were underway. "We know Taylor Swift, for sure," the group's CEO, Farah Albarahmeh, says from Egypt, where she is working on evacuating people from Gaza. "But we never expected that Swifties or any other group from an international artist to know about us or hear about us."

Donations poured in, mostly in small-but-significant-to-Swifties denominations: \$13, \$22 (as in: "I don't know about you, but I'm feeling..."), \$89 (the year of Swift's birth) and even \$87 (Swift's boyfriend's jersey number). One tweet Jones made celebrating former president Donald Trump's guilty verdict prompted a wave of \$34 donations (as in guilty counts — Swifties love a meaningful number). By the weekend, they had exceeded their \$13,000 goal. At press time, they had raised 13,786 Canadian dollars, or about \$10,000. Even fans without the means to donate are supporting the cause in other ways: Some Swifties have taken to making Palestinian-themed friendship bracelets for their Eras shows, and at least one fan's bracelet included a QR code for the GoFundMe site.

Aya wasn't surprised. "This is how the fandom works," she says. This kind of action "is just what Taylor stands for, in a way. She's a doer, not a show-er."

Is it what Taylor stands for? For some Swifties, her silence leaves room for doubt. They are enraged, confused and disappointed by Swift's apparent disinterest in a humanitarian crisis. Some are even reevaluating their relationship with Swift altogether.

Suha Syed, a first-generation Indian Muslim from Long Island, recalls a childhood spent "looking in wide-eyed wonderment" at Swift. Now 25, Syed just saw Swift perform live for the first time in May, when she went to two stops on the Eras tour. "I've gone through every milestone of my life with her music and legacy and art by my side," Syed says.

Syed's favorite album is "Speak Now." She describes in encyclopedic detail the entire backstory of the album's creation and lingers on one point: The album, penned solely by a teenage Swift, is a diary of "words she wished she could have said but didn't." For Syed, it is impossible to think of this record and not apply its message to Gaza. "Are we going to continue watch-

ing a genocide unfold in front of our very eyes, or are we going to, as the album says, speak now about what's right?" (A case brought before the International Court of Justice by South Africa alleges that Israel is violating international law by committing and not preventing genocidal acts. The court has ordered Israel to do more to prevent the deaths of civilians. Israel denies that it is carrying out genocide in Gaza.)

Until Swift makes a statement in support of Palestinians, Syed says she is putting her fandom on "pause" and not streaming any of Swift's music. Instead, she's listening only to artists who've spoken out against the Israeli invasion, such as Muna, Clairo and Coldplay. Syed knows that Swift is "a billionaire, so one person not streaming her music isn't going to put a dent in her pockets.... [But] I don't want any money or revenue to go to any artist, not just Taylor, who hasn't spoken up about this genocide."

Syed dismisses those who suggest Swift has stayed silent because she doesn't "understand" what's going on. "She's been friends with the Hadid sisters for a long time now." (Models Bella and Gigi Hadid recently donated \$1 million toward Palestinian relief efforts; they're the daughters of real estate developer Mohamed Anwar Hadid, whose family fled Nazareth when he was an infant.)

"And Taylor is objectively a very intelligent person," Syed added. "NYU doesn't hand out honorary doctorates to people who are stupid."

"If I really had to get into her mind about this," Syed theorized, "she probably doesn't want to disappoint or perhaps agitate fans who identify with the other side, so to speak, of this issue, whether that's Zionism or Israelis."

Though there are surely Swifties of every political and cultural stripe under the big tent of her fandom, there does not appear to be a particularly organized or robust pro-Israel Swiftie movement at the moment. (On Instagram, for instance, fewer than 100 posts are tagged with #SwiftiesForIsrael, compared with #SwiftiesForPalestine, which appears on over 1,000.) Extremely online fans will recall that in 2019, the creator of the popular @LegitTayUpdates fan account went to military prison for refusing to enlist in the Israel Defense Forces; when she re-

LEFT: Suha Syed, 25, went to two stops on the Eras Tour in May. But until Swift makes a statement in support of Palestinians, Syed says, she is putting her fandom on "pause." BELOW: Swift performs at Luz Stadium in Lisbon.



MIGUEL A LOPES/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

turned two months later, she posted support for Palestinians and encouraged followers to donate to the Palestine Children's Relief Fund.

Syed's sympathy for what she surmises is Swift's strategic caution has run out. "Seeing children ... mothers, fathers, infants ... every single form of life being annihilated in front of our very eyes while our tax dollars are paying for it, that's harder than being a people pleaser. ... It's gut-wrenching, honestly, to know that she or anybody of her fame and influence and power knows about what is going on and still chooses to be silent about it."

In 2003, the then-Dixie Chicks said that because of the U.S. plan to invade Iraq, they were "ashamed" that President George W. Bush was from Texas. They went from singing the national anthem at the Super Bowl to being all but blacklisted from the airwaves. Their name became a verb, a warning to any country star hoping to make it in Nashville. When a 16-year-old Swift released her debut album three years later, she had learned from that cautionary tale. As a rising singer-songwriter in country, she kept her politics to herself.

But since crossing over into pop — and enduring a highly publicized sexual assault trial in 2017 — the adult Swift has been more politically outspoken: advocating for LGBTQ rights, abortion access and women's equality; donating to March for Our Lives after the Parkland, Fla., school shooting; encouraging her fans to vote. In her 2020 documentary "Miss Americana," a teary-eyed Swift commits to posting about the dangers posed by Tennessee Republican Marsha Blackburn, then running for Senate, despite the potential blowback from, among others, President Donald Trump. Blackburn, Swift argues, votes against "really basic human rights" for women and gay Tennesseans. Warned by a group of advisers, including her father, that making a statement against Blackburn would "halve the number of people that would come to your next tour" and undermine Swift's security, Swift passionately rejects this counsel: "I need to be on the right side of history." (Responding to Swift's statement at the time, Blackburn told Fox News, "Of course I support women, and I want violence to end against women.")

For Ahssaini, Swift's "right side of history" line is a telling one. "We really don't understand why she would pick some fights and not others, since in the end they all have in common human rights and lives," Ahssaini added in a post-interview message.

But to comment on Gaza would be an unprecedented move for Swift, who politically has yet to wade into international waters. (For instance, she didn't make a statement about Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine.) Swift *was* spotted attending Ramy Youssef's stand-up show in December, the proceeds of which went to humanitarian relief efforts in Gaza, but that's as close as she's come. Meanwhile, plenty of people in Swift's circles have publicly expressed their support for Palestinians. Shortly after a May 26 Israeli airstrike killed at least 45 people in Rafah, burning civilians alive in a region where tens of thousands of displaced families had taken refuge, Swift's frequent collaborators Jack Antonoff and Aaron Dessner shared the viral "All Eyes on Rafah" graphic on their Instagram stories. Hayley Williams of the band Paramore, one of the Eras Tour's openers, posted an Instagram story encouraging fans to donate to Doctors Without Borders and "calling for an immediate

"It's gut-wrenching, honestly, to know that she or anybody of her fame and influence and power knows about what is going on and still chooses to be silent."

Suha Syed, about Taylor Swift not addressing the situation in Gaza

and permanent ceasefire."

What responsibility does Swift — one of the most famous people on the planet; also, a private citizen — have to weigh in on these world events?

"People like to bring up: She's not the president, she's not this or that," says Syed. "I would say, she has in some cases more influence than these elected politicians. [Anyone] can say these three simple words: Genocide is bad. You don't have to be a king to say that. You have to be a human being."

Swifties, like other intensely devoted pop fandoms, have a reputation for *intolerance* — that is, for lashing out at anyone who dares to criticize their idol and the fans who adore her. But for some, the #SwiftiesForPalestine movement is proving to be the one place where they feel their views *are* tolerated, at least when it comes to Israel.

Rachel, who is Jewish, does not remember even hearing the word "Palestine" until she was a sophomore in high school. She went on Birthright — an all-expenses-paid 10-day tour of Israel, funded in part by the Israeli government, for Jewish Americans age 18 to 26 — and was rattled by the trip, whose messaging "sounded very propaganda-speak-y"; when she returned home, she did her own research into the history of the region. She described the Swiftiverse as the only place where she can freely express her support for Palestinian liberation. "In my real life, it's a difficult balance figuring out where I can advocate and what spaces are going to allow me to do that without causing immense mental or relationship strains," she said.

The same day the Swifties started their GoFundMe, Rachel and a few other Swifties for Palestine started a new X account: @SwiftChange13, a "central place" for Swifties to find information and resources on the conflict. They recently ran a "13 Days for Palestine" project, highlighting different humanitarian initiatives fans can support. But the vision is broader than that. Learning more about this conflict, for example, led Rachel to read about human rights atrocities in Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo. She hopes that @SwiftChange13 can expand awareness for other Swifties, too.

Due in part to the success of their GoFundMe, the Swifties for Palestine feel empowered to wield their strength more widely. "I think we've proven, as a fandom ... we are capable of making change," Rehan says. Though this may sound ironic coming from someone so immersed in fandom, Rehan says "we shouldn't be focusing our energies onto celebrities in general. We can come together on our own."

"This wasn't the end of our activism," Rachel said. "It could just be the beginning, instead."

A show full of music, pettiness

LAMAR FROM C1

a celebration for West Coast hip-hop, brought together some of the biggest rappers and California-born NBA players, as well as what appeared to be gang-affiliated fans, into a whirlwind of a show that lasted over an hour.

Fans in the crowd rapped along as Lamar played “Not Like Us” not once, not twice but five times in a row.

People dressed in blue and red (the colors of the Crips and Bloods, respectively) gathered with him on the stage and danced together with NBA stars DeMar DeRozan and Russell Westbrook. (LeBron James, notable Lakers star, was in attendance for the show but may have been held back from jumping onstage.)

Earlier in the show, Lamar called back to the loss of Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant and rapper Nipsey Hussle, both LA heroes who died in recent years. “This s–t making me emotional,” Lamar said. “We been f–ed up since Nipsey died. We been f–ed up since Kobe died. Let the world see this.”

“It was beautiful to see the whole city come together last night,” Tyler, the Creator wrote in an X post.

Dr. Dre performed “California Love” and “Still D.R.E.” with La-



AMY HARRIS/INVISION/AP

mar. He also introduced the first “Not Like Us” performance by uttering the opening line, “I see dead people.”

The five performances of “Not Like Us” underscored the notion that no contemporary artist holds a grudge quite like Lamar does. He sang shortened verses for some versions of the song while other times letting the crowd sing all the lyrics for him. He dapped up DeRozan and Westbrook while the song blared in the background and even took a massive photo with anyone who joined him onstage to cap off the night. At least, that’s how hip-hop fans saw it — most of whom seemed to delight in his unrepentant pettiness.

“Kendrick really threw his own Hatechella lol this is the hateration and holleration,” wrote one X user, referencing the Mary J. Blige’s hit song “Family Affair.”

Lamar played more than a dozen tracks throughout the night, with artists Schoolboy Q; Jay Rock; Tyler, the Creator; and Dr. Dre joining him onstage.

The show was a massive talking point on social media Wednesday night. That perhaps was not surprising, as the performance’s seats had sold out rather quickly after it was announced two weeks ago.

It was also another touchpoint in Lamar’s rap feud with Drake from earlier this year.

The concert’s focus on the feud

was apparent from the beginning. “The Pop Out” show title came from a line in “Not Like Us,” and the show reportedly had merchandise that referenced the beef. Lamar kicked off his performance with “Euphoria,” the near seven-minute diss track against Drake released in April. He also performed “6:16 in LA,” an Instagram-only anti-Drake track, and “Like That,” the song that originally drew fire from Drake on which Lamar featured alongside Future.

Drake suffered the brunt of social media slander. Many commented that Drake’s team must either be widely criticizing the show to soften the blow against him or telling him to avoid it

altogether. (Representatives for Drake declined to comment.) That said, some commenters huffed that Lamar owes Drake for the renewed interest in his music.

It’s unclear when or if the concert, which was live-streamed on Amazon Prime and Twitch, will be available to watch on Amazon (whose founder and board chair Jeff Bezos owns The Washington Post). But a recorded version was still circulating social media Thursday.

If anything, the concert was another moment to celebrate “Not Like Us,” which landed the finishing blow on the months-long feud between Lamar and Drake.

Tensions between the two rap-

Rapper Kendrick Lamar, seen performing last year in Manchester, Tenn. His show “The Pop Out: Ken & Friends” was held Wednesday at the Kia Forum in Inglewood, Calif.

pers have simmered for years, but the heat turned up in March after Lamar took direct aim at Drake and J. Cole in a guest verse on “Like That,” a track on the Future and Metro Boomin album “We Don’t Trust You.”

In April, Drake responded with two songs aimed at the West Coast rapper, “Push Ups” and “Taylor Made Freestyle,” goading Lamar to respond.

After weeks of silence, on April 29 the Compton native released “Euphoria,” a scalding track in which Lamar pounded his chest over being “the biggest hater.” Then in May, the pair went toe-to-toe lyrically in one of the wildest weekends in hip-hop history, with the two heavyweight rappers releasing five new diss tracks — and a music video — over the span of three days.

“Not Like Us,” with its propulsive, head-bobbing beat by DJ Mustard, landed at the top of the Billboard Hot 100 the following week. But as the dust settled on Lamar and Drake’s back-and-forth, some hip-hop fans were wary that the feud could escalate outside the studio.

At the “Pop Out” show, Lamar proved he’s not letting the Drake beef go just yet. During his performance of “Euphoria,” Lamar added a new lyric that referenced Drake buying the valuable ring of Tupac Shakur, one of the most idolized West Coast rappers of all-time.

“Give me Tupac ring back,” Lamar rapped to the buzzing crowd of fans, “and I might give you a little respect.”

‘Shadow of the Erdtree’ is the gaming event of the summer

‘ELDEN RING’ FROM C1

Developer FromSoftware basically made a sequel.

The smaller size of the world means a more focused world design than the original game, with regions looping in and out of one another like the classic dungeon design philosophy of “Dark Souls,” extended across continents. It’s the biggest improvement from the original game, which was so big it often felt exhausting. In this new world, I thought I was making good sense of its geography, the most important landmarks and where I needed to go. I was so wrong. The world kept unfolding itself like origami, revealing new regions that aren’t visible in the landscape. Each new area often stunned me frozen as I took in the sights. Some of these areas are nightmarish, while others inspire awe.

The dungeons, like the original game, are the highlight. In particular, the castle first visible on the horizon called Shadow Keep is among the best, most complex dungeons ever conceived by FromSoftware. It feels like an evolution of the best Zelda temples, with multiple exits and locations that interlock as a thoroughfare to other regions. It’s a work of architectural genius.

Make no mistake, this is still more “Elden Ring.” If that gargantuan experience exhausted you or turned you away, here is something about as big, just as exhausting and even more challenging. I entered this world with a Level 713 character, the maximum level of power attained over two years and hundreds of hours. The first enemy I fought was a



BANDAI NAMCO

Nightmare-inducing landscapes are hidden deep within “Shadow of the Erdtree,” demanding far more exploration from players than the base game, 2022’s “Elden Ring.” The update also answers some of “Elden Ring’s” greatest mysteries.

man wearing nothing but underwear. I hit him with my most powerful attack, and he barely flinched. He punched me twice (hand-to-hand arts are just one of eight new weapon types), and I died. “Shadow of the Erdtree” contains its own unique leveling system, forcing players to discover fragments that apply a flat percentage buff to your damage and damage negation. Finding these fragments will become a core part of your journey, as it’s

seemingly impossible to survive without them.

The mood of the original game was a post-apocalyptic world with wizards and dragons. Miyazaki’s adventures are often downers. But the Land of Shadow’s ominous name belies its true nature as a world flourishing and teeming with life. After years of drab landscapes filled with dead trees and rotting corpses, these beautiful yet hard-to-find regions feel restorative, like finally taking

a hot bath after a decade of hiking through mud and mountains.

So is the mystery story any good? It’s compelling, but only if you’re able to find it. Miyazaki deliberately tells his stories through gameplay and a patchwork of information fed to the audience in fragmented thoughts and ideas. It’s inspired by his early years of trying to read fantasy books such as the Lord of the Rings with a limited grasp of

English — which made the stories seem only more fascinating and mysterious to him — and he’s been trying to re-create that imaginative exercise through video games.

Hints of the truth behind Kindly Miquella’s actions and motivations are strewn all over the original game, but in “Erdtree,” it’s the central focus. It’s told through the lens of seven loyal devotees of Miquella, each with their own specialty and

history. I found them all over the Land of Shadow, but there were so many parallel stories, and “Erdtree” is a much more challenging narrative to piece together than “Elden Ring.” Martin provided the history and lore of the games, and it provided a solid structure to follow in “Elden Ring.” Here, so much of the story is locked away by hidden passages, vague puzzles and cryptic clues.

Somehow, despite this disjointed nature, I was still astounded at what I discovered. But I mention the word “exhausting” often because “Elden Ring” demands much of its audience, whether it’s through the skill required, the mental acuity to push through hard challenges or the literary sensibility to understand a nonlinear narrative logic. Some of the most important areas of the game key to understanding the story are hidden in obscure passageways, and require a keen eye and good spatial awareness. I had to ask fellow reviewers at gaming news site IGN and YouTube creator FightinCowboy to find these locations. Maybe it’s good that games as big and complex as “Elden Ring” are rare. If Miyazaki’s games are special moments in time, and they indeed are, it’s good we’re not trapped in it like the undying ghouls of the Land of Shadow.

“Shadow of the Erdtree” provides ghastly and unexpected answers to the 2022 game’s greatest mysteries. It is a grand conclusion to what many believe is the grandest video game of the 2020s. Many parts of it exceed the quality of the base game. It’s still more “Elden Ring,” shattering expectations.

Prosecutors say ‘Rust’ videos show ‘horseplay’

BALDWIN FROM C1

shooting, shows Baldwin “manipulating” his prop gun.

Prosecutors also allege that once filming on “Rust” resumed in Montana last year, Baldwin insisted that he not be required to

follow recommendations made by film set safety experts.

Baldwin, 66, has pleaded not guilty to the felony manslaughter charge and faces up to 18 months in prison if convicted.

The trial, which is expected to begin July 10, follows an onslaught of criminal and civil proceedings the Emmy-winning actor has faced since a .45 Long Colt revolver discharged in his hand during an informal rehearsal, killing Hutchins, 42, and wounding Souza. Baldwin has claimed that he pulled back the hammer but not the trigger.

In March, Gutierrez-Reed was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter. During the trial, prosecutors accused her of negli-

gence, alleging that she brought live ammunition on set and inadvertently loaded it into Baldwin’s gun. But they blamed Baldwin for not noticing that the 24-year-old “was not up to the job.”

Prosecutors first charged Baldwin with involuntary manslaughter in January 2023 but dismissed the charges months later “to conduct further investigation.” Then in January, a grand jury indicted him, listing two options to pursue an involuntary-manslaughter charge. The main count claims the actor negligently handled the prop gun. An alternative count says Baldwin caused Hutchins’s death “with the total disregard or indifference for the safety of others.” In the most recent filing,



JOHN LAMPARSKI/GETTY IMAGES

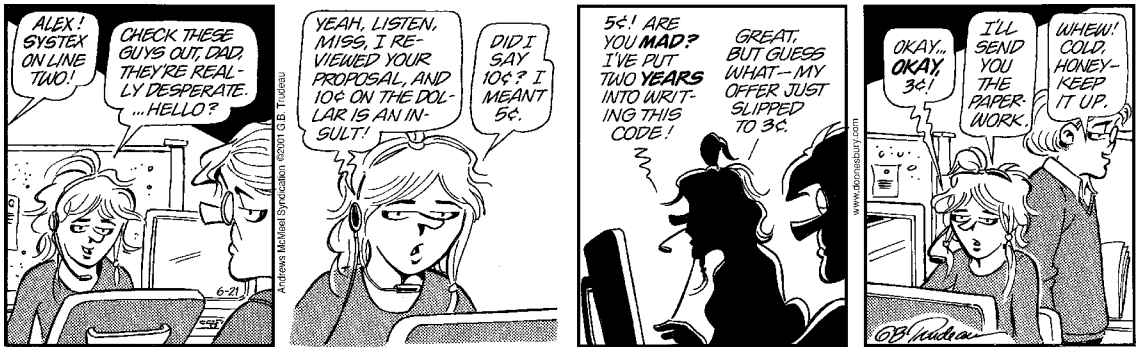
Alec Baldwin is starring in and producing “Rust.” He has denied all charges stemming from the on-set weapon firing.

prosecutors cast their decision to temporarily drop the charges as a show of good faith as their investigation continued.

Attorneys representing Baldwin did not immediately respond to a request for comment but have previously called the charges against him “misguided” and argued that Baldwin was not at fault because he was told that the gun was not loaded with live ammunition.

Annabelle Timsit and Samantha Chery contributed to this report.

CLASSIC DOONESBURY



PICKLES



BRIDGE

BOTH SIDES VULNERABLE

NORTH (D)

- ♠ A Q 1 5
- ♥ 7 6 5 2
- ♦ None
- ♣ A 9 7 6 4

WEST

- ♠ K 10 7 4
- ♥ K 10 9 3
- ♦ 6 5
- ♣ J 8 2

EAST

- ♠ 9 8 3
- ♥ A 8
- ♦ K Q 10 2
- ♣ K Q 10 5

SOUTH

- ♠ 6 2
- ♥ Q J 4
- ♦ A J 9 8 7 4 3
- ♣ 3

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 ♠	1 NT (!)	3 ♦	Dbl

All Pass
Opening lead — ♠ 4

Nick Nickell's teams have been a force in major championships for decades. At the Spring NABC, NICKELL (Katz, Greco-Hampson, Levin-Weinstein) added another title by winning the prestigious Vanderbilt Teams. In the final they used a late rally to beat a team led by Kevin BATHURST.

NICKELL led early, helped by today's deal. At one table, North-South for BATHURST played at two diamonds, making two. In the replay, where East for BATHURST indulged in a featherweight 1NT overcall, South jumped to three diamonds. West thought he had to act with his 7 points and doubled.

East was willing to pass, and the contract would have failed with a heart lead. But West led a spade, and declarer won with dummy's queen, took the ace of clubs, ruffed a club, led to the jack of spades, threw a heart on the ace and ruffed a club. He exited with a heart, and the defenders took the A-K and led a third heart.

South ruffed for his seventh trick and end-played East in trumps to win two more, plus 670. NICKELL gained 11 IMPs.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold:

- ♠ K 10 7 4 ♥ K 10 9 3
- ♦ 6 5 ♣ J 8 2

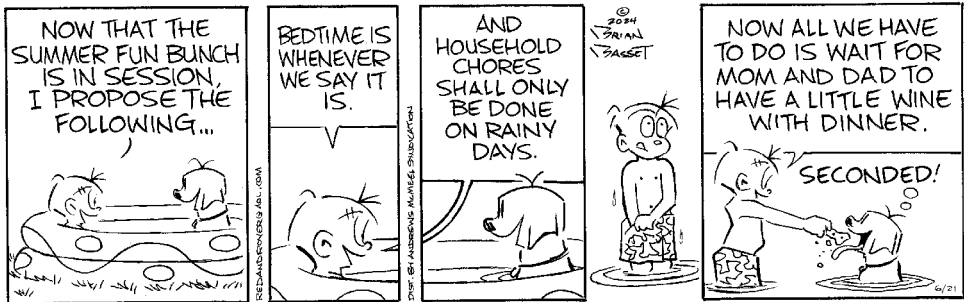
Your partner opens 1NT, and the next player passes. What do you say?

ANSWER: To use Stayman is tempting, and the odds may favor partner's having a four-card major. But if he replied two diamonds, you would have to bid 2NT, and he might go down there or go on to a hopeless game. Pass. Even if you have a major-suit fit, there is no guarantee that you will need to play there to obtain a plus score.

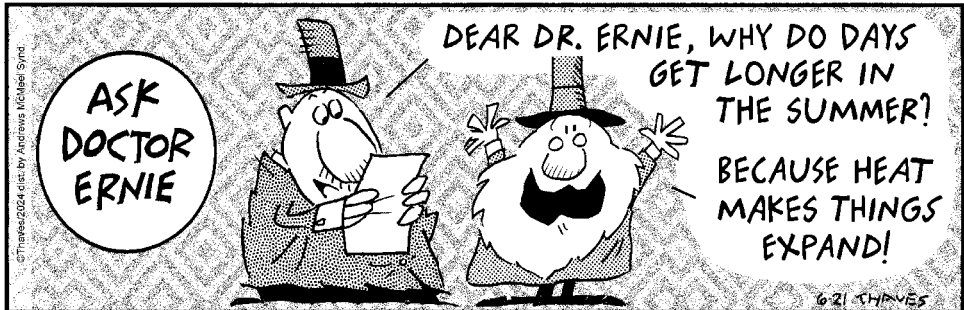
— Frank Stewart

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RED AND ROVER



FRANK AND ERNEST



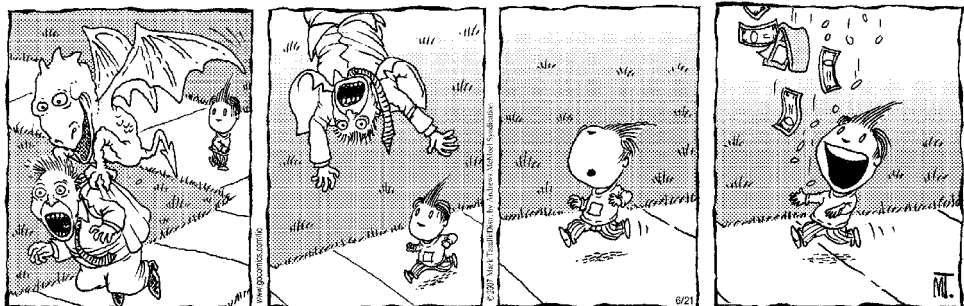
CLASSIC PEANUTS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



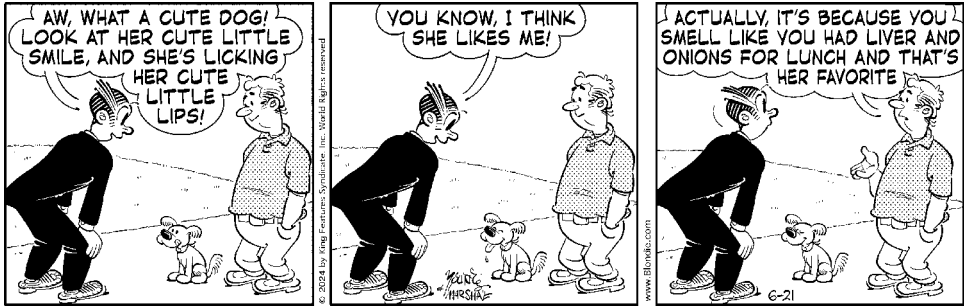
LIO



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

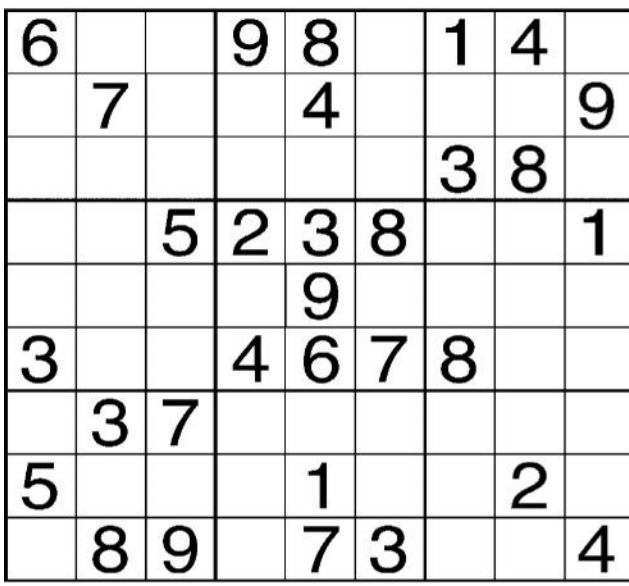


BLONDIE

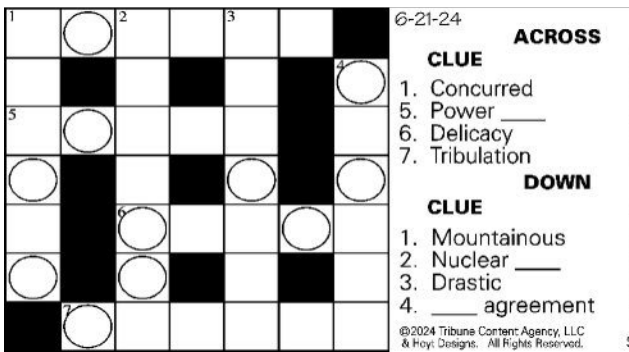


SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



ACROSS

1. Concurred
5. Power
6. Delicacy
7. Tribulation

DOWN

1. Mountainous
2. Nuclear
3. Drastic
4. agreement

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JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

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

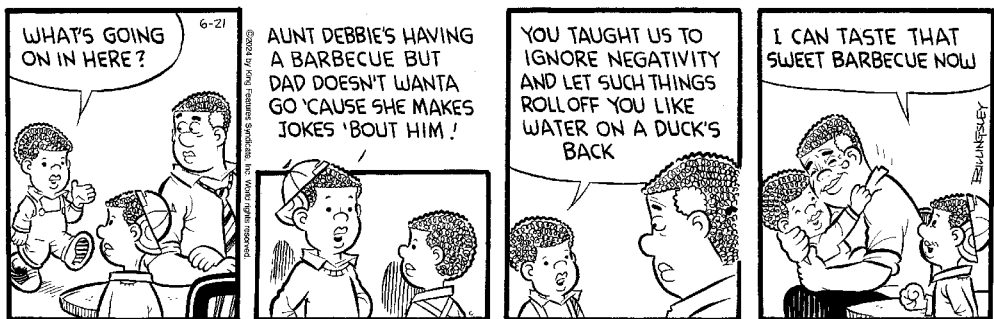
CLUE: The _____ was 2,170 miles long.

ANSWERS: 1A-Agreed, 1D-Arms, 5A-Treat, 7A-Corral, 7D-Mental, 8A-Orion Trail, 4D-Mental, 8D-Orion Trail

SHERMAN'S LAGOON



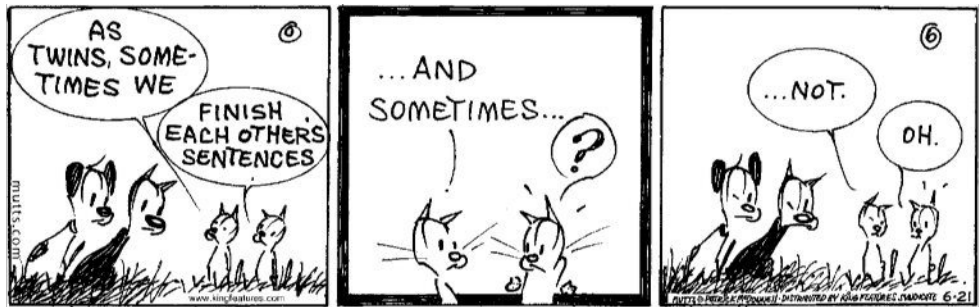
CURTIS



BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!

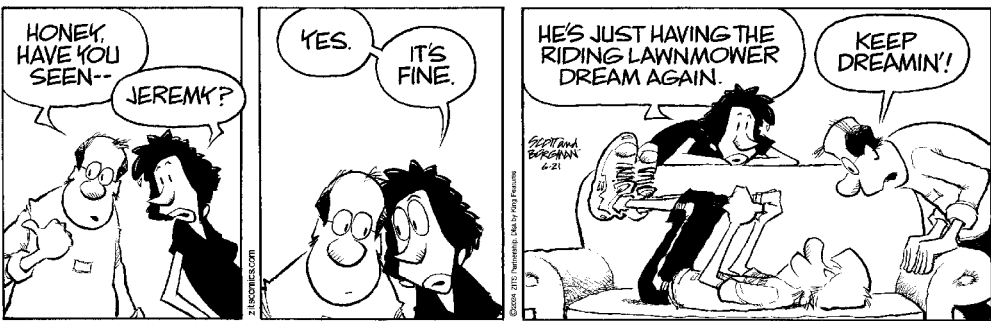


MUTTS



PATRICK McDONNELL

ZITS



JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN

HOROSCOPE

BIRTHDAY | JUNE 21
You are busy, social, sensuous, exciting and sometimes obsessed. You are talented and strongly individualistic. Be careful about driving yourself to exhaustion. This is a powerful year for you, and a busy one. Leadership, promotions, kudos, praise and awards will come your way. Bravo!

MOON ALERT: Avoid shopping or making important decisions from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. today.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19). Today you might have a better idea if travel plans are feasible or not. You certainly want a change of scenery and a chance to explore, whether it's camping or extensive travel.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20). Be careful with financial decisions today, especially regarding shared property, taxes or inheritances, because fuzzy thinking could lead you down the wrong path.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20). Don't agree to anything important today when talking to partners and close friends, because things are nebulous and some things are not as they appear. Therefore, wait until you see how everything unfolds.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22). Avoid hasty decisions today, especially with your health, job or work-related travel. It's important to know what the rules and regulations are, and what you can do and what you can't do.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22). Social plans and issues with kids are confusing today. This could lead to feelings of disappointment. Make sure that others know what your expectations are. By the end of the day, the dust will settle and you'll have a realistic assessment of things.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22). You might have increased responsibilities or burdens related to family, parents or older relatives today. Do what you can; that's all you can do. Postpone making important decisions until this evening, because that's when you might have the most clarity.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22). Relax. It's easy to be worried today. That's because things tend to look worse than they really are. When your perspective includes the suffering of others in the world, your own suffering looks comparatively small.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21). Tread carefully today when dealing with financial matters. You might not have all the facts. Something might look better than it is. Someone might even deceive you today – it's possible. Wait until the last moment this evening to make your decision.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21). Today life tends to look worse than it really is. This is why you might feel down or depressed. But this is a temporary dark cloud on your horizon. Furthermore, confusion is present. Wait until late in the day for clarity – one hopes.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19). Don't worry if you have feelings of loneliness today or you feel cut off from others. Many people feel this way today. Many people feel confused and discouraged. Fortunately, by the evening, you might see things in a new light, and you'll know what to do.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18). Financial disappointments, especially related to a friend or a group, might occur today. You might feel unappreciated. You might even feel deceived. You might feel, "I didn't sign up for this." However, confusion can create wrong impressions.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20). Be leery of the advice of authority figures today. An element of confusion exists. Someone might not have the full facts. Because of this, they might give flawed advice. Wait until the end of the day to see what is really possible.

— Georgia Nicols

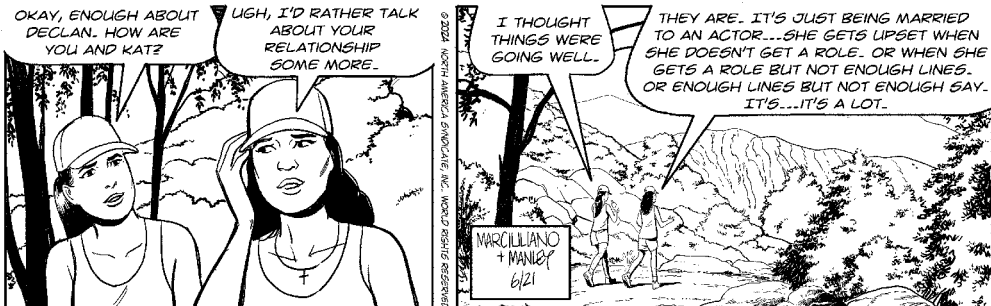
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HEART OF THE CITY



STEEN Z

JUDGE PARKER



FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY

FRAZZ



JEFF MALLET

CANDORVILLE



DARRIN BELL

GARFIELD



JIM DAVIS

BARNEY AND CLYDE



WEINGARTENS & CLARK

DUSTIN



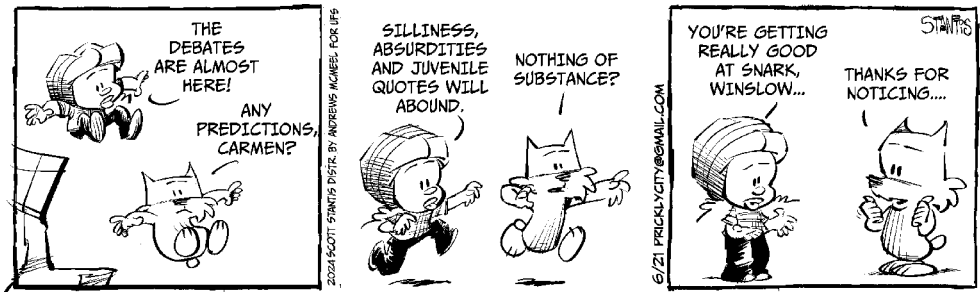
STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER

FLASH GORDON



DAN SCHKADE

PRICKLY CITY



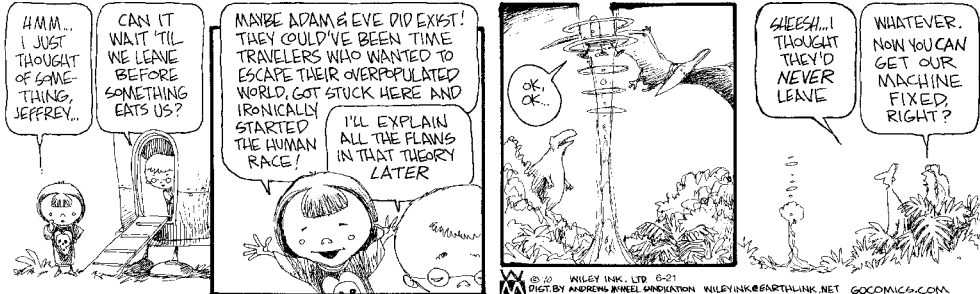
SCOTT STANTIS

LOOSE PARTS



DAVE BLAZECK

NON SEQUITUR



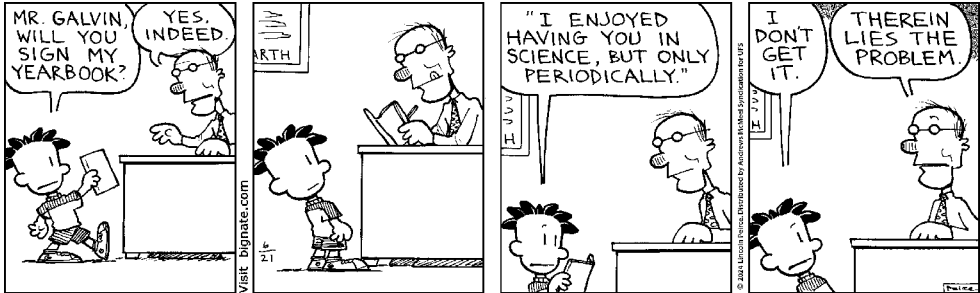
WILEY

BABY BLUES



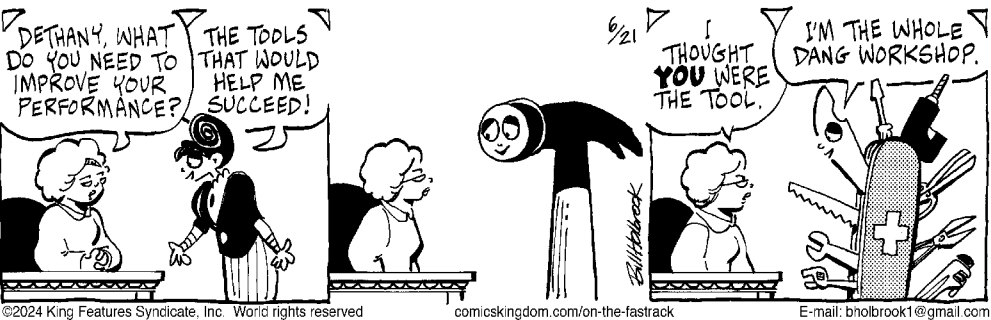
RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT

BIG NATE



LINCOLN PEIRCE

ON THE FASTTRACK



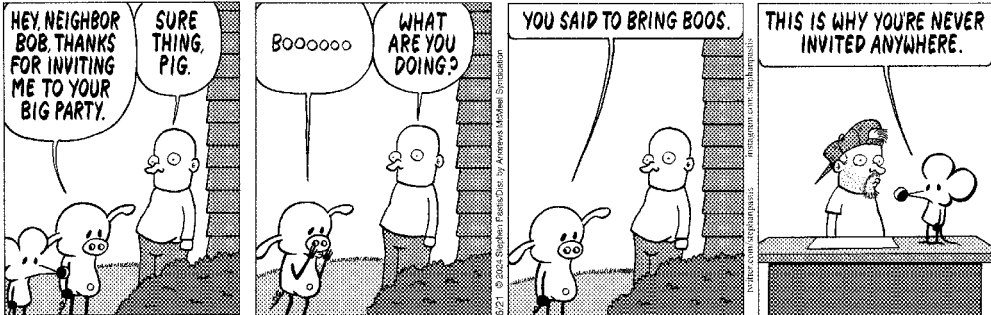
BILL HOLBROOK

BEEBLE BAILEY



GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



STEPHAN PASTIS

PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

8	9	1	2	7	4	3	6	5
4	6	5	3	1	8	2	9	7
3	7	2	9	6	5	4	1	8
2	8	4	5	3	9	6	7	1
6	5	7	1	4	2	8	3	9
9	1	3	7	8	6	5	4	2
5	2	6	4	9	7	1	8	3
7	3	8	6	5	1	9	2	4
1	4	9	8	2	3	7	5	6

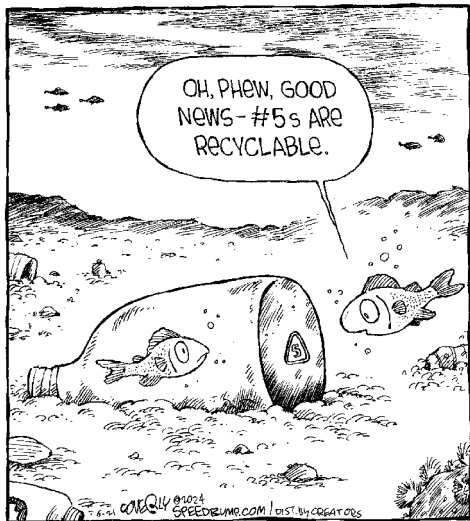
PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

F	L	A	S	K	E	T
C	A	R	I	Y	O	N
O	R	I	N	E	R	Y
W	A	Y	B	I	L	L

PAR SCORE 150-160

RSACK 1 = 66
RACK 2 = 62
RACK 3 = 9
RACK 4 = 80
TOTAL 217

SPEED BUMP



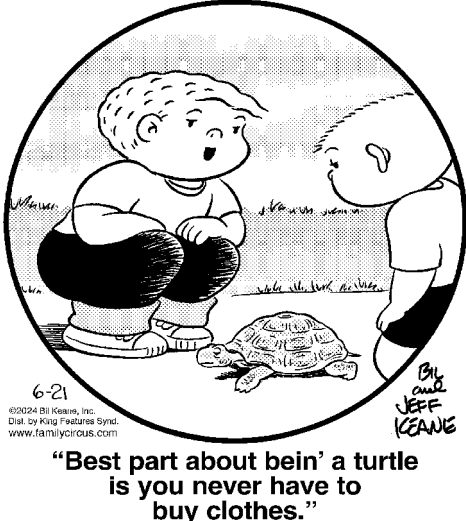
DAVE COVERLY

DENNIS THE MENACE



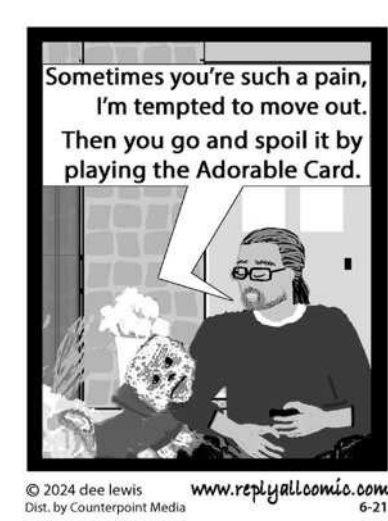
H. KETCHAM

FAMILY CIRCUS



BIL KEANE

REPLY ALL LITE



DONNA A. LEWIS



BRYAN ANSELM FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Eric Holt trains with Empire Elite, a track club that discovered him from his solo late-night runs. He will compete in the 1,500 meters at the U.S. Olympic trials Friday.

He's in it for the long run

BY ADAM KILGORE

NEW YORK — Bunched among peers at the start line, Eric Holt stands apart. They all have things Holt wants and does not have. His black mesh jersey is adorned with tiny blemishes instead of a shoe company's logo. The spikes on his feet he paid for himself. Holt is one of the best at 1,500 meters in the United States, yet he loses money running.

Asked recently how he makes ends meet, Holt replied: "I worked a job in a psych ward. And I live with my parents."

The U.S. Olympic trials, which begin Friday night in Eugene, Ore., will bring together a constellation of world champions, Olympic medalists and smiling faces that appear on billboards

A 29-year-old from Upstate N.Y., Holt lives with his parents, worked at a psych ward and is pursuing an Olympic shot only he believed in

U.S. Olympic track and field trials
6:30 p.m., USA Network; 9 p.m., NBC

and in commercials. Among them will be dreamers such as Holt who are there to remind of the fundamental appeal of track and field: The clock doesn't care what you're wearing or whether your girlfriend buys your meals. Run the time, and your life can change.

Holt, 29, decided years ago he wanted to be an Olympian against any feasible evidence it would be possible. He ran in college on a partial scholarship and never made the NCAA championships. He does not have a sponsor, which means he pays for his own equipment, physiotherapist and travel. He spent years training by himself after 13-hour shifts at a mental health clinic. He drove to races across the Northeast, rarely earning prize money

SEE HOLT ON D4

Douglass is putting on a show at the trials

U.S. swimming phenom sets a meet record in 200 breaststroke

BY DAVE SHEININ

INDIANAPOLIS — Fans walking to Lucas Oil Stadium from the downtown hotels here for the U.S. Olympic swimming trials each day pass by an 84-foot-tall, 214-foot-wide action photo of Kate Douglass draped across the north facade of the building, looming just above a bronze statue of Peyton Manning. USA Swimming presumably could have put any of its superstars' photos in that marquee spot. It spoke volumes that the organization chose Douglass.

It effectively announced her as the program's Next Big Thing even before this selection meet for the 2024 Paris Games began. And nothing Douglass has done here has contradicted that notion.

In the latest incarnation of one of the most versatile and unique swimming talents in recent history, Douglass flirted with the world record in the final of the women's 200-meter breaststroke Thursday night before settling for a commanding victory in a meet-record time of 2 minutes 19.46 seconds, nearly 2½ seconds faster than runner-up Lilly King (2:21.93).

"It's super cool to have my face on the stadium," Douglass said. "Definitely, it was scary at first. I felt the pressure after seeing that, but I feel like I've done a good job of handling it."

Already the winner of the 100 freestyle the night before, Douglass, a 22-year-old University of Virginia product, is headed to Paris in a second individual event — and could be a part of three relays there. She also will be the favorite to win the 200 individual medley Saturday, in which she is the defending Olympic bronze medalist, and remains entered in the 50 free, for which she is the American record holder, although it is widely expected she will scratch the latter.

By virtue of her second-place
SEE TRIALS ON D3

U.S. Olympic swimming trials
8 p.m., NBC

McDavid 'on a mission' for hard-charging Oilers

In keeping Edmonton's hopes alive, star makes strong Conn Smythe case

BY BAILEY JOHNSON

EDMONTON — Only one skater in NHL history has won the Conn Smythe Trophy, given to the MVP of the Stanley Cup playoffs, when his team lost in the finals. Reggie Leach won in 1976 even though his Philadelphia Flyers were swept by the Montreal Canadiens after he set a playoff record with 19 goals during the postseason that has been equaled once but never topped.

If Connor McDavid has his way, his Edmonton Oilers will beat the Florida Panthers in Friday's Game 6 at Rogers Place, force the series back to Florida and pull off a reverse sweep for the ages with a victory in Game 7 on Monday. If that happens, there will be no question about McDavid's claim to the Conn Smythe.

But even if the Oilers come up short of what they believe is their destiny, that might not be in question. With Edmonton trailing the Panthers three games to

none, facing elimination on home ice Saturday, McDavid clicked into supernova mode, racking up four points in the Oilers' 8-1 Game 4 blowout win.

Then he did it again in Game 5, becoming the first player in NHL history to record back-to-back four-point games in the Stanley Cup finals as Edmonton won, 5-3, to — as McDavid put it — drag the Panthers back to Alberta.

The eight points in two games brought McDavid's total to 42 in these playoffs, only five shy of Wayne Gretzky's 1985 record. His 34 assists are already an NHL record; he broke Gretzky's record of 31 in Game 4.

"He puts this team on his back," forward Corey Perry said after Game 5. "When we're against the wall, he puts us on his back and he plays. You see why he is the best player."

To say McDavid has single-handedly brought the Oilers to this point, back from the brink with a chance to become only the third team to force a Game 7 after going down 3-0 in the Stanley Cup finals, minimizes the impacts of goaltender Stuart

SEE STANLEY CUP ON D4

STANLEY CUP FINALS
Game 6: Panthers at Oilers
8 p.m., ABC



VASHA HUNT/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bill Greason, who played in the Negro Leagues with Willie Mays in 1948, throws out the first pitch.

A tribute and boost to Black baseball

BY ANDREW GOLDEN

BIRMINGHAM, ALA. — The St. Louis Cardinals were taking batting practice Thursday when "Rock With You" by Michael Jackson blared over the speakers at Rickwood Field. Cardinals shortstop Masyn Winn swayed to the music, interrupting his rhythm only to field groundballs.

A few minutes later, the music transitioned to "Gee, It's a Wonderful Game" by Dodworth Saxhorn Band to create a more authentic feel at America's oldest professional baseball park. Winn

Rickwood Field hosts MLB game that honors legends of Negro Leagues

stood all alone at shortstop, rotating in slow motion as he admired the stadium. Then he looked down and filled in the holes in the dirt as if to ensure he didn't disturb someone else's home.

Winn said his stepdad taught him about the history of the

Negro Leagues and that he grew up playing for a travel team called the Negro League Legends. So on Thursday afternoon, there was Winn, a 22-year-old who understood both the magnitude of stepping on this field and the responsibility of carrying the legacy of those who played on it before him.

"Obviously, this field is home to some of the greats of the Negro Leagues," Winn said before the game against the San Francisco Giants. "There's not a lot a brother in baseball, so I think it's

SEE RICKWOOD ON D6

Gore labors in the heat, Nats flail to series loss

DIAMONDBACKS 5, NATIONALS 2

BY SPENCER NUSBAUM

The Washington Nationals' 5-2 loss to the Arizona Diamondbacks on Thursday afternoon was defined by who labored and who didn't.

MacKenzie Gore, for one, did. Sweating in humid 90-degree heat at Nationals Park, he turned to the rosin bag, both palms and his pant leg for a dry surface. Throughout the outing, the left-hander nibbled at the strike zone with his usually impressive stuff and watched from his perch on the mound as Arizona poked hit after hit into the shallow outfield. He tried, gamely, to keep the Nationals in a ballgame in which a victory could have delivered their fourth straight series win and dragged them back to .500 before a nine-game road trip.

"Yeah, just part of the game, I guess," Gore said. "Lot of those [weaker hits] today. It's a good thing when they're not hitting the ball hard, but got to understand why they're getting hits, too."

He also, inning after inning, sauntered back to the mound af-

SEE NATIONALS ON D6

Nationals at Rockies
8:40 p.m., MASN2

PRO BASKETBALL

After missing out on Dan Hurley, the Lakers opt for former player JJ Redick as their next coach. **D4**

BASEBALL

The Orioles pound rookie Luis Gil and the Yankees to finish off a key series win in the AL East. **D5**

THE DAY IN SPORTS

COLLEGE BASKETBALL Tournament fields could grow to 72 or 76

The NCAA presented a plan to Division I conference commissioners that would expand the lucrative men's and women's basketball tournaments by four or eight teams alongside an option to leave each field at 68 teams, according to a person familiar with the details.

The proposals were outlined to the commissioners this week by NCAA Senior Vice President of Basketball **Dan Gavitt** and NCAA Vice President for Women's Basketball **Lynn Holzman**, the person told the Associated Press on Thursday on the condition of anonymity because no official announcements had been made. The news was first reported by Yahoo Sports.

Under the proposal, expansion of the 68-team field included four- and eight-team models.

The NCAA would keep its 64-team bracket but would add play-in games involving the 10 through 12 seeds.

If the men's tournament were to expand, it is expected the women's tourney would as well.

"It is appropriate to look at expansion, and we need to do that," ACC Commissioner **James Phillips** said during the Associated Press Sports Editors summer conference. "We're looking at it."

TENNIS Gauff will lead U.S. into the Paris Games

Reigning U.S. Open champion **Coco Gauff** will lead the U.S. tennis team at the Paris Olympics three years after missing the Tokyo Games because she tested positive for the coronavirus.

The 20-year-old Gauff, ranked second, will be joined by No. 5 **Jessica Pegula**, **Danielle Collins** and **Emma Navarro** in women's singles, along with **Taylor Fritz**, **Tommy Paul**, **Chris Eubanks** and **Marcos Giron** in men's singles.

Olympic tennis starts July 27 at Roland Garros, the site of the French Open.

Gauff and Pegula, who have won five doubles titles as a pair, will team up in Paris.

Doubles player **Desirae Krawczyk** will play with Collins at the Paris Games. Krawczyk is a four-time Grand Slam champion in mixed doubles.

The United States is also taking 40-year-old **Rajeev Ram** to his third Olympics. He will be paired with **Austin Krajicek** in doubles. Fritz and Paul will also join forces in doubles. ...

Wimbledon champion **Marketa Vondrousova** retired from her match in Berlin because of an apparent leg injury less than two weeks before play begins at the All England Club.

Vondrousova was leading 5-3 in her second-round match against **Anna Kalinskaya** at the grass court Ladies Open when she slipped behind the baseline and clutched her right leg.

Also, top-seeded Gauff beat **Ekaterina Alexandrova**, 7-6 (8-6), 6-2, and second-seeded **Aryna Sabalenka** defeated **Daria Kasatkina**, 6-1, 6-4.

Elena Rybakina reached the quarterfinals with a 6-4, 7-5 victory over **Veronika Kudermetova**. ...

Wimbledon champion **Carlos Alcaraz**'s buildup took a hit when he lost in the second round of Queen's Club in London.

Alcaraz, the defending Queen's champion and top seed, lost to **Jack Draper**, 7-6 (7-3), 6-3.

For Draper, the British No. 1, it was the biggest win of his career. He was impressively composed in front of his home crowd. ...

Jan-Lennard Struff made tidy work of **Stefanos Tsitsipas** a day after a marathon three-set victory at the grass court Halle Open in Germany.

The 34-year-old German won, 6-4, 6-4, to set up a quarterfinal match against top-ranked **Jannik Sinner**. It's the first time in 11 appearances at Halle that Struff has reached the last eight.

Sinner, also coming off a three-set match, beat **Fabian Marozsan**, 6-4, 6-7 (7-4), 6-3.

SOCCER

Spain uses own goal to beat Italy in Euros

Spain advanced to the round of 16 at Euro 2024 after a 1-0 win against defending champion Italy.

A 55th-minute own goal by Italy's **Riccardo Calafiori** handed victory to Spain in the first clash of international heavyweights at this European Championship.



ALEX GRIMM/GETTY IMAGES

The royal box

Britain's Prince William, left, and Denmark's King Frederik X share a moment at the European Championship match between their countries Thursday. The royals watched as Morten Hjulmand scored to match a goal by Harry Kane in a 1-all draw.

SPOTLIGHT: SOCCER

Messi helps set up two goals in Copa opener

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Lionel Messi's through ball led to Julián Álvarez's goal in the 49th minute and he assisted on Lautaro Martínez's goal in the 88th as Argentina began the defense of its Copa América title with a 2-0 victory over Canada on Thursday night.

Argentina is seeking its third straight major title after winning the 2021 Copa América and the 2022 World Cup.

With South America's championship moved to the United States for the second time, Messi set a Copa América record with his 35th match, one more than Chile's Sergio Livingstone from 1941 to 1953. Messi extended his own record with his 18th assist.

Messi, who turns 37 on Monday, created the first goal when, following a throw-in, he headed a pass through the defense

ARGENTINA 2, CANADA 0

Argentina is looking to win third straight major trophy

for Alexis MacAllister. The midfielder side-footed a pass to Álvarez while crashing into onrushing goalkeeper Maxime Crépeau about eight yards out. Álvarez had a virtually empty net and kicked the ball in over a sliding defender for his eighth goal in 32 international appearances.

Messi extended his Copa América record when he ran through the center of the midfield and rolled a pass to Martínez, who got his 25th international goal.

Messi's best scoring chance was in the

65th minute, when Crépeau made a diving stop and Messi's attempt off the rebound was blocked by the head of defender Derek Cornelius. Messi put a chip wide after he came in alone on Crépeau in the 79th. He was shaken up by a sliding tackle from defender Moise Bombito in the 82nd minute but remained in the game.

Argentina plays Chile on Tuesday in East Rutherford, N.J., then closes the first round against Peru on June 29 in Miami Gardens, Fla. Canada faces Peru on Tuesday in Kansas City, Kan., and finishes the group stage against Chile on June 29 in Orlando.

Fourteen U.S. stadiums are hosting the tournament, which runs through July 14 and ends in Miami Gardens. Six nations from North and Central America and the Caribbean were added to the 10 South American teams, just as in the centennial Copa América in 2016.

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB	
2 p.m.	New York Mets at Chicago Cubs » MLB Network
8 p.m.	Baltimore at Houston » MASN, WYYY (97.9 FM), WSNB (630 AM)
8:30 p.m.	Washington at Colorado » MASN2, WJFK (106.7 FM), WDCN (87.7 FM)
10 p.m.	Los Angeles Angels at Los Angeles Dodgers » MLB Network
STANLEY CUP FINALS	
8 p.m.	Game 6: Florida at Edmonton » WJLA (Ch. 7), WMAR (Ch. 2)
WNBA	
7:30 p.m.	Indiana at Atlanta » Ion
10 p.m.	Connecticut at Las Vegas » Ion
AUTO RACING	
7:25 a.m.	Formula One: Spanish Grand Prix, practice » ESPN
11 a.m.	Formula One: Spanish Grand Prix, practice » ESPN
4 p.m.	NASCAR Xfinity Series: Sci Aps 200, qualifying » USA Network
6 p.m.	ARCA Series: Zinsser SmartCoat 150 » Fox Sports 2
GOLF	
7 a.m.	DP World Tour: KLM Open, second round » Golf Channel
Noon	PGA Tour Champions: Dick's Open, first round » Golf Channel
3 p.m.	PGA Tour: Travelers Championship, second round » Golf Channel
6 p.m.	LPGA Tour: Women's PGA Championship, second round » Golf Channel

SOCCER	
Noon	European Championship, Group D: Poland vs. Austria » Fox Sports 1
3 p.m.	European Championship, Group D: Netherlands vs. France » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
8 p.m.	Copa América, Group A: Peru vs. Chile » Fox Sports 1
9 p.m.	Canadian Premier League: Atletico Ottawa at Cavalry FC » Fox Sports 2
TENNIS	
5 a.m.	ATP: Queen's Club Championships and Halle Open, early rounds; WTA: German Open and Birmingham Classic, early rounds » Tennis Channel
U.S. OLYMPIC TRIALS	
6:30 p.m.	Track and field, Day 1: decathlon (100 meters, long jump, shot put, high jump, 400 meters) » USA Network
8 p.m.	Swimming, Day 7, finals: Women's 200-meter backstroke, men's 50-meter freestyle, men's 200-meter individual medley, men's 100-meter butterfly semifinals, women's 200-meter individual medley » WRC (Ch. 4), WBAL (Ch. 11)
9 p.m.	Track and field, Day 1: men's 10,000-meter final; decathlon (100 meters, long jump, shot put, high jump, 400 meters) » WRC (Ch. 4), WBAL (Ch. 11)
MIXED MARTIAL ARTS	
8 p.m.	Professional Fighters League: Light heavyweights and lightweights » ESPN

nose in France's opening 1-0 win over Austria on Monday when his face collided with Austria defender **Kevin Danso**'s shoulder as he was trying to head the ball. ...

English Premier League club Leicester hired **Steve Cooper** as its new coach on a contract until 2027, six months after he was fired by Nottingham Forest.

Cooper replaces **Enzo Maresca**, who was hired by Chelsea this month after just one year at Leicester — during which he got the club promoted as second-tier champion.

PRO BASKETBALL Reese breaks record as Sky halts its slide

Chennedy Carter and **Marina Mabrey** scored 19 points each, **Angel Reese** recorded her seventh consecutive double-double to set a WNBA rookie

record, and the host Chicago Sky eased by the Dallas Wings, 83-72, to snap a four-game losing streak.

Chicago raised its record to 5-9. Dallas fell to 3-11.

Reese finished with 16 points and a season-high 18 rebounds to pass **Tina Charles** and **Cindy Brown** for the most consecutive games with a double-double by a WNBA rookie. The overall record is 12 in a row, set by **Candace Parker** during the 2009 and 2010 seasons.

Arike Ogunbowale scored a game-high 31 points for Dallas. ...

The Oklahoma City Thunder traded point guard **Josh Giddey** to the Chicago Bulls in exchange for guard **Alex Caruso**, a person familiar with the deal told the Associated Press.

Giddey averaged 12.3 points, 6.4 rebounds and 4.8 assists with 47.5 percent shooting this season. Caruso, who plays point guard and shooting guard, is a two-

time all-defensive team member. ...

There will be no public memorial for NBA Hall of Famer **Jerry West**.

"We will honor Jerry's wishes and mourn his passing privately," his family said in a statement released by the Los Angeles Clippers.

West, a 14-time all-star and 1972 NBA champion for the Lakers franchise, was working as a consultant for their crosstown Clippers when he died June 12 at age 86.

PRO FOOTBALL Pearsall, first-rounder of 49ers, inks contract

The San Francisco 49ers signed first-round pick **Ricky Pearsall** to a four-year contract worth a fully guaranteed \$12.5 million.

San Francisco took Pearsall 31st overall in April. The wide receiver had 65 catches for 965 yards and four touchdowns last season at Florida. ...

Former Stanford football coach **David Shaw** is returning to the NFL as a senior personnel executive with the Denver Broncos.

Shaw, who coached the Cardinal from 2011 to 2022, will help evaluate college and pro players and assist General Manager **George Paton** in roster evaluation. ...

The Cleveland Browns cut defensive end **Lonnie Phelps** following his arrest on drunken driving charges after he crashed his SUV into a Key West, Fla., restaurant.

Phelps, 23, signed a reserve/future contract with the Browns in January. He participated in Cleveland's minicamp last week.

CYCLING Olympic champion breaks leg in fall

British two-time Olympic champion track cyclist **Katie Archibald** will miss the Paris Games after breaking two leg bones in a freak accident.

Archibald, 30 fractured her tibia and fibula and dislocated an ankle when she tripped over a garden step.

She also suffered substantial ligament damage during the incident Tuesday and has since undergone surgery. ...

Two-time Tour de France champion **Jonas Vingegaard** recovered in time to defend his title next week, his team announced.

Vingegaard was hospitalized for nearly two weeks in April in Spain following a multi-rider, high-speed crash in the Tour of the Basque Country. He suffered a broken collarbone, broken ribs and a collapsed lung.

GOLF Thompson takes lead at the Women's PGA

Lexi Thompson made six birdies on her way to a 4-under-par 68 and a one-shot lead over **Nelly Korda** and **Patty Tavatanakit** after the first round of the Women's PGA Championship in Sammamish, Wash.

Thompson, who announced her plans to retire full-time from the LPGA Tour after the season, started hot with three straight birdies to open her round and built on last week when she lost in a playoff at the Meijer LPGA Classic. ...

Tom Kim shot an 8-under 62 in the first round of the Travelers Championship, good for a two-stroke lead in the final limited-field, no-cut signature event on this year's PGA Tour schedule.

Scottie Scheffler, the world's No. 1 player, was tied for sixth, three shots back, at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell, Conn.

Kim birdied the last two holes to separate himself from the four players tied at 6 under: **Rickie Fowler**, **Akshay Bhatia**, **Kurt Kitayama** and **Will Zalatoris**. Scheffler was among seven players at 5 under.

AUTO RACING Haas will field a car in NASCAR for 2025

NASCAR team owner **Gene Haas** will remain in the Cup Series and field one car in 2025 in the wake of the decision to shutter the organization he owns with **Tony Stewart** at the end of the season.

Haas will keep one of the four charters that belong to Stewart-Haas Racing and will operate next season as the Haas Factory Team. He will also run a two-car NASCAR Xfinity Series team.

— From news services

U.S. OLYMPIC SWIMMING TRIALS

An unusual swim-off for a roster spot in Paris yielded tears of joy and pain

BY DAVE SHEININ

INDIANAPOLIS — There could be only one thing more harrowing and nerve-shredding than having to race a tiebreaker swim-off — in front of thousands of people in a football stadium and countless more watching the live stream — with a probable roster spot for the Paris Olympics on the line. And Erika Connolly and Catie DeLoof experienced it Thursday.

What could possibly be worse? Try racing that swim-off against your close friend and teammate, whose own Olympic dream would be crushed if you fulfill yours.

It was understandable, then, that the immediate aftermath of the 100-meter freestyle swim-off at the U.S. Olympic swimming trials left three people at Lucas Oil Stadium in various states of emotional exhaustion as they tried to sort through heavy and conflicting feelings like none had experienced in the sport.

There was Connolly, who won the two-length, head-to-head battle with a time of 53.76 seconds to secure sixth place in the championship final. As long as the roster math works out, she will head to Paris to swim for Team USA in the preliminary heats of the women's 4x100 free relay.

"This," she mustered when she met with a small group of reporters, still struggling for breath moments after the race, "is a bit overwhelming."

There was DeLoof, who had a sizable lead at the turn and still held a slight edge with perhaps 10 meters to go but finished just four-hundredths of a second behind, in 53.80. Understandably, she declined a request to speak to the media.

And there was Matt Kredich, who coaches both Connolly and DeLoof for Tennessee Aquatics in Knoxville. He didn't know whether to jump for joy or weep at the outcome, so reflexively he settled into a stony numbness at first, his face expressionless and ghostly, his words halting and quiet. He shared in DeLoof's devastation, hugging her and consoling her, and he shared in Connolly's relief



MICHAEL CONROY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Erika Connolly beat teammate and friend Catie DeLoof by 0.04 seconds in a 100-meter freestyle swim-off to earn a probable Olympic spot.

and joy, sharing another long hug with her. Both times, he was left in tears.

"I still can't explain it," Kredich said. "I had to keep myself from sobbing. ... I had never experienced the elation and the brutal pain of making it and missing it at right exactly the same time before."

In fact, no one had ever experienced what Connolly and DeLoof — and their coach — did Thursday. While swim-offs are not infrequent at Olympic trials to break ties and decide spots in a semifinal or final — Connolly had to win one Tuesday night just to get the eighth and final spot in Wednesday night's final — it is believed there had never been a swim-off to decide a U.S. Olympic

roster spot. For a while late Wednesday night, the USA Swimming staff was scrambling to figure out whether there even needed to be one.

"Just help me find a world in which [both] of them can go," Kredich pleaded to meet officials at one point.

But the roster-selection protocols are clear, and by the time they all went to sleep Wednesday night, Connolly, DeLoof and Kredich knew what would be awaiting them some 12 hours later, tacked onto the end of Thursday's prelims. Good luck sleeping with that running through your brain.

On Thursday in the "ready" room, where swimmers sit on metal chairs and await their en-

trances to the pool deck, Connolly and DeLoof tried to encourage each other. Aside from being club teammates, they were roommates in Tokyo during the previous Olympics, where they earned bronze medals as part of the 4x100 free relay. (Connolly went by Erika Brown at the time; she got married in June 2022 and now goes by her married name.)

"I just love her so much," Connolly said of DeLoof. "I knew that was going to be really hard. But that's the sport. You just have to be competitive and not let things get to you. ... I am sad for Catie. She's such a great person. I envisioned myself going to the Olympics with Catie, so that's hard."

Typically, 100 free swimmers have to race three times success-

fully — prelims, semis and final — to make the team, but including her two swim-offs, Connolly had to swim it five times in a span of roughly 48 hours. Amazingly, she got faster each time: 54.72, then 54.09, then 53.92, then 53.86 and finally Thursday's 53.76.

"The last 48 hours have been crazy," she said.

Connolly's victory Thursday was made all the more special by the sheer effort it took to hold her career together since Tokyo. A herniated disk in January 2023 forced her to take five months off from the sport and still had her swimming "stiff," as she described it, when she was finally able to return. Connolly described it as having to "relearn how to swim."

"She came back to the pool and wasn't really the same. So she's really struggled with that," Kredich said. "After five or six months [of training], it wasn't painful anymore, but it changed the way she moves. She's never overpowered the water. She's obviously not tall. She has this almost like this dance that her stroke is, so her timing has to be there."

At several points, Connolly seriously contemplated retirement. "But my faith is really important to me," she said, "and I felt like the Lord was telling me to keep going."

Then last August, Kredich's 24-year-old son, Ben, with whom Connolly was close, was killed by a drunk driver while walking near the University of Tennessee campus, a loss that devastated the entire swim community in Knoxville and beyond. "We've been through a lot this year," Kredich said.

Connolly and DeLoof will swim the 50 free here, with prelims and semis Saturday and the final Sunday night, but Connolly also will have to sweat through the complex roster-selection process before finding out whether her tentative spot on the Paris team becomes official. Because Team USA can take just 26 female swimmers (along with 26 men), only the top four relay swimmers are automatic locks. Essentially, Connolly needs several more American women to qualify in multiple events, freeing up roster spots for the fifth- and sixth-place finishers, Abby Weitzeil and herself.

But while agonizing, that seems almost easy compared to what she has already been through this week. She is powerless now to decide her fate.

"It's a beautiful sport," Kredich said. "There's so much [emotion] contained in every event. Every human being at this event has a story that involves some triumph and some tragedy and some falling down and always getting back up. ... I hope everyone appreciates what these people put into this and how much it means to them."

Douglass turns the Olympic swimming trials into a showcase for her versatility

TRIALS FROM D1

finish, King, 27, also qualified for Paris in a second individual event, having previously won the 100 breast. But the highlight of her night occurred several minutes after the race when her boyfriend suddenly appeared near the warmup pool and, in the full view of NBC's cameras, dropped to one knee and proposed. King, known for her ability to perform under pressure, said yes.

Also Thursday, another multi-stroke American star, Regan Smith, added a victory in the women's 200 butterfly to the one she won earlier in the meet in the 100 back, completing her four lengths in 2:05.70, nearly a second faster than 17-year-old Alex Shackell (2:06.69). Shackell's runner-up finish put her on the Paris roster, which already featured her brother Aaron, who won the men's 400 freestyle on the opening night of the meet. Both will be first-time Olympians.

Three-time Olympian Ryan Murphy, as expected, won the men's 200 back to complete a historic sweep of the backstroke events here, becoming the first male swimmer to pull off that feat at three consecutive U.S. trials. Keaton Jones, like Murphy a product of California Berkeley, grabbed the second spot with a time of 1:54.61 and was in tears as he hung on the lane line afterward until Murphy reached over and hugged him.

Spare some thoughts, meanwhile, for Jack Aikins. The third-place finisher in the 100 back two nights earlier, he was also third Thursday night, missing a berth in Paris in those two races by a combined margin of less than two-tenths of a second.

Like Murphy, Caeleb Dressel will be a third-time Olympian in Paris. Already named to the team on the 4x100 free relay, Dressel, a five-time gold medalist at Tokyo 2020, won his semifinal heat in the 50 free Thursday night in 21.61 seconds — his fastest time at that distance in more than two years — and will be the second seed in Friday night's final behind Chris Giuliano (21.59).



SARAH STIER/GETTY IMAGES

Kate Douglass, left, and Lilly King finished first and second, respectively, in the 200-meter breaststroke Thursday. Douglass also won the 100 freestyle a night earlier.

And in the night's most stunning moment, sprinters Adam Chaney and Jonny Kulow, having tied for eighth (21.89) in the semifinals of the men's 50 free and thus forced to race a swim-off for the last spot in Friday night's finals, tied again at 21.79, drawing a stunned roar from the crowd. There was nothing to do except race another swim-off, which they did after a cool-down period of around 45 minutes. This time, Chaney prevailed, 21.81 to 21.99.

Amid all the outrageous drama and out-of-nowhere perform-

ances at a meet where the difference between glory and heartache is perilously thin, Douglass has spent the past few days taking care of business in a methodical and drama-free fashion. When she wins, she looks like she expected herself to win. When she loses — well, she hasn't done that yet.

A unicorn of a swimmer who could swim a half-dozen individual events — and medal in any or all of them if her body and the Olympic schedule would allow it — Douglass is trying to pull off

something no American woman has ever done: qualify for an Olympics as an individual swimmer in freestyle, breaststroke and IM.

Douglass won a bronze at the Tokyo Olympics three years ago in the 200 IM as a 19-year-old, but it was in the three years between then and now that she exploded into a medal-gobbling machine. Seven golds at the 2022 NCAA championships — where she also became the first swimmer, male or female, to win titles in three different individual strokes (free-

style, butterfly, breaststroke). Seven more golds at the 2023 NCAAAs. Six medals, including two golds, at the 2023 world championships in Fukuoka, Japan.

"It's confidence," Virginia Coach Todd DeSorbo, who will double as head women's coach for Team USA in Paris, said of Douglass's ascension. "I don't think she wasn't confident before, but she didn't know what she was capable of before. In her first two years [at Virginia], anytime she did something great, it was shock. I told her the first time we met fresh-

man year that she was capable of being Olympian. She had the talent. A lot of things had to happen to get to that level, and she made them happen. She sets pretty lofty goals, and she works really hard."

It is likely Douglass's goals never included passing by an eight-story-high photo of herself as she entered a football stadium to swim one of the most unusual Olympic trials programs anyone has attempted. But here she is. By the end of this summer, they may just decide to leave the photo up there forever.

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50108 6x1

Holt, 29 and living with his parents, clings to his Olympic dream

HOLT FROM D1

and often relegated to B heats. “Eric has never been someone who is pursuing logical dreams,” said Jacob Sweet, Holt’s best friend. “I’m not sure he knows he’s allowed to give up.” Holt kept running year after year, hardship after hardship. He hooked on with a semiprofessional club, Empire Elite, that trains an hour away from his home in Upstate New York. He qualified for the 2021 Olympic trials and didn’t make the finals. He reached the final of the 2023 national championships and finished last. He has yet to make a national team or find financial stability. He has not stopped believing.

“My whole life, I wanted to be a professional athlete,” Holt said. “A lot of the sponsors say I’m still not good enough. Every race I step on the track, I just want to show the sponsors that I deserve to be a pro, that I’m not just some schmuck.”

This month in New York, Holt finished shoulder-to-shoulder with Britain’s Jake Wightman, the 2022 world champion. Though the clock showed 3:34.05, the best time of Holt’s career and the fifth fastest by an American this year, he was angry.

Speaking with reporters after the race, Holt chastised himself for finishing second and pleaded for a sponsor to notice him. He talks with raw vulnerability and runs with uncommon desperation. He knows he should relax his face and shoulders in the final 100 meters of a race. Instead, he is all bulging muscles and gritted teeth.

Holt is “terrified,” he said, every time he steps to a start line. A poor performance could embarrass him and Empire Elite. A victory over a field of professionals could give him the life he long has sought. But he also looks around and thinks to himself, “I can beat these guys.”

“I’m not someone just chasing a pipe dream,” Holt said. “I am not an underdog. I am definitely one of the favorites. I’m the fifth fastest right now. I can beat anyone on the world stage. I don’t say that lightly. I know what I’m capable of. I don’t want people to feel sorry for me.

“The only reason I said all those things, I want to put some fire under these sponsors. I’m sick and tired of me living this life. I know I’m going to have my moment.”

He never looked the part

Growing up in Carmel, N.Y., Holt played every sport but found them limiting. He felt like he always needed a teammate to pass him the ball or a coach to choose him for a team, and both seemed to happen only rarely. “I was always uncomfortable in my skin,” Holt said. In eighth grade, Holt joined his three older sisters on the track team. He loved the purity of running. It didn’t matter who believed in him. All that mattered was who crossed the finish line first.

“No matter what I did in life, I felt like I struggled to fit in,” Holt said. “I always felt like the hardest part of my sport career was having people believe in me. I was always the klutz or the goofy one, just couldn’t do anything quite right. But I felt track is a way for me to express myself. It’s the only time, when the gun goes off, I can



DUSTIN SATLOFF/GETTY IMAGES

Eric Holt finished shoulder-to-shoulder with Britain’s Jake Wightman, the 2022 world champion, at an event this month in New York.

really be myself and I can be confident.”

In his first season, he broke five minutes in the mile. Someone told him he could be great, maybe even make the Olympics. An ambition took hold. He recruited kids to run for the Carmel High track team.

“Eric convinced our team we were going to make nationals, even though we were terrible,” said Sweet, who quit the soccer team to join. “He was just a hugely inspirational figure. He was this guy that didn’t understand his own limitations, and he didn’t understand anyone else’s, either.”

Holt expected major college programs to recruit him after he won a state championship and made an all-American team. They either ignored him or offered him the chance to walk on. He was big for a miler and ran with muscular form in an event that rewards graceful strides.

“I looked like crap when I run,” he said. “I ran pretty quick, but it didn’t look pretty.”

Binghamton offered a third of a scholarship, and Holt could pay in-state tuition for the remainder. Sweet studied English at Yale, where he tracked his friend’s progress with mild obsession. He wrote a literary thesis on Holt’s quest to break a four-minute mile. Holt finished his college career in 2018 stuck on 4:00.65.

“Oh, man,” Holt told Sweet. “I kind of ruined your paper.”

No professional clubs showed interest in Holt, and he considered moving on. Sweet insisted he could still break four minutes if they trained together that summer. The push convinced Holt to keep going.

“He was the only person in the world that believed in my talent,” Holt said.

Holt’s father, Michael, worked as a nurse at Four Winds Hospital in Katonah, N.Y. Holt needed only a bachelor’s degree to work there, and Michael got him a job as a tech in the adolescent unit. Eric’s

primary job was to prevent patients from self-harm or suicide.

“People would cut themselves, and blood would get everywhere,” Holt said. “There would just be certain moments where I’m like, ‘Oh, my God, this is a little too intense of a job.’”

Holt would work 13 hours a day at Four Winds and train at night. On good days, the local high school football team would forget to turn the lights off at the track. Sometimes they would flicker off in the middle of workout. Holt ran by the faint glimmer of streetlights and the glow from his watch.

In the winter, he shoveled snow off the track. When there was too much to clear, he ran on the roads, Sweet driving behind at precisely 15 mph for pace. Holt would hop in the car to warm up between runs.

Sweet moved to Massachusetts after a year. In the summer of 2019, Holt traveled to a race alone. At dinner with a friend, Sweet monitored the live splits on his phone: 2:59 after three laps. When the final time popped up as 3:58, Sweet stood from the table, left his confused friend and sprinted down the street in celebration.

Discovered on Strava

John Trautmann and Tom Nohilly needed runners. They had been assistant coaches at the New Jersey-New York Track Club early in 2020 when Hoka cut its sponsorship. The head coach retired, the club folded, and Trautmann and Nohilly started a new team called Empire Elite.

Nohilly monitored possible members on Strava, the social media app on which runners post and compare workouts, and spotted the oddest thing: A runner was performing remarkably difficult workouts night after night at a small track between 11 p.m. and midnight.

“What is this kid doing?” Nohilly asked Trautmann. “Is this guy crazy?”

They did some quick research: The mystery man’s name was Eric Holt. He had posted promising times and tailed off in college, but his training showed how badly he wanted to be a runner. Nohilly sent Holt a direct message through Strava.

“We just thought a guy with that kind of drive, if we could channel that and have a structure, who knows how good he could be?” Trautmann said.

Holt came to Empire’s next practice. The guys there ran him off his feet. Trautmann, who ran at Georgetown and competed in the 5,000 meters at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, saw potential.

“He had something in him I haven’t seen in too many athletes,” Trautmann said. “Just this drive. This hatred of losing.”

Holt kept working at Four Winds. One day, a 14-year-old girl declared she was going to jump in front of a car and ran off. Holt sprinted, caught her and brought her to the ground. She kicked him in the knee so hard it bruised and remained sore for a month.

“I’m thinking: I wonder if these elite runners out there have this issue,” Holt said.

At the start of 2023, Holt stopped working at Four Winds to devote his full energy to running. His saw his greatest improvement but felt further financial strain. He moved in with his parents, and sometimes he feels embarrassed to admit it.

“My family is supportive,” Holt said. “But there’s some people in my life who look at me somewhat as a failure because they know I’m not making any money.”

Holt drives his parents’ Hyundai Tucson to and from practices. His girlfriend has a good job in New York City, and she pays when they eat out together.

“My girlfriend, she comes from a different sort of background than I do,” Holt said. “I know she hasn’t even told her parents about me yet, even though we’ve been dating over a year. I want to

make the team. That way, when I’m finally introduced, it’ll be a good introduction.”

Sponsored runners do not have to worry about the funds in their bank account. They get massages twice a week. They can travel to European races. Empire Elite paid for an Arizona altitude training camp last fall and this spring, which boosted Holt’s training but also depleted the club’s funds.

“The club pays when we can,” Trautmann said. “We’re maxing out the credit cards right now.”

If Holt can sign a sponsorship deal, he knows he will move into a different phase of his life. He would like to buy a Toyota Camry and take his girlfriend on a date. He has come to believe a shoe company will sign him only if he makes the Olympics.

“They want some young person, even if he’s not as good as me,” Holt said. “It’s frustrating because I always tell people, ‘Hey if could be a 21-year-old, I would.’”

Sweet is writing a book about Holt. He does not quite understand why he spends so much time thinking about the friend he met when he was 8 years old.

“I always had to spend so much energy trying to prove to people I was worth their time,” Sweet said. “With Eric, he was the one convincing me that I could achieve ridiculous goals. His expectations were just so beyond the norm. It’s just so refreshing.”

This weekend at Hayward Field in Eugene, Sweet will watch Holt line up at the start. Holt will look around at his competitors and know they’re not thinking about him. But the years of toil and sacrifice have given him something the rest of them don’t have.

“This is a cruel, cruel sport,” Holt said. “Only three can make the Olympics. The one thing about me is I have desire. I know exactly who my competition are. I know exactly how good they are. I know they’re beatable. When it comes to that last lap, I’m going to be ready.”

Lakers set to go with Redick as next coach

BY BEN GOLLIVER

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Lakers agreed to hire former NBA player JJ Redick to be their next coach, two people familiar with the situation confirmed Thursday, finally filling the vacancy created by the May firing of Darwin Ham.

The agreement was first reported by ESPN and the Los Angeles Times.

While Redick quickly emerged as a top candidate for the job, the Lakers also pursued Dan Hurley, who turned down a \$70 million offer this month and remained at the University of Connecticut. Redick, 39, has no previous coaching experience at the high school, collegiate or professional level, though the 15-year veteran served as a color commentator for ABC and ESPN throughout the NBA playoffs, including the Finals, and launched an X’s and O’s basketball podcast with Lakers star LeBron James in March.

By accepting the league’s highest-profile coaching job, Redick will face constant championship expectations while managing the final chapter of James’s Hall of Fame career. Scrutiny is nothing new for Redick, a high school all-American shooting guard who became a household name during his four seasons at Duke from 2002 to 2006. A 2006 lottery pick, Redick played for the Orlando Magic, Milwaukee Bucks, Los Angeles Clippers, Philadelphia 76ers, New Orleans Pelicans and Dallas Mavericks before retiring in 2021 with career averages of 12.8 points, 2.0 rebounds and 2.0 assists.

Known primarily for his three-point marksmanship as a player, Redick became one of the first active professional athletes with a podcast when he began hosting one in 2016. His “The Old Man and the Three” show has garnered significant attention since its 2020 premiere, and the debut episode of his “Mind the Game” podcast with James has been viewed nearly 4 million times on YouTube.

Redick is inheriting a job that has seen significant turnover since Phil Jackson’s 2012 departure: Mike Brown, Mike D’Antoni, Byron Scott, Luke Walton, Frank Vogel and Ham have all served as Lakers coach, yet none lasted longer than three seasons. Vogel was fired less than two years after leading the Lakers to the 2020 title, and Ham was let go less than a year after guiding an unexpected trip to the 2023 Western Conference finals.

In addition to that instability, Redick must manage the perception that he wasn’t the Lakers’ first choice and create a healthy distance between himself and James. Udonis Haslem, a former teammate of James’s on the Miami Heat, said last month that Redick would be met with a “cynical locker room of guys that are going to side-eye everything JJ says” given his working relationship with the Lakers star. Like former Brooklyn Nets coach Steve Nash, Redick will also need to prove he can handle superstar personalities and make sound in-game adjustments despite his lack of previous coaching experience.

The Lakers, who finished 47-35 last season before losing to the Denver Nuggets in the first round of the playoffs, must re-sign James, who is on track to become a free agent this summer. The 39-year-old forward, who was named to the all-NBA third team last season, was noncommittal in April when asked about his future with the Lakers. If James remains in Los Angeles and continues his partnership with all-star center Anthony Davis, the Lakers would be in position to return the bulk of their rotation. Rui Hachimura, Austin Reaves, Gabe Vincent and Jared Vanderbilt are all under contract for next season.



MADDIE MEYER/GETTY IMAGES

JJ Redick played 15 years in the NBA but has not had any previous coaching experience.

After two four-point games, McDavid has playoff record in reach

STANLEY CUP FROM D1

Skinner and Edmonton’s third line, which has provided crucial depth scoring.

But as the Oilers’ talisman, the face of the franchise, the one who they hoped would be their savior when he was drafted first overall in 2015, McDavid is at the core of this push to stay alive.

“He’s our Zlatan,” defenseman Mattias Ekholm said Thursday in Swedish, comparing McDavid to soccer great Zlatan Ibrahimovic. “He is as big, although being a totally different kind of individual. Zlatan was outgoing and somewhat cocky and publicly self-confident. Connor is more restrained in that regard, but on the field [and in the rink], they’re the same kind of player, who can take over entire games and totally dominate. He’s as big as you can be.

“I don’t know how big Gretzky was when he was playing here, but I assume it was kind of the same. He really deserves it, especially with how good he is in the really big games.”

Edmonton Coach Kris Knoblauch has known McDavid since he was 15 years old and playing for the Ontario Hockey League’s Erie Otters, where Knoblauch was coaching at the time. He has



JEFF MCINTOSH/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Connor McDavid has 42 points in these Stanley Cup playoffs, five shy of Wayne Gretzky’s 1985 record.

seen McDavid take over a game or a playoff series more than anyone else; he knows exactly how special McDavid’s current dominance, at the most difficult time of the year in a sport that isn’t designed for individual players to take over, is for the Oilers.

“I don’t think you can be exceptional at anything you do unless you absolutely love what you’re doing, and he loves playing hockey,” Knoblauch said. “Obviously there’s some talent that he has inherited. A lot of it he had to work at and improve. I think

that’s the most important thing. I think he’s a very competitive person also. He wants to win, wants to be the best, so between his love and passion, I think that just allows him to rise up and make those plays at significant times.”

BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10 STR
Philadelphia	49	25	.662	—	4-6 L-1
Atlanta	41	31	.569	7 6-4	W-3
Washington	36	38	.486	13 7-3	L-1
New York	35	38	.47913%	8-2	L-1
Miami	25	49	.338	24 3-7	W-2

Diamondbacks 5, Nationals 2

D\BACKS	AB	R	H	B	BBSO	AVG
Marte dh.....	5	0	1	0	0	2.280
Griehuk rf.....	4	2	2	0	0	3.04
Carroll c.....	1	0	0	0	0	.217
Gurriel lf.....	5	2	0	0	0	1.256
Walker lb.....	5	1	2	1	0	2.258
Suárez 3b.....	5	0	0	0	0	1.198
McCarthy cf.....	4	2	3	0	0	2.282
Alexander 2b.....	2	0	0	0	1	1.270
Newman ss.....	3	1	2	1	1	1.290
Barnhart c.....	4	1	1	0	1	1.169

NATIONALS	AB	R	H	B	BBSO	AVG
Thomas rf.....	4	1	1	1	0	1.229
Winker lf.....	4	1	2	1	0	1.270
Rosario dh.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.180
Ruiz c.....	0	0	0	0	0	.198
Garcia 2b.....	3	0	0	0	0	1.263
Meneses lb.....	3	0	1	0	0	0.242
Vargas ss.....	3	0	0	0	0	1.215
Senzel 3b.....	3	0	0	0	0	1.254
Young cf.....	3	0	0	0	0	1.254

TOTALS	31	2	4	2	0	4
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ARIZONA..... 000 310 001 — 5 13 0
WASHINGTON 001 001 000 — 2 4 0

LOB: Arizona 9, Washington 2. 2B: Griehuk (10), Marte (16). HR: Walker (17), off Weems; Thomas (8), off Nelson; Winker (8), off Nelson. RBI: Barnhart (4), Griehuk (2), Newman (17), Walker (50), Thomas (24), Winker (34). SB: McCarthy (2), Senzel (1). S: Alexander.

D\BACKS	IP	H	R	ER	BBSO	INPERA
Nelson.....	7	2	2	0	2	705.18
Thompson.....	0	0	0	0	1	90.90
Sewald.....	1	0	0	0	1	80.71

NATIONALS	IP	H	R	ER	BBSO	INPERA	
Gore	5	10	4	4	2	71033.49	
Barnes.....	1	2	0	0	0	1	173.96
Garcia.....	1	0	0	0	0	2	154.94
Floro.....	1	0	0	0	0	2	141.53
Weems.....	1	1	1	1	0	0	146.67

WP: Nelson (5-5); LP: Gore (6-6); S: Sewald (8). T: 2:17. A: 21,158 (41,376).

HOW THEY SCORED

NATIONALS THIRD
Nick Senzel flies out. Jacob Young grounds out. Lane Thomas homers. Jesse Winker grounds out.

NATIONALS 1, Diamondbacks 0
DIAMONDBACKS FOURTH
Jake McCarthy singles. Blaze Alexander out on a sacrifice bunt. Jake McCarthy to second, Kevin Newman singles. Tucker Barnhart singles, Kevin Newman to second, Jake McCarthy scores. Ketel Marte pops out. Randal Griehuk doubles, Tucker Barnhart scores, Kevin Newman scores. Lourdes Gurriel grounds out.

DIAMONDBACKS 3, Nationals 1
DIAMONDBACKS FIFTH
Christian Walker grounds out. Eugenio Suarez strikes out swinging. Jake McCarthy singles. Blaze Alexander walks. Kevin Newman singles, Blaze Alexander to third, Jake McCarthy scores. Tucker Barnhart flies out.

DIAMONDBACKS 4, Nationals 2
NATIONALS SIXTH
Jacob Young flies out. Lane Thomas grounds out. Jesse Winker homers. Edie Rosario strikes out swinging.

DIAMONDBACKS 4, Nationals 2
DIAMONDBACKS NINTH
Corbin Carroll pops out. Lourdes Gurriel pops out. Christian Walker homers. Eugenio Suarez grounds out.

DIAMONDBACKS 5, Nationals 2

NATIONALS' LEADERS

Entering Friday's game.

Batters	Avg	H	2B	HR	BB	SO	SB
Call	.313	5	1	0	1	3	5
Vargas	.282	37	11	0	15	13	4
Winker	.270	61	18	34	36	65	11
Garcia	.265	12	5	28	11	41	9
Abrams	.261	70	15	11	36	17	57
Young	.254	49	8	17	11	43	17
Meneses	.242	56	10	3	36	18	42
Lipscomb	.241	28	1	1	9	11	21
Thomas	.229	40	8	24	16	43	16
Senzel	.215	35	9	6	16	27	43
Adams	.215	17	5	2	6	7	29
Ruiz	.198	37	5	4	18	5	26
Rosario	.180	36	10	7	23	13	49
Gallo	.164	23	7	5	11	21	7
Robles	.120	3	0	0	5	5	9
Miles	.105	2	0	0	1	3	2
Núñez	.000	0	0	0	0	1	3

TOTALS	2325	611	09	612	762	1657	7401
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Pitchers	W	L	ERA	IP	ER	BB	SO
Florio	1	1	1.53	35.1	6	9	28
Finnegan	2	3	1.72	31.1	6	10	43
Williams	5	0	2.22	56.2	14	6	37
Adon	0	2	2.25	4.0	1	3	2
Harvey	2	2	2.68	37.0	11	8	42
Parker	3	3	3.06	67.2	23	15	50
Law	4	2	3.20	45.0	16	16	42
Irvin	6	3	3.24	86.0	31	19	75
Gore	6	6	3.49	80.0	31	21	98
Herz	1	3	3.77	14.1	6	5	21
J.Barnes	3	3	3.96	25.0	11	8	18
Garcia	0	2	4.24	22.2	13	8	31
Corbin	1	7	5.60	82.0	51	35	21
Weems	1	1	6.67	20.0	10	15	25
McBarnes	0	1	6.75	13.1	10	4	10
Rainey	0	7	7.50	18.0	15	13	11
Rutledge	0	0	9.00	1.0	1	0	1
Gray	0	0	24.04	0.1	13	5	9

TOTALS	36	38	3.83	655	229	207	950
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NL leaders

Entering Thursday's games.

BATTING

Profar, SD.....	323
Arraez, SD.....	319
Ohtani, LA.....	317
Ozuna, Atl.....	316
Bohm, Phi.....	306
Betts, LA.....	304
Contreras, Mil.....	304
Freeman, LA.....	304

HOME RUNS

Ozuna, Atl.....	20
Ohtani, LA.....	20
Hernández, LA.....	18
Harper, Phi.....	17
Schwarber, Phi.....	17

ERA

López, Atl.....	1.57
Suárez, Phi.....	1.76
Imanaga, Chi.....	1.76
Asad, Chi.....	2.75
Hicks, SF.....	2.82
Wheeler, Phi.....	2.84

STRIKEOUTS

Glasnow, LA.....	125
Cease, SD.....	106
Peralta, Mil.....	106
King, SD.....	101
Sale, Atl.....	99
Wheeler, Phi.....	99

AL leaders

Entering Friday's games.

BATTING

Witt, KC.....	322
Soto, NY.....	322
Correa, Min.....	308
Judge, NY.....	306
Smith, Tex.....	298
Alvarez, Hou.....	296
Altuve, Hou.....	296

HOME RUNS

Judge, NY.....	27
Henderson, Bal.....	22
Tucker, Hou.....	19
Naylor, Cle.....	19
Santander, Bal.....	19

ERA

Burns, Bal.....	2.14
Houck, Bos.....	2.14
Lugo, KC.....	2.42
Blanco, Chi.....	2.43
Anderson, LA.....	2.48
Skubal, Det.....	2.50

STRIKEOUTS

Crochet, Chi.....	124
Ragans, KC.....	109
Skubal, Det.....	105
Flaherty, Det.....	100
Bibee, Cle.....	99
Gil, NY.....	97
Castillo, Sea.....	96

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10 STR
New York	51	26	.662	—	5-5 L-2
Baltimore	49	25	.662	½ 7-3	W-2
Boston	40	35	.533	10 8-2	W-5
Tampa Bay	36	39	.480	14 5-5	W-2
Toronto	35	39	.47314%	4-6	L-3

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10 STR
Cleveland	46	26	.639	—	6-4 W-2
Kansas City	42	34	.553	6 3-7	W-1
Minnesota	41	34	.547	6½ 7-3	L-2
Detroit	34	40	.459	13 3-7	L-4
Chicago	20	56	.263	28 3-7	L-2

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10 STR
Los Angeles	47	30	.610	—	6-4 W-1
Arizona	37	38	.493	9 7-3	W-1
x-San Diego	38	40	.487	9½ 4-6	W-1
San Francisco	36	40	.47410%	4-6	L-1
Colorado	26	49	.347	20 3-7	L-1

x-Late game



JASON MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

A game of tag

The Guardians' Andrés Giménez tries in vain to avoid the tag of Mariners shortstop J.P. Crawford in the first inning Thursday. Giménez finished 2 for 4 with a two-run homer as host Cleveland earned a 6-3 win.

Astros 5, White Sox 3

Yordan Alvarez homered in the first inning and drove in a run during a four-run seventh as Houston rallied past Chicago.

Alex Bregman added three hits and scored a run for the Astros, who won their second straight.

Diamondbacks 3, Nationals 1

Christian Walker grounds out. Eugenio Suarez strikes out swinging. Jake McCarthy singles. Blaze Alexander walks. Kevin Newman singles, Blaze Alexander to third, Jake McCarthy scores. Tucker Barnhart flies out.

Diamondbacks 4, Nationals 2

Jacob Young flies out. Lane Thomas grounds out. Jesse Winker homers. Edie Rosario strikes out swinging.

Diamondbacks 4, Nationals 2

Corbin Carroll pops out. Lourdes Gurriel pops out. Christian Walker homers. Eugenio Suarez grounds out.

Diamondbacks 5, Nationals 2

Christian Walker grounds out. Eugenio Suarez strikes out swinging. Jake McCarthy singles. Blaze Alexander walks. Kevin Newman singles, Blaze Alexander to third, Jake McCarthy scores. Tucker Barnhart flies out.

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Dodgers 5, Rockies 3

Shohei Ohtani led off the game with his 21st homer of the season, Will Smith and Freddie Freeman hit back-to-back homers in the fourth inning, and Los Angeles beat Colorado.

Ohtani's homer was his fourth in five games.

Diamondbacks 3, Nationals 1

Christian Walker grounds out. Eugenio Suarez strikes out swinging. Jake McCarthy singles. Blaze Alexander walks. Kevin Newman singles, Blaze Alexander to third, Jake McCarthy scores. Tucker Barnhart flies out.

Diamondbacks 4, Nationals 2

Jacob Young flies out. Lane Thomas grounds out. Jesse Winker homers. Edie Rosario strikes out swinging.

Diamondbacks 4, Nationals 2

Corbin Carroll pops out. Lourdes Gurriel pops out. Christian Walker homers. Eugenio Suarez grounds out.

Diamondbacks 5, Nationals 2

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Diamondbacks 5, Nationals 2

Giants and Cardinals celebrate Black baseball at Birmingham’s Rickwood Field

RICKWOOD FROM D1

important — me and Jordan Walker talked about it a lot — just being an inspiration not only to kids around St. Louis but just all over the world trying to get some more color in baseball. ... They don’t know how fun baseball can be.”

The Cardinals won, 6-5, and Winn went 1 for 3 with two runs scored, a walk and a third-inning double that landed at the bottom of the left field scoreboard. He looked at the Cardinals’ bench and mouthed: “Is that over?” as he arched his hand upward. When the umpire told him it wasn’t, he smiled and said, “Damn!”

Here in Birmingham, nestled between 12th Street West and Second Avenue West, is one of the prized relics of Black baseball history — and baseball as a whole, for that matter. Rickwood Field, established in 1910, was home to the Birmingham Black Barons of the Negro Leagues, then the Birmingham Barons, a Class AA minor league team. This week, it was home to a celebration of Black baseball.

For years, Black baseball has been pushed to the periphery. The history of the Negro Leagues — its players, its stats, its tradition and its artifacts — has often been minimized or neglected.

That’s not to say no one paid attention. But in recent years, Major League Baseball has made more of an effort to highlight, recognize and appreciate that rich history. In May, statistics from the Negro Leagues were incorporated into MLB’s record books. A month later, baseball converged on Rickwood Field.

This week was meant to honor former Negro leaguers, some of whom were present for Thursday’s pregame festivities. Forty to 50 former players wearing matching gray jerseys and black pants were walked or wheeled out by members of the Cardinals and Giants.

Then there was a tribute to Willie Mays, an Alabama native who died at 93 on Tuesday afternoon. Mays began his professional career with the Birmingham Black Barons. Before the game, a handful of Black players gathered by Mays’s plaque, including Ken Griffey Jr. and Barry Bonds, Mays’s godson. A “24” was painted behind home plate.

Bonds and Griffey escorted Mays’s son, Michael, to home plate to deliver a message: “I told you if he could be here, he would. He found another way. Let him hear you,” which led to a standing ovation and “Willie” chants. Bill Greason, one of Mays’s former teammates, threw out the first pitch.

To many of the players, the timing of Mays’s death gave them an opportunity to celebrate him. But his death also was reminder



VASHA HUNT/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Players honor Willie Mays before Thursday’s game, which some hope will become an annual staple on the MLB calendar. Mays, who died Tuesday, grew up in Birmingham.

of the state of Black baseball in 2024. As legends such as Mays die, there are fewer and fewer examples of representation in the game.

On Opening Day, just 6 percent of MLB players were Black. There were just three Black players — Winn and outfielder Victor Scott II of the Cardinals and pitcher Jordan Hicks of the San Francisco Giants — on active rosters for Thursday’s game.

“I never even thought there’d be an opportunity to be in this position and play at this field,” said Hicks, who threw on the field before the game. “The fact that it’s finally here, I think it should continue. I think it should be a tradition. A lot of history here. I’m just happy to be a part of it.”

First baseman Lamonte Wade Jr., a former University of Maryland standout and the Giants’

only Black position player, is on the injured list. But Wade wanted to play so badly that the Giants — who were awarded a 27th player for the game — appealed to MLB to let Wade come off the list for the game. They were denied, but Wade brought out the lineup card.

The hope was that this event could inspire the next generation. Crowds filed in to enjoy the festivities over the course of the week. A bus like the ones the Birmingham Black Barons would have traveled on to a game was parked nearby. Across the street, there were pillars and posters dedicated to former Negro leaguers along with concessions and a stage for performances.

But inside the stadium, the nostalgia remained. The speakers blared Billie Holiday, Ray Charles and Fats Domino. The clubhouses under the stadium

were preserved and included Negro Leagues jerseys.

Two days before the game, a handful of giddy Birmingham kids stood near the visiting clubhouse, nearly toppling each other trying to get to the field. Steve Brown, who runs the AEB Legacy RBI League in Birmingham, could only smile and laugh.

Brown was born and raised in Birmingham. He remembers his first time at Rickwood Field as a 10-year old watching Vida Blue as a minor leaguer. His first job was selling pizza there as a ninth-grader. He watched his son play on the field in 2020. Seeing the renovated version of the field left him speechless.

Brown, like many of the Birmingham residents who attended this week, said this event happened at just the right time. Brown believes it can get more kids involved in the game while

revitalizing the community. Steven Green, a pastor at More Than Conquerors Faith Church, echoed that sentiment.

“I think this moment is awesome. It’s nostalgic. It is a time of reflection but also restitution or reparation,” Green said. “To see Major League Baseball look back and say, ‘You know, we may have missed a page or chapter, but we want to pay it forward now and revive and put Birmingham on the spotlight,’ I think it’s very inspirational to the next generation.”

Major League Baseball continued its efforts Wednesday when its youth development foundation presented the Negro Leagues Family Alliance — a group of families of former players whose mission is to preserve the leagues’ history and legacy — with a check for \$500,000.

That same day, Sean Gibson —

grandson of former slugger Josh Gibson — advocated for an annual Negro Leagues Day on May 2 to commemorate the leagues’ first game. And like Hicks, many fans who flocked to the park want this event to return to Birmingham, similar to way the Little League Classic and international games have become a yearly tradition. What happens next to increase Black representation and participation in baseball remains to be seen, but this week in Birmingham could be a springboard toward the future.

“It means so much to me that people are now beginning to understand our history,” Sonya Pankey Robinson, granddaughter of Jackie Robinson, told The Washington Post. “We’ll be able to bring it forward because the next generation will help us tell the story. We just have to keep this going.”

Gore labors, and Nationals drop a series in which they score just five total runs

NATIONALS FROM D1

ter just minutes of rest in the dugout. It took him 103 pitches to get through five innings. Diamondbacks righty Ryne Nelson needed just 70 pitches to complete seven.

“We just missed some pitches to hit,” Manager Dave Martinez said. “We’re getting balls right there and fouling them off. We’ve got to get on them. We try to have to jump these starters early. I don’t mind them swinging early.”

The Nationals saw just 87 pitches, the fewest by a team in a nine-inning game since the Chicago Cubs saw 87 against the Philadelphia Phillies on Sept. 27, 2022, per TruMedia. It was also the fewest the Nationals had seen since July 27, 2013, against the New York Mets. They finished the three-game series with just five total runs, the sixth time they have scored fewer than three runs per game in a series this season.

Washington (36-38) is planning to tinker with that aggressive approach, noting that Arizona (37-38) pounded the strike zone across the series. In the three-game set, the Nationals saw just 3.15 pitches per plate appearance. The MLB average is 3.88.

“You’re going to go through moments where [good] things just don’t happen because you’re in a little bit of a funk. When that happens, start seeing some pitches,” Martinez said. “You’re never going to swing your way out of it.”

The Nationals’ production continued to sprout from their two hottest hitters: Lane Thomas (four homers in his past six games) and Jesse Winker (1.003 OPS in June) produced loud knocks over the fence. Thomas’s 411-foot blast in the third gave the Nationals the lead, and Winker’s 404-foot shot in the sixth cut their deficit to 4-2, but



JOHN MCDONNELL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

MacKenzie Gore allowed 10 hits Thursday despite not being hit especially hard. Only one — a two-run double — went for extra bases.

continued struggles at the bottom of the lineup meant both came with two outs and no one on base. Nelson conceded just one other hit.

“Yeah, I mean, they got through,” Thomas said of the home runs. “I wish there were more runners on base so we could have won the game.”

Gore was effective and efficient in a three-strikeout first inning,

using two nasty sliders and a curveball outside the zone to put the top of Arizona’s order away early. But he couldn’t quite replicate the act in the innings that followed.

He allowed a career-high 10 hits, though just one went for extra bases. TruMedia put Arizona’s expected batting average against Gore at .267. It hit .417 instead, the largest gap for him

this season. Singles Nos. 5, 6 and 7 tied the game in the fourth inning. The first extra-base knock, a double ripped down the line by Randal Grichuk, came on one of two change-ups Gore threw and skipped past Winker, allowing two more runs to come across.

The Diamondbacks scored again off Gore in the fifth as Kevin Newman singled home Jake McCarthy to raise the left-hander’s

ERA to 3.49. Jordan Weems allowed a solo shot in the ninth as well. His ERA is up to 6.67, more than three runs higher than last season’s mark.

“Stuff was good,” Gore said. “Missed some bats, had some strikeouts, and when you do give up soft contact, it means the stuff was good.”

Notes: CJ Abrams was out of the lineup for the second straight

NATIONALS ON DECK		
at Colorado Rockies		
Friday	8:40	MASN2
Saturday	9:10	MASN
Sunday	3:10	MASN2
at San Diego Padres		
Monday	9:40	MASN2
Tuesday	9:40	MASN2
Wednesday	4:10	MASN2
at Tampa Bay Rays		
June 28	6:50	MASN2
June 29	4:10	MASN2
June 30	1:40	MASN

Radio: WJFK (106.7 FM), WDCN (87.7 FM)

game and is day-to-day with a small cyst on his left palm near his wrist. He walked around the clubhouse before Thursday’s game, briefly and halfheartedly swinging a bat next to a trainer. He had tape around his left wrist and hand, the same area that needed an MRI exam after Wednesday’s game. He is unsure what caused the issue but could play in the upcoming series against the Colorado Rockies. ...

Right-hander Josiah Gray will have another rehab start this week, this time with Class AAA Rochester. He threw 79 pitches across five innings Wednesday with Class AA Harrisburg, allowing three hits, three walks and two earned runs while striking out five in his third rehab start. On Thursday, he returned to the clubhouse and said everything felt crisp and in control, with minimal soreness outside of the typical postgame variety. But he remains at least one more rehab start away from a return to the rotation.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024

EZ

3401	Trustees Sale - DC	3401	Trustees Sale - DC
Law Offices of Gebhardt & Smith LLP One South Street, Suite 2200 Baltimore, Maryland 21202			
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF APARTMENT BUILDING KNOWN AS 1605 17TH PLACE, SE, WASHINGTON, DC 20020			

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust and Security Agreement dated March 30, 2022 from 1605 17th Place Flats LLC ("Trustor") to the trustees named therein and recorded on April 1, 2022 at the DC Recorder of Deeds at Document # 2022035858 ("Deed of Trust"), the holder of the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust ("Noteholder") having subsequently appointed Michael D. Nord and Michael C. Bolesta as Substitute Trustees ("Trustees") in the place of the trustees under the Deed of Trust by a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustees recorded on April 17th, 2024 at the DC Recorder of Deeds at Document # 2024034766, default having occurred under the terms of the Deed of Trust and at the request of the Noteholder, and pursuant to a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit filed on May 23, 2024 at the DC Recorder of Deeds in accordance with D.C. Code § 42-815 and the applicable laws of the District of Columbia, the Trustees who offer for sale to the highest qualified bidder at a public auction to be held at Alex Cooper Auctioneers, Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20016, on:

Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 11:30 A.M.

ALL THAT piece, tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the District of Columbia, together with any buildings, structures, improvements and appurtenances thereon, more particularly described as follows (the "Property"):

All that certain land located in the District of Columbia and being more particularly described as follows:

Lot numbered Thirty-four (34) in Square numbered Fifty-five Hundred Ninety-six (5596) in a subdivision made by William S. Bowling and others, as per plat recorded in Liber No. 118 at folio 141, among the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia.

NOTE: At the date hereof, the above-described property is known for purposes of assessment and taxation as Square 5596, Lot 0034

Property Address: 1605 17th Place, SE, Washington, DC 20020

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), payable by certified or cashier's check, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. Within three (3) business days after the date of the sale, the purchaser of the Property shall deliver a certified or cashier's check to the Trustee to increase the purchaser's deposit to an amount that is equal to ten percent (10%) of the full amount bid by such purchaser at the sale. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest thereon at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum from the date of sale to the date of settlement, shall be due from the purchaser by wire transfer or certified check within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of sale, unless such closing deadline is extended in writing by the Trustees. Time is of the essence. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest on the unpaid purchase price. Settlement shall be held at such place as may be agreed to by the Trustees. In the event the Noteholder, or an affiliate or subsidiary thereof, is the successful bidder at the sale, such party will not be required to make a deposit or to pay interest on the unpaid purchase money. The Trustees reserve the right to withdraw the Property from sale, to reject any and all bids at the sale, and to extend the time for settlement, at their discretion.

The Property is being sold in an "AS IS" condition and without any warranties or representations of any kind, either express or implied, as to the value, nature, condition, use or description of the Property or the improvements thereon. The Property is also being sold subject to: (a) any existing building and zoning code violations; (b) any environmental problems and conditions, lead paint conditions, encroachments and/or violations which may exist on or with respect to the Property; (c) any senior liens, encumbrances, easements, conditions, restrictions, agreements, declarations and covenants of record which are not extinguished as a matter of law by the foreclosure sale; (d) any rights of redemption; and (e) such state of facts that an accurate survey or physical inspection of the Property might disclose, if any. The purchaser is responsible for conducting its own due diligence regarding the Property.

All senior liens, real estate taxes, water charges and municipal charges and assessments owed against the Property which are not extinguished as a matter of law by the foreclosure sale shall be the sole responsibility of the purchaser and shall be paid for by the purchaser at settlement. The cost of all documentary stamps, recordation taxes, transfer taxes, document preparation costs, title examination costs and other costs associated with conveying the Property to the purchaser shall also be the sole responsibility of the purchaser and shall be paid for by the purchaser at settlement.

The purchaser at the foreclosure sale shall assume the risk of loss for the Property immediately after the sale takes place. It shall be the purchaser's responsibility to obtain possession of the Property after the closing. The purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any rent relating to the Property until the Purchaser pays the entire purchase price and closes on its purchase of the Property.

In the event the purchaser fails to go to settlement and pay the entire purchase price as required herein, in addition to any other legal or equitable remedies available to the Trustees and the Noteholder, the Trustees may declare the aforementioned deposit forfeited by the purchaser and resell the Property at the purchaser's sole risk and expense. In such event, the defaulting purchaser shall be liable for the payment of any deficiency in the purchase price sustained by the Trustees and/or the Noteholder, all costs and expenses of both sales, attorneys' fees, and any other damages sustained by the Trustees and/or the Noteholder, including, without limitation, all incidental damages. In the event a resale of the Property results in a sale in excess of the amount originally bid by the defaulting purchaser, the defaulting purchaser waives any and all claims, rights and interest to any such excess amount and shall not be entitled to any distribution whatsoever from the resale proceeds or a return of any portion of the purchaser's forfeited deposit.

If the Trustees are unable to convey the Property as described above, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit, without interest thereon. Upon refund of the deposit to the purchaser as aforesaid, the sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Trustees, the Noteholder or the Auctioneer conducting the sale of the Property.

The parties' respective rights and obligations regarding the terms and conduct of the sale shall be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia.

Michael D. Nord and Michael C. Bolesta,
Substitute Trustees

For further information, please contact:
Michael D. Nord, Substitute Trustee
Michael C. Bolesta, Substitute Trustee
Gebhardt & Smith LLP
One South Street, Suite 2200
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Tel: (410) 385-5072

Alex Cooper Auctioneers, Inc.
Paul R. Cooper
410-977-4707

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Jun 17, 19, 21, 24, 26 2024 0012463070

3501	Montgomery County	3501	Montgomery County
TRUSTEE'S SALE 21712 Slidell Rd, Boyds, MD 20841			
Trustee's Sale of valuable fee simple property improved by premises known as 21712 Slidell Rd, Boyds, MD 20841. By virtue of the power and authority contained in a Deed of Trust, dated April 14, 2005, and recorded in Liber 29908 at Page 375 among the land records of the County of Montgomery, in the original principal amount of \$100,000.00. 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 July 10, 2024 at 1:00 PM , all that property described in said Deed of Trust including but not limited to:			

Tax ID# 11-02961726

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 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. 21-289381.

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

HARVEY KALLES
AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Johns Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jun 21, 28, Jul 5 2024 0012462805

3511	Prince Georges County	3511	Prince Georges County
Brock and Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington NC, 28403			
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 8635 Seasons Way, Unit 8-B Lanham, MD 20706			

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to SIM TITLES LLC, Trustee(s), dated April 25, 2022, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 47607 , folio 584 , 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,

JULY 8, 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:

UNIT 8-B IN THE PROJECT KNOWN AS "FOUR SEASONS CONDOMINIUMS, FALL SEVEN", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN CONDOMINIUM PLAT BOOK WWW 81 AT PLAT 77 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND AS THE SAME IS OTHERWISE IDENTIFIED AND ESTABLISHED IN THE MASTER DEED DATED NOVEMBER 14, 1972 AND RECORDED NOVEMBER 20, 1972 IN LIBER 4151 AT FOLIO 309, AMONG THE AFORESAID LAND RECORDS. TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT OF INGRESS AND EGRESS TO AND FROM SAID PROPERTY AND THE RIGHT TO USE, FOR ALL PROPER PURPOSES, IN COMMON WITH THE PARTY OF THE FIRST PART, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS AND ALL OTHER OCCUPANTS FROM TIME TO TIME AND ALL PORTIONS OF THE PROJECT DESIGNATED BY STATUTE AND THE MASTER DEEDS AS COMMON ELEMENTS. PARCEL ID: 21-2292472 COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 8635 SEASONS WAY, UNIT 8-B, LANHAM, MARYLAND 20706

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 \$24,000.00 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 4.5 % 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. (23-23672)

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$24,000.00 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 4.5 % 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. (23-23672)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN,
JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLE,
ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY KALLES
AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Johns Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jun 21, 28, Jul 5 2024 0012461634

3511	Prince Georges County	3511	Prince Georges County
Brock and Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington NC, 28403			
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 5603 GARDEN DRIVE Clinton, MD 20735			

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to KELLY WELCH, Trustee(s), dated June 20, 2016, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 38383 , folio 142 , 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,

JULY 8, 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 TWO (2) IN BLOCK THREE (3) AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT ENTITLED, "SECTION TWO, PENNYTON ESTATES", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK WWW 57 AT PLAT 25 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND, ALSO KNOWN AS 5603 GARDEN DRIVE, CLINTON, MARYLAND 20735.

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 \$17,000.00 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% 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. (17-07422)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, CHRISTINE N. JOHNSON,
ROBERT A. OLIVERI, MELISSA ALCOCER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY KALLES
AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Johns Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jun 21, 28, Jul 5 2024 0012461627

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
**4602 LANGSTON DR
BOWIE, MD 20715**

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated September 1, 2022, and recorded in Liber 48116, folio 65, of the Land records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY , with an original principal balance of \$361,298.00, 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,

JULY 8, 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# - 07-0709188

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 \$35,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.125% 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. (23-153934)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY KALLES
AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Johns Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jun 21, 28, Jul 5 2024 0012461618

CLASSIFIED **D9**

3511	Prince Georges County	3511	Prince Georges County
MCMICHAEL TAYLOR GRAY, LLC 7470 Technology Way Suite P Frederick, MD 21703 (470) 480-1820			
TRUSTEE'S SALE 1306 WALSHAM DRIVE Upper Marlboro, MD 20774			

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated May 12, 2006 and recorded in Deed Book 26050 at Page 231 among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Maryland, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772, on

JULY 9, 2024 AT 1:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Maryland, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust (the "Property").

TAX ID#: 13-1440817

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$33,000 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may allow, 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 property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without either express or implied warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 5.25% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason.

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, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey title for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the Purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without re-selling the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the Property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. 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 the 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.

DIANA THEOLOGOU, GREGORY THORNE,
ADRIAN JACOBS, BRIAN CAMPBELL,
CHRISTINE COTTON, Substitute Trustees

File No.: 23-000144-01

HARVEY KALLES
AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Johns Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jun 21, 28, Jul 5 2024 0012461654

3511	Prince Georges County	3511	Prince Georges County
MCMICHAEL TAYLOR GRAY, LLC 7470 Technology Way Suite P Frederick, MD 21703 (470) 480-1820			
TRUSTEE'S SALE 15013 FORT TRAIL Accokeek, MD 20607			

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated May 14, 2010 and recorded in Deed Book 31734 at Page 638, RE-RECORDED NOVEMBER 1, 2011 IN LIBER 33062, FOLIO 82 among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Maryland, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772, on

JULY 9, 2024 AT 1:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Maryland, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust (the "Property").

TAX ID#: 05-0298430

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$20,000.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may allow, 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 property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without either express or implied warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 4.125% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. 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, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey title for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the Purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without re-selling the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the Property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. 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 the 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.

DIANA THEOLOGOU, GREGORY THORNE, ADRIAN JACOBS,
BRIAN CAMPBELL, CHRISTINE COTTON,
Substitute Trustees

File No.: 24-000260-01

HARVEY KALLES
AUCTIONEERS, LLC<

D10 CLASSIFIED

351Prince Georges County

351Prince Georges County

Brock and Scott, PLLC

5431 Oleander Drive

Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

9407 Myrtle Ave

Bowie, MD 20720

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to CHICAGO TITLE, Trustee(s), dated November 1, 2005, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 23445, folio 664, RECORDED IN BOOK 31975, PAGE 205, MODIFIED APRIL 25, 2008 IN BOOK 31380, PAGE 426, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the 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,

JULY 8, 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:

BEING KNOWN AS LOT NUMBERED EIGHTY-NINE (89), BLACK LETTERED A AS SHOWN ON A PLAT ENTITLED "PLAT FOUR, ADNELL SUBDIVISION" AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK VI 187 AT PLAT 76 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY AND AS RATIFIED BY AGREEMENT RECORDED IN LIBER 15044, FOLIO 605.

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 \$45,000.00 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 4.14 % 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. (13-25549)

THOMAS W. HODGE, BRENNAN FERGUSON,
CHRISTINE N. JOHNSON, JEANA MCMURRAY,
ROBERT A. OLIVERI, MELISSA ALCOCER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Harrison Plaza, Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 21,28,Jul 5 2024

0012461625

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel 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

2454 APPLE BLOSSOM LN APT 304

ODENTON, MD 21113

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated January 17, 2007, and recorded in Liber 18707, folio 323, of the land records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, with an original principal balance of \$204,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 ON,

JULY 8, 2024 at 4:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 04-571-90080938

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§ 118-117.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$18,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 6.375% 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. (23-172017)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN, Substitute Trustees

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Harrison Plaza, Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 21,28,Jul 5 2024

0012461755

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel County

Samuel I. White, P.C.

448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

13 Sumac Road

Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to STEPHEN GASPAROVIC, Trustee(s), dated April 22, 1998, and recorded among the Land Records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 8440, folio 143, 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 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 ON,

JULY 8, 2024 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NO. 7 AND THE WESTERLY 10 FEET OF LOT NO. 6, IN SECTION C, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT ENTITLED, " SUMAC FIELDS ", WHICH PLAT IS RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK NO. 18, PAGE 18.

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 3.875% 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. (86755)

Robert A. Jones, et al

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Harrison Plaza, Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 21,28,Jul 5 2024

0012461653

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel 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

2454 APPLE BLOSSOM LN APT 304

ODENTON, MD 21113

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated January 17, 2007, and recorded in Liber 18707, folio 323, of the land records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, with an original principal balance of \$204,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 ON,

JULY 8, 2024 at 4:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 04-571-90080938

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§ 118-117.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of \$18,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 6.375% 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. (23-172017)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN, Substitute Trustees

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Harrison Plaza, Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 21,28,Jul 5 2024

0012461755

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel County

Brock and Scott, PLLC

5431 Oleander Drive

Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

209 3rd Avenue

Baltimore, MD 21225

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to FIDELITY TITLE INS CO, Trustee(s), dated December 13, 2017, and recorded among the Land Records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 35180, PAGE 233, 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 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 ON,

JULY 2, 2024 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NOS. 9 AND 10 IN SECTION T OF JOHN K. CULVER'S SUBDIVISION NO. 1 OF BROOKLYN PARK, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK 14, P. 21; PLATS B-75, THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AND NUMBERED AS 209 THIRD AVENUE, BROOKLYN, MD 21225. APN: 05-047-05185600

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 \$19,500.00 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 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 3.625 % 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. (23-00494)

JOHN ANSELL, JEREMY B. WILKINS, ROBERT A. OLIVERI, AMANDA DRISCOLE, PAUL HEINMULLER, JOHN C. HANRAHAN, KRISTOPHER HAWKINS, Substitute Trustees

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Harrison Plaza, Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 14,21,28 2024

0012460734

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel County

Brock and Scott, PLLC

5431 Oleander Drive

Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

1718 Gunwood Place

Crofton, MD 21114

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to WILLIAM J. PARISI, Trustee(s), dated March 27, 2020, and recorded among the Land Records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 34513, folio 417, 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 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 ON,

JULY 2, 2024 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS UNIT NUMBER 130 IN BUILDING 48, AS DESCRIBED ON A MASTER PLAT ENTITLED "PROPERTY REGIME 9, CROFTON TOWNE" AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 43 IN THE LAND RECORDS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND SAID MASTER PLAT CONSISTING OF 19 CONSECUTIVE PLATS NUMBERED 2329 TO 2347 RESPECTIVELY AND LOCATED ON PAGES 4 TO 22 OF PLAT 43 RESPECTIVELY. TAX ID # 2-205-0016750

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 \$27,500.00 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 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 3.25 % on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020. File No. (24-01738)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN, JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLE, ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER, Substitute Trustees

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Harrison Plaza, Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 14,21,28 2024

0012460733

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel County

352Anne Arundel County

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Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to WILLIAM J. PARISI, Trustee(s), dated March 27, 2020, and recorded among the Land Records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 34513, folio 417, 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 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 ON,

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS UNIT NUMBER 130 IN BUILDING 48, AS DESCRIBED ON A MASTER PLAT ENTITLED "PROPERTY REGIME 9, CROFTON TOWNE" AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 43 IN THE LAND RECORDS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND SAID MASTER PLAT CONSISTING OF 19 CONSECUTIVE PLATS NUMBERED 2329 TO 2347 RESPECTIVELY AND LOCATED ON PAGES 4 TO 22 OF PLAT 43 RESPECTIVELY. TAX ID # 2-205-0016750

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 \$27,500.00 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 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 3.25 % on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020. File No. (24-01738)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN, JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLE, ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER, Substitute Trustees

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY W. S.

AUCTIONEERS, LLC

300 E. Joppa Road
Harrison Plaza, Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-789-9797

Jun 14,21,28 2024

0012460733

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352Anne Arundel County

355Charles County

355Charles County

Brock and Scott, PLLC

5431 Oleander Drive

Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

3400 OLD WASHINGTON ROAD

Waldorf, MD 20602

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to RECONTRUST COMPANY NA, Trustee(s), dated April 28, 2005, and recorded among the Land Records of CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 5233, folio 700, 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 CHARLES COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646 ON,

JUNE 24, 2024 at 11:30 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED FOUR (4), IN BLOCK LETTERED A, CONTAINING 23,037 SQUARE FEET, MORE OR LESS, IN A SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "AMENDMENT OR RESUBDIVISION OF WALDORF TERRACE", DULY RECORDED AMONG THE PLAT RECORDS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND AT PLAT BOOK 1, FOLIO 124.

Property is subject to a prior mortgage.

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 \$4,000.00 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 CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 8.25 % on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall



PHOTOS BY MATT MCCLAIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Anthony Panetti Landon, boys' lacrosse | **Hannah Rudolph** Good Counsel, girls' lacrosse | **Aiden Dubetsky** Georgetown Prep, baseball
Abbey Lane Woodgrove, softball | **DT Megliola** Riverside, boys' soccer | **Addy Hess** Freedom (South Riding), girls' soccer
Quincy Wilson (above) Bullis, boys' track and field | **Indie Wallace-Persaud** Jackson-Reed, girls' track and field | **Matthew Staton** Colgan, boys' tennis
Clara Zou Sidwell Friends, girls' tennis | **Carson Looney** Gonzaga, golf | **Madi Bell** Lake Braddock, gymnastics

SPRING ALL-MET 2024

DT Megliola

Riverside, boys’ soccer: The first Riverside player to win this award, Megliola was a scoring machine at the front of the Rams’ dynamic attack. His 29 goals he helped the nine-year-old program earn its first Virginia Class 5 region title. In the state bracket, the Rams reached the semifinals for a third straight season. A Binghamton signee, Megliola brought a little bit of everything to the field. Described by one opposing coach as an “all-around threat,” his graduation is a relief to back lines across Loudoun County.

Addy Hess

Freedom (South Riding), girls’ soccer: While celebrating the Eagles’ Virginia Class 6 championship, Hess said she wouldn’t have believed the moment was possible during her freshman year. But Freedom powered its way to a 24-0 record and its first state championship largely thanks to the Penn State signee’s attacking contributions. The senior had 43 goals and 19 assists, contributing to a majority of the Eagles’ 120 goals. She routinely stepped up in key moments, scoring twice in Freedom’s 2-1 state semifinal win over Madison and converting her kick in the state championship game’s penalty shootout.



Indie Wallace-Persaud

Jackson-Reed, girls’ track and field: Before the season, Wallace-Persaud and Coach Tia Clemmons discussed the junior’s goals. Wallace-Persaud said securing All-Met Athlete of the Year honors was at the top of the list. She did that by dominating the D.C. State Athletic Association championships, winning the 100 meters (11.94 seconds), 200 meters (24.35) and long jump (18 feet 11.5 inches). She also split 55 seconds in the 4x400 at Penn Relays.

Quincy Wilson *On the cover*

Bullis, boys’ track and field: Wilson is one of the most gifted track athletes in the country. He will contend for a spot in the Paris Olympics this summer, the latest sign of his meteoric rise. Wilson ran the 400 meters in 45.13 seconds at New Balance Nationals and the 800 meters in 1:50.44 at the Beach Run Invitational. The partnership between Bullis’s vaunted program and Wilson’s special talent has worked wonders, and the next two years will provide a chance for him to continue to advance his legacy.



SPRING ALL-MET 2024



Hannah Rudolph

Good Counsel, girls’ lacrosse: Rudolph entered this season having already won two Washington Catholic Athletic Conference championships, two conference player of the year awards and last spring’s All-Met Player of the Year honor. As a senior, she somehow ascended even higher and made herself an easy two-time selection for this award. The Northwestern signee led the Falcons to a 21-0 record — the first undefeated campaign in program history — and a WCAC three-peat. She was the conference player of the year with 78 goals, 49 assists, 144 draw controls, 43 caused turnovers and 34 groundballs.

Anthony Panetti

Landon, boys’ lacrosse: Panetti guided Landon to a 15-2 record and its first Interstate Athletic Conference title in seven years. The senior scored three goals and added an assist in a 17-6 dismantling of Georgetown Prep in the IAC championship game and finished the spring with 36 goals and 41 assists in 17 games. The Bucknell commit, named the IAC player of the year, finished fourth in career points for the Bears.



Abbey Lane

Woodgrove, softball: The only senior in the Wolverines’ lineup, Lane pieced together a magical season and was the driving force behind her team’s 7-0 shutout of Jefferson Forest in the Virginia Class 4 championship. The George Mason signee finished the season with 297 strikeouts and a 0.15 ERA with 19 shutouts, six no-hitters and two perfect games. Lane didn’t allow an earned run during the regular season and walked just three while leading Woodgrove to its second straight state title and the seventh in school history.

About this section

Selections were made by the spring 2024 high school sports staff: Jakob Bowen, Aaron Credeur, Michael Errigo, Noah Ferguson, Sam Jane, Taylor Lyons, Varun Shankar, Emmett Siegel and Nicky Wolcott. Photography by Matt McClain. Photo editing by Toni Sandys. Design by Michael Domine. Editing by Michael Errigo and Mark Selig.

SPRING ALL-MET 2024



Aiden Dubetsky

Georgetown Prep, baseball: The two-way star stood at the forefront of Georgetown Prep’s campaign as its ace and one of its most dangerous hitters. At the plate, the Amherst College signee hit .406 with a 1.200 OPS, striking out just twice in more than 100 at-bats. He was even more of a force on the mound, where he went 9-1, his only loss coming in a game in which he didn’t allow an earned run. His ERA in Interstate Athletic Conference play was 0.55, and he culminated his decorated Hoyas career in fittingly dominant fashion by spinning a no-hitter to clinch the IAC title.



Carson Looney

Gonzaga, golf: As the Eagles swept all three of their postseason tournaments, Looney earned nedalist honors twice, with a 5-under-par 66 in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference championship and a 6-under-par 66 in the D.C. State Athletic Association championship. Committed to Indiana, the WCAC co-player of the year finished the regular season with a spotless head-to-head record and averaged 35.18 strokes per nine holes.



Clara Zou

Sidwell Friends, girls’ tennis: After gaining recognition with a D.C. state title in her junior year, Zou was even better as a senior. She fought her way through a crowded field of Independent School League competitors, racking up a perfect record and dealing the final blow that earned the Quakers another ISL banner. The University of Chicago commit did it all while captaining a perennial powerhouse that continued its run as one of the nation’s top programs.



Matthew Staton

Colgan, boys’ tennis: Staton spent his entire high school career as the most dominant force in Northern Virginia boys’ tennis. His elite reputation only grew this season as he became one of the top-ranked seniors in the nation. Although the three-time singles state champion fell just short of a fourth title this spring, he made great strides as a leader for the Sharks, offering advice and guidance to his teammates. As he heads to the Air Force Academy, he leaves behind a sterling legacy.

SPRING ALL-MET 2024: For the online presentation of the All-Met teams and more coverage of high school sports, visit washingtonpost.com/allmetsports

BASEBALL

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Aiden Dubetsky, utility, Sr., Georgetown Prep

FIRST TEAM

Sammy Berman, utility, Jr., Whitman

Despite missing six games because of an injury, Berman was pivotal in leading Whitman to its first state final appearance. The shortstop hit .490 with 10 extra-base hits and provided a reliably effective presence on the mound.

Griffin Burkholder, OF, Sr., Freedom (South Riding)

The athlete's top draft prospect, Burkholder hit .453 and drove in 21 runs, helping Freedom to its first straight region title. Possessing a rare combination of speed, athleticism and power — half of his hits went for extra bases — Burkholder put immense pressure on opposing defenses and skillfully patrolled center field.

Jamie Laskofski, IF, Sr., Lake Braddock

The Octagon Region player and the key hitter for the table for Lake Braddock as its leadoff hitter and shortstop. The William & Mary commit hit .483 with 1,335 OPS, also drawing 25 walks — many of which were intentional — and 10 walks.

Jackson Loomis, IF, Jr., Jackson-Reed

The shortstop was named the D.C. Interscholastic Athletic Association player of the year after hitting .516 with six home runs, 46 RBI and 24 stolen bases, and he led the Tigers to the state championship.

Sean McCabe, P, Jr., St. John's

The College of Charleston commit was named the D.C. Gateador Player of the Year. Usually taking the ball against the Cadets' most imposing opposition, he went 7-2, compiling a 0.59 ERA and 115 batting average against.

Jake Nunnallee, C, Sr., Lightbridge

Nunnallee was a force for the Lightning, earning Class 5 Region D player of the year honors. After being left from the right side, the Virginia commit posted a .474 batting average, struck out just once and stole 23 bases.

Jackson Sirois, IF, Sr., Paul VI

The Virginia Highland shortstop was the Washington Catholic Athletic Association player of the year. He hit .433 with a 1,270 OPS, setting single-season school records with 13 doubles and 39 RBI for the regular season conference champions.

Hunter St Denis, utility, Jr., Magruder

St Denis' campaign was the best statistical season in Magruder history. At the plate, he broke program records with 125 OPS and 100 OPS (.22), hitting .533 with five home runs and 25 RBI. And as the Colonels' ace, he set the Magruder ERA record (0.79), with his last appearance being a shutout in the state semifinals.

Cayden Suchy, utility, Sr., Dominion

Suchy, who signed with Connecticut, was dominant in every facet of the game. In just over 60 innings, he struck out 115 and allowed just six earned runs, throwing two no-hitters. At the plate, he hit .438 with 12 extra-base hits.

Noah Toole, utility, Sr., Oakton

A three-sport varsity athlete (he also played football and basketball), Toole did it for the Cougars on the diamond, earning Concorde District player of the year honors. An elite offensive shortstop, he hit .279 with an OPS over 1,000 and was also a shutdown pitcher, posting a 0.37 ERA in 19 innings.

Myles Upchurch, utility, Jr., St. Albans

Upchurch, who is committed to Alabama, was again lights-out for the Bulldogs. His pitching numbers were gaudy — in 55.2 innings, he recorded an ERA of 0.88 and struck out 82. At the plate, he hit .201.

Paul Witkop, utility, Sr., Potomac School

On the mound, Witkop had a 6-1 record and 1.82 ERA. The Richmond commit's offensive numbers were impressive, too: a .473 batting average, a 1.262 OPS, four home runs and 35 RBI.

Jake Yeager, P, Sr., Archbishop Spalding

The Concorde Player of the Year in Maryland, Yeager had an ERA of 1.25 and WHIP of 0.89 in 56 innings, fooling hitters into 34 strikeouts and posting a 138 average against. He is signed to play at Maryland.

Henry Zatkowski, utility, Sr., River Hill

Zatkowski, a future Duke Blue Devil, allowed just one earned run in 40.2 innings, amounting to a lead-to-leavebie 1.07 ERA; he also hit .417 with a 1.100 OPS. He ended the year having thrown 272 consecutive scoreless playoff innings, wrapping up his career with an eight-inning, region championship-securng shutout.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Josh Creighton, Magruder

When Creighton took the reins in 2021, he assessed the program and told his staff that it would win a state championship within three years. That vision was realized this spring, a well-rounded group with star power, the Colonels marched to the state title, earning the Maryland Class 3A crown with a 4-0 win over Chesapeake. After a slow start, they ended the season as one of the hottest teams in the area, victorious in all but two of their final 22 games to finish 20-5.

SECOND TEAM

Ethan Ball, IF, Jr., McLean
Cain Burns, utility, Jr., Stone Bridge
Bud Combs, OF, Jr., DeMatha
Brendan Cowen, P, Sr., Tuscara
Ren Devereux, P, Jr., St. John's
Andrew Dickson, OF, Jr., Potomac
Logan Hastings, P, Sr., Huntington
Noah Hughes, utility, Jr., Bishop O'Connell
Jackson Imman, IF, Sr., Good Counsel
Liam Irving, OF, Sr., Severna Park
Teagan Leach, utility, Jr., Battlefield
Jay Wandell, utility, Sr., Walter Johnson
Sean Williams, P, Sr., Severna Park
Nathan Wines, P, Jr., Archbishop Spalding

HONORABLE MENTION

Kyle Ausguthar, OF, Sr., Freedom (South Riding)
Jacob Anania, OF, Jr., Sherwood
Tyler Bassett, utility, Sr., Colgan
James Beasley, P, Sr., Herndon
Nick Blotto, P, Jr., Glenelg
Vance Bonier, C, Sr., Walter Johnson
Calvin Brown Jr., utility, Jr., CMIT-North
Taylor Brown, IF, Jr., Wise
Ryan Brown, utility, Sr., Great Mills
Henry Carbone, utility, Sr., St. Mary's (Annapolis)
Connor Chan, IF, Jr., Hayfield
Billy Clay, IF, Jr., Patuxent
Andrew Dickson, utility, Jr., Northwest
Jack Drumm, P, Sr., Lake Braddock
Henry Eichner, P, Jr., Bethesda-Chevy Chase
Drew Emmett, utility, Jr., Archbishop Spalding
Jack Feehery, P, Jr., Severna Park
Caleb Fletcher, utility, Jr., Woodgrove
Kai Freeman, utility, Sr., Justice
Alex Gonzalez, P, Jr., McLean
Rory Green, utility, Sr., South Lakes
Marcy Harman, Jr., utility, Sr., C.S. Flowers
Ray Huke, P, Sr., Georgetown Prep
Jack Kodrin, P, Jr., Quince Orchard
Connor Lyle, P, Sr., Brentville District
Solomon McKinney, utility, Sr., Rivelande Baptist
Ben Meeks, IF, Jr., Flint Hill
Brian Miller, utility, Jr., Woodgrove
Luke Neagle, OF, Jr., Potomac
Alex Pettit, OF, Sr., Paul VI
Ashton Peskhe, utility, Jr., Tuscara
Terrior Pettus, OF, Sr., Magruder
Kody Phillips, C, Sr., Severna Park
Sam Rosand, utility, Jr., London
Jack Rucker, utility, Sr., Yorktown
Angel Santacruz-Cruz, utility, Sr., Severna Park
Jason Secker, OF, Jr., Potomac
Carter Sweeney-Strawberry, OF, Sr., Sherwood
Omari Swinton Jr., utility, Jr., Wise
Pierce Tewksbury, utility, Sr., Bethesda-Chevy Chase
Josh Tseronis, OF, Sr., Quince Orchard
Wesley Tsewing, P, Jr., Whitman
Alberto Weaver, utility, Jr., Northwest
Austin Yates, utility, Jr., Georgetown Prep
Ced Yates, utility, Jr., Madison

SOFTBALL

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Abbie Lane, P, Sr., Woodgrove

FIRST TEAM

Kaylie Anavisto, IF, Sr., Riverside

The Northwest player and the star stellar career as a Virginia Class 5 champion. She belted her 16th home run of the season in the first inning of the Rams' 6-2 state title win over Keam.

Sam Borrayo, P, Sr., Osbourn Park

Borrayo's strong senior campaign culminated in a 3-0 win over Battlefield in the Virginia Class 4 championship game, which yielded the Yellow Jackets' second-ever state title. She has signed with Robert Morris.

Alko Conaway, P, Sr., Battlefield

With Conaway in the circle, the Bobcats knocked off Osbourn Park four times and made their first state championship game appearance since 2011. She has signed with Marshall.

Reagan Corb, P, Sr., Sherwood

The sophomore produced a memorable postseason in the circle and at the plate. After leading her team through a tough Maryland Class 2A bracket, she pitched a complete game and hit the walk-off game-winner in extra innings of a title game won over Lingane.

Gemma Fagan, OF, Sr., McLean

Fagan was named district and region player of the year in just her second high school season as she emerged as one of the most feared hitters in Virginia.

Abbie Frisvold, utility, Jr., Reservoir

Frisvold did a little of everything for the Gators. She pitched, caught, played in the infield and outfield as needed and batted .609 in an impressive all-around season.

Lynsie Herman, utility, Sr., Crofton

The Nike Carolina Nationals commit totaled 197 strikeouts in the circle and had a .547 batting average at the plate. Her highlights included a 17-strikeout performance against eventual Maryland Class 4A champion Leonardtown in the playoffs.

Maggie King, P, Jr., Churchill

King was named Montgomery County player of the year after dominating on the mound and at the plate for the Bulldogs. The George Washington commit batted .622 on the year.

Bri Lenz, P, Jr., Bishop O'Connell

The George Mason commit stepped into a new role as the Knights' go-to pitcher and led the team to Washington Catholic Athletic Conference and Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association titles.

Cleyn Rahndorf, P, Jr., Leonardtown

Rahndorf eclipsed the 200-strikeout mark mid-way through the Raiders' 14-0 win over Eleanor Roosevelt for the Maryland Class 4A title. She then hit .516 with 10 earned runs and 10 walks.

Abby Rehban, P, Sr., Potomac School

A repeat first-team selection, Rehban pitched her team to another Independent School League title. She allowed only 10 earned runs in season and batted .558 at the plate.

Alana Watts, IF, Sr., Chesapeake

After suffering a season-ending injury last spring, Watts returned and picked up right where she left off at the plate. She tallied 54 RBI and broke the team's single-season home run record with 32.

Emmaleigh Zagrodnichek, P, Jr., St. Mary's Ryken

Zagrodnichek put together an impressive junior campaign in the WCAC with a 1.18 ERA and held her own against O'Connell in the championship game.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Suzi Willemssen, Archbishop O'Connell

Even after the graduation of a two-time All-Met Player of the Year Katie Kutz, the Knights extended their dominance another year. O'Connell produced its second consecutive unbeaten season with wins over Ryken and Potomac School in the WCAC and VISAA title games, respectively. Over the past four years, Willemssen has led her team to a 76-1 record.

SECOND TEAM

Sofia Anderson, OF, Sr., Bishop O'Connell
Kaitlyn Branzowicz, IF, Sr., Freedom (South Riding)

Alyssa Clark, P, Sr., Damascus
Brooke Colliflower, OF, Jr., Chopticon
Mackenzie Gorkczy, IF, Sr., St. Mary's Ryken
Narah Jacques, P, Fr., Langley
Devyn Johnson, P, Jr., St. John's
Charlotte Moore, P, Sr., Riversides
Joe Pacheco, IF, Jr., River Hill
Keira Schlutz, IF, Jr., Sherwood

Sophia Talafiero, utility, Sr., Bishop O'Connell

Eryn Thompson, IF, Jr., Woodgrove

Alexis Vaughn, IF, Jr., Potomac School

Mackenzie Verdejo, P, So., Lake Braddock

HONORABLE MENTION

Ava Abramavaga, OF, Jr., South County
Nora Abramavaga, OF, Sr., Lake Braddock
Avery Anderson, OF, Jr., Sherwood
Alyssa Blaney, utility, Jr., North Point
Abby Bond, IF, Jr., Bishop O'Connell
Sophia Brinkman, P, Sr., Georgetown Visitation
Anna Bristol, utility, So., Arundel
Zsazsin Burrell, IF, Jr., St. John's
Madison Burris, utility, So., Northeast
Art Clark, C, Sr., Bishop O'Connell
Marley Connor, utility, Jr., Crofton
Keagan Cooper, C, Sr., Elizabeth Seton
Grace De La Cruz, P, Jr., South Lakes
Kari Gilder, IF, Jr., Walter Johnson
Jordan Greever, P, Jr., Huntington

Mikaela Guy utility, Jr., St. Mary's Ryken

Ardell Higgins, utility, Sr., Edison

Riley Huang, IF, Jr., Lightbridge

Natalia Jarquin, P, Jr., Eleanor Roosevelt

Kaylee Kadans, P, Jr., Langley

Ava Livingston, P, Sr., Madison

Angelle Long, OF, Sr., Hayfield

Charlotte Loving, IF, Jr., Langley

Sofia Marshall, IF, Sr., Madison

Lexi McAllister, OF, Jr., Chopticon

Mo Melvin, IF, Jr., Bishop O'Connell

Angelina Nguyen-Nhu, IF, Jr., Richard Montg-

Hailey Peterson, OF, Sr., Riversides

McKenzie Powell, IF, Jr., Freedom (South Rid-

Elia Reynolds, IF, So., Walter Johnson

Payton Robinson, P, Jr., Lightridge

Cambell Sagin, IF, Jr., Reservoir

Paige Scheder, IF, Jr., Potomac School

Jamie Sewell, OF, Sr., Arundel

Janis Shaw, OF, Sr., Glenelg

Kimmy Sims, utility, Jr., Elizabeth Seton

Jane Stanley, C, So., Flint Hill

Allice Stillerman, C, Sr., Jackson-Reed

Nikki Tjiputra, IF, Sr., Jackson-Reed

Sally Trent, C, Sr., Severna Park

Elisa Tsao, P, So., Sidwell Friends

Avery Whelan, P, Sr., Galtersburg

Anna Wilson, IF, Sr., Osbourn Park

Kennedy Woodruff, P, Sr., Oxon Hill

Jackie Yeager, C, Jr., Stone Bridge

BOYS' LACROSSE

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Anthony Panetti, A, Sr., London

FIRST TEAM

John Draley, M, Sr., St. John's

The Maryland commit powered a lethal offense with 20 goals and 17 assists in just 11 games.

Jack Fish, A, Jr., Severna Park

He was the leading goal scorer for a team that won its eighth consecutive state title.

John Gardiner, A, Sr., Gonzaga

The Maryland commit helped Gonzaga to a comeback victory in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference championship game as the Eagles claimed their first title since 2019.

Graham Hartman, FO, Sr., Broadneck

The Mercer commit won 80 percent of his career faceoff opportunities to help Broadneck to three consecutive state championship game appearances.

Jackson Maher, A, Jr., Bullis

With 43 goals and 47 assists, Maher posted one of the area's best offensive seasons. He is committed to Penn.

Cameron Marks, Sr., Woodson

He broke the single-season Virginia public high school goals record with 95.

Aaron McCleary, M, Sr., Georgetown Prep

McCleary will play at Johns Hopkins after leading the Hoyas to another IAC championship game appearance.

Trevar Owens, M, Sr., London

The long stick midfielder and Tufts commit was one of London's top defensive talents and goal scorers.

Tyler Phillips, A, Jr., South River

The Towson commit was named Anne Arundel County's player of the year after tormenting defenses across Maryland Class 4A.

Brad Robertson, FO, Sr., Severna Park

He posted 37 goals, including four in London's IAC championship game victory.

Will Rubley, A, Sr., Madison

After missing the 2022 season with a torn ACL, Rubley returned for his senior year and became Madison's all-time leading goal scorer.

Joseph Weinburg, FO, Sr., Hayfield

Weinburg won 85 percent of his faceoffs while also setting Hayfield's single-season record with 54 goals.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Bob Zichelli, Severna Park

In his first season leading the Falcons, Zichelli picked up where his predecessor left off by helping the school to its eighth consecutive state championship. He did so with an inexperienced roster; half of the starting lineup in the Maryland Class 3A title game consisted of underclassmen. He previously was the school's head varsity coach and assistant varsity coach before returning to the Falcons after a brief hiatus.

SECOND TEAM

Brayden Ferguson, G, Sr., Bullis

Freddy Fowles, A, Sr., Gonzaga

James Gardner, M, Sr., Yorktown

Hudson Green, A, Sr., Gonzaga

Alex Haag, M, Sr., Langley

Ollye Hau, M, Sr., Madison

Robby Hopper, M, Jr., Spalding

Owen Horning, A, Sr., Georgetown Prep

Tim Iannarino, A, Sr., Glenelg

Logan McHugh, A, Sr., Robinson

Jeff Pellicano, D, Sr., Broadneck

Justin Posey, A, Sr., Freedom (South Riding)

HONORABLE MENTION

Zach Abramson, M, Sr., London

Tommy Agents, FO, So., Robinson

Riley Alberty, A, Sr., Broad Run

Quinn Anzelone, A, Jr., Bullis

Matt Beatchley, A, Jr., DeMatha

Andrew Beard, M, Sr., Severna School

Jack Bonello, A, Jr., Episcopal

Justin Bowman, M, Jr., Georgetown Prep

Jack Brick, D, Jr., Good Counsel

Job Buffington, FO, Sr., Sherwood

John Burkhardt, A, Sr., Severna Park

Gaetano Ciolello, D, Jr., Gonzaga

Ryan Criswell, FO, Jr., Spalding

Luke Crowe, M, Sr., Georgetown Prep

James Earis, D, Sr., Robinson

Ears Engle, M, Sr., Langley

Grayson Falk, D, Sr., Episcopal

John Fisher, G, Sr., Battlefield

Conner Fructuoso, A, Jr., Robinson

Owen Gannon, A, Sr., Battlefield

Mason Hencken, D, Sr., Robinson

Max Konzmann, M, Jr., Blake

Dutch Lohney, M, Jr., St. Albans

Trevor Maham, M, Jr., South County

Grant Maloney, Jr., Jr., West Potomac

Mike Marshall, D, Sr., Hayfield

Drew Mazzocco, A, Sr., Riversides

Brad McCaslie, M, Sr., Broadneck

Matthew McDermott, G, Jr., Lake Braddock

Kevin Miller, A, Sr., London

Max Mullen, M, Jr., McLean

Jonathan Bryant-Graves, M, Sr., St. Stephen's

St. Agnes

Nicolas Pardo, M, Sr., Edison

Luke Pascal, A, Sr., St. Stephen's/St. Agnes

William Pesce, A, Sr., Magruder

Connor Phillips, G, Sr., St. Andrew's

Cooper Revis, FO, Jr., Bullis

Michael Richardson, A, Jr., Loudoun County

Paul Ryan, P, Sr., Alexandria

Steven Schummer, Jr., D, Sr., St. Mary's (Annapolis)

SPRING ALL-MET 2024



Madi Bell

Lake Braddock, gymnastics: Bell, now a two-time winner of this award, helped the Bruins capture their third consecutive Virginia Class 6 championship by taking first place in vault (9.775) and beam (9.750) at the state meet. Nothing the junior did during the region or state tournaments dipped below a 9.0, establishing her as one of the most well-rounded gymnasts in the area.

WEEKEND



Are the cocktails fancy? No. The service friendly?
Eh. But you love these 12 bars anyway. 14

ILLUSTRATION BY ALEXIS ARNOLD/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

MUSIC
Niger's Mdou Moctar responds to the world's chaos with unforgettable guitar playing. **6**

ON THE TOWN
The Folger Shakespeare Library is back, with 12,000 square feet of new space. **8**



MOVIES
This is your grandma's "Mission: Impossible"; that's what makes "Thelma" fun. **24**

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INSIDE



Dining
Excerpts from Tom Sietsema's chat with readers. **5**



Music
How Mulatu Astatke came to invent Ethio-jazz. **6**



Exhibits
An art haven for American women in Paris. **13**



Movies
Phenomenal performances rev up "The Bikeriders." **25**

WEEKEND

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The Smithsonian Institution will keep select museums open late for Smithsonian Solstice Saturday.

Smithsonian Solstice Saturday

This weekend brings the longest Saturday of the year, both in terms of the amount of daylight (14 hours, 53 minutes, 47 seconds) and the hours the Smithsonian is open. The annual Solstice Saturday is a chance to explore the museums after hours with free activities for visitors of all ages. Sally's Night at the Air and Space Museum honors Sally Ride with planetarium shows, trivia challenges and hands-on science experiments until 11 p.m. (Tickets are required.) The Arts and Industries Building turns into a glow-in-the-dark arcade with classic games and immersive music until 11 p.m. Artists from across the European Union join forces for sound performances and interactive music at the Hirshhorn, where indoor exhibitions are open until 10 p.m. Little ones who can't make it until midnight can visit American History during the day for a festival celebrating Latin music with story time and dance lessons. And at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, where no passes are required after 4 p.m., you can explore the "Afrofuturism" exhibit, which is scheduled to close Aug. 18.

When: Saturday. Closing times vary by museum.
Where: See si.edu/solsticesaturday for a full schedule.
Admission: Free. Some events require advance tickets.

Portside in Old Town Summer Festival

July marks the city of Alexandria's 275th anniversary, and this milestone is naturally part of the celebration during Old Town's annual summer waterfront festival. Local brewery Port City Brewing Company is serving a commemorative hoppy IPA, dubbed ALX275, that was brewed with 275 pounds of hops. Port City beers are available at both days of the festival, as well as drinks from Lost Boy Cider and Virginia's Horton Vineyards, while local businesses like Rocklands Barbeque and Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana are slinging food. The festival kicks off Friday with the ALX Jazz Fest @ Portside, featuring verse from

local poets in between sets by bands like the Lovejoy Group, Brandon Woody's UPENDO and Kokayi. The musical lineup on Saturday is more eclectic, including alt-country from the Walkaways, a salsa orchestra via La Mafia Del Guaguanco and blues from the Adrian Duke Projek featuring Theresa Richmond. Try your hand at lawn games and art projects on both days, including activities inspired by the 275th anniversary.
When: Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 1 to 8 p.m.
Where: Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St., Alexandria. visitalalexandria.com.
Admission: Free.

Clipper Race Fleet Week

After more than 10 months at sea, the teams from the Clipper Round the World yacht race arrive in Washington for Clipper Race Fleet Week at the Wharf. This marks the first time D.C. is serving as a port for the race, which covers 40,000 nautical miles while circumnavigating the globe, and this is the only East Coast stop for the 11 teams. The public is invited to a spate of free events, including yacht tours and live entertainment, and to learn what it takes to sail around the world. On Tuesday evening, the event concludes with the parade of sail and a fireworks display as the teams set off for Britain on the final leg of the race.
When: Friday from 5 to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Tuesday from

7 to 10 p.m.
Where: Transit Pier at the Wharf, 970 Wharf St. SW. clipperroundtheworld.com.
Admission: Free.

32nd annual Giant Barbecue Battle

More than 150 free food samples await at the 32nd annual Barbecue Battle, a festival and Washington tradition that turns Pennsylvania Avenue into a massive block party. All sorts of brands from Oscar Mayer to Takis set up shop, doling out food and product samples from multiple pavilions, while crowds can watch pitmasters from across the country compete in various barbecue competitions. (In a nod to local cuisine, there's even a contest crowning the best mumbo sauce.) Other entertainment throughout the weekend includes a Nathan's Famous Hot Dog eating contest; BMX and skateboarding freestyle exhibitions; and live performances from musicians including Dupont Brass Band, the Chuck Brown Band, Jimmie's Chicken Shack and White Ford Bronco.
When: Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Where: Pennsylvania Avenue NW between Third and Seventh streets. bbqindc.com.
Tickets: \$20-\$225.

Shakespeare in the Parks

This is a big weekend for Shakespeare: The Folger Shakespeare Library celebrates its grand reopening on Friday (preview on Page 8), and the annual Shakespeare in the Parks begins its annual tour through Prince George's and Montgomery counties. New artistic director Randy Snight directs a production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which runs for two hours, including intermission. After opening in Bowie's Fairwood Community Park, performances move to the historic Ridgeley Rosenwald School in Capitol Heights (Tuesday) and Greenbelt Park (Thursday). Brookside Gardens and Fort Washington Park are among sites hosting Theseus, Hippolyta and the fairies before the season wraps up at the Publick Playhouse on July 14. Picnics and lawn chairs are welcome.
When: Most shows begin at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Locations vary; Sunday at Fairwood Community Park, 12390 Fairwood Pkwy., Bowie. Full schedule available on pgparks.com.
Admission: Free.



LEFT: The lamb-stuffed ravioli entree at Tortino.
BELOW: The bustling dining room at the Italian restaurant on 11th Street, which could suit a chatter looking for “traditional Italian meals prepared well.”



PHOTOS BY SCOTT SUCHMAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Q: Can you recommend a couple of good Italian restaurants? Not necessarily looking for trendy or edgy with curated pasta and bespoke breadsticks — just traditional Italian meals prepared well.
A: The neighborly **Al Tiramisu** in Dupont Circle and **Tortino** on 11th Street both qualify as “good.”

Q: I recently was on vacation, where I spent a lot of time pre- and post-dinner listening to piano music. Is there a restaurant or lounge in D.C. where I can do the same? Nicely dressed people would be a plus.
A: The veteran, art deco **Prime Rib** on K Street NW offers live jazz. I’d belly up to the dashing bar and drink in the show.

Q: My wife and I enjoy a traditional dining experience: white tablecloth, candlelight, servers who call us “sir” and “madam,” or even better Ms. X And Ms. Y McSquared.
No one ever asks, “You guys still working on that?” Silverware is replaced at each course, plates arrive at well-timed intervals, so we have time for conversation. Our glasses are


filled unobtrusively as if by magic, and the table is decrumbed.
We have some favorites for that style of service: Patowmack in Lovettsville and Matisse in Tenleytown, while separated by 40 miles, are two places we enjoy.
Do any of the new and trendy restaurants offer great new fusion cuisines or gorgeous and

delicious offerings but with the sort of old-school service and atmosphere I described above? Looking forward to trying Alias in Warrenton soon.
A: The aforementioned **Prime Rib** and dowager **1789** in Georgetown specialize in the genteel approach you enjoy.
Q: Are servers generally required
SEE ASK TOM ON 9

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THE WASHINGTON POST • FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024

N0229 5 x 6



EBRU YILDIZ

Mdou Moctar seeks justice with a guitar

BY HABEN KELATI

On the album “Funeral for Justice,” released in May, guitar phenom Mdou Moctar isn’t holding back. He never really has, not since he officially started releasing music in 2008. Moctar is a Tuareg musician from Niger. His unforgettable guitar playing has taken the “desert blues” of Niger worldwide — even as he continues to sing primarily in his native language, Tamasheq.

In an interview, Moctar and his namesake band’s bassist and producer, Mikey Coltun, say the album was inspired by what they see as a chaotic state of world affairs. “The world is going crazy,” Moctar says. “I feel like justice doesn’t exist anymore.”

The band is specific about this craziness on “Funeral for Justice.” On the penultimate song, “Oh France,” Moctar’s twisty guitar playing sounds like he’s alerting listeners to an emergency. To Moctar, the relationship between Niger and its former colonizer, France, is an emergency. France still controls much of Niger’s uranium, which it uses to fuel its own nuclear-powered electricity — while only 1 in 7 Nigeriens

Niger-based Mdou Moctar — Mdou Moctar, Mikey Coltun, Ahmoudou Madassane and Souleymane Ibrahim — will play 9:30 Club.

have access to electricity. “Africa is poor, but she doesn’t have to be,” Moctar says. “She just always [has] people trying to manipulate countries to hurt the people and take the resources. That’s not fair. That’s not justice.”

On the opening and title track, Moctar’s urgent guitar playing immediately hits listeners in the face. He, along with Souleymane Ibrahim on percussion, Ahmoudou Madassane on rhythm guitar and Coltun on bass, inject hypnotizing Saharan melodies with massive amounts of energy. But they’re not reinventing the Tuareg people’s music, and as a producer, Coltun isn’t interested in making this music more palatable to Western audiences. “It’s about keeping it to what it is,” he says, “as opposed to stylizing it to what it’s not.”

That commitment to authenticity has worked well for the band. Its previous album, “Afrique

SEE **MOCTAR** ON 7

The creator of Ethio-jazz brings his sound to D.C.

BY MICHAEL J. WEST

Most of us don’t think of music as a science. Mulatu Astatke, the Ethiopian vibraphonist who created the style known as “Ethio-jazz,” says he’s never thought of his invention as anything else.

“I’ve always called it a science,” the 80-year-old musician explains from his hotel in San Francisco — where he’s beginning the U.S. tour that will bring him to the Howard Theatre on June 23 and 24. “... The audiences are also seeing it that way: as an experimental science of music.” It’s something like chemistry, he adds, where elements combine to form substances that are completely new but still retain properties of those elements.

“The music is a combination of all you hear. On top, you can hear the whole world: Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, Michael Jackson, Europe, Asia, everything. But at the bottom, it’s always Ethiopian. That’s the science of Ethio-jazz,” he says.

The sound that Astatke developed over 60 years ago has slowly risen to become renowned and adored around the world. It’s found particular enthusiasm in the last decade, when streaming services started including tracks

by Astatke and his contemporaries — saxophonist Getatchew Mekurya, singer Alemayehu Es-hete, keyboardist (and D.C. resident) Hailu Mergia — in their playlists.

For Astatke, it’s a vindication of the decades he’s spent traveling the globe, demonstrating his science to audiences of all stripes.

“For 50 years, I’ve been struggling to make this Ethio-jazz known to the world,” he says. “Finally, it’s happened, and I’m so happy.”

Born in Jimma, in southwestern Ethiopia, Astatke initially aspired to be an aerospace engineer. Once he began studying that subject in Wales, however, he discovered his passion for music and instead moved to London and earned a degree from Trinity College of Music. He then came to the United States to enroll at Berklee College of Music in Boston.

At Berklee, while studying jazz, Astatke chafed at the degree to which he was transcribing parts of the Count Basie or Duke Ellington orchestras. “I said, ‘I’m sitting here, I’m going to one of the top jazz schools in America. How come I don’t become myself? That’s the whole thing.’”

SEE **ASTATKE** ON 7



COURTESY OF MULATU ASTATKE

Ethiopian jazz great Mulatu Astatke thinks of music as a science.



JENNIFER MCCORD

Paris Paloma's Gothic music combines her own experience with references to mythology and more.

Paris Paloma interrogates the myth of femininity

BY OLIVIA MCCORMACK

If there is a way for music to emulate dripping wax, freshly blown-out candles and the discomfort of being stared down by a table of men, Paris Paloma has done it.

The 24-year-old singer-songwriter's Gothic music is, at times, a refresh of Greek mythology, religion and art. She expertly concocts stories that combine her own experience with impeccable references that leave audiences feeling like they learned something about not only her and themselves, but the world we inhabit.

"That's just always been a vehicle for me to tell very biographical stories and still have some distance and protection from it," said Paloma in a Zoom interview from her London home.

Her breakout song, "Labour," sounds like it drips from the pomegranate-stained lips of Persephone, drenching the undervalued people who postdate her in righteous, red fury. It's a reckoning for subjugated people, a way to put into words the feeling of being used for all your worth and then tossed aside.

In the folk ballad, Paloma sings: "All day, every day, therapist, mother, maid/ Nymph then a virgin, nurse then a servant/ Just

an appendage, live to attend him/ So that he never lifts a finger/ 24/7, baby machine/ So he can live out his picket fence dreams/ It's not an act of love if you make her/ You make me do too much labour."

The song went viral on TikTok, with users sharing their experiences with sexism as the song's lyrics pounded in the background. "No one can prepare you for that level of visibility in such a short space of time," says Paloma. "It was just picked up by women, by the trans community, by the queer community, everyone [who] resonated with it. It became something so much bigger than me, which I was so grateful for. But also at the time, I felt really ill-equipped to thank everyone."

To show her appreciation and give a voice to those who connected with her music, Paloma created a new version of the song in March 2024 (a year after the original was released), featuring background vocals, art and videos from fans.

Adam and Eve references also make their way into Paloma's work. In "The Fruits," she focuses on the difficulty of women embracing their sexuality under patriarchy when their sex is the thing that so often causes women danger.

"'Devil,' you call me/ But seems

to be enjoying/ The fruits of my labour that came to me too young/ When he stole my virtue/ I'm glad it seems to serve you/ That I was born a daughter and not a son," she sings in the track.

Paloma's new album "Cacophony," out Aug. 30, continues her mythos.

The opening song for the album, called "My Mind (Now)," and the name of the album itself were directly inspired by the Greek mythological creation story, particularly how Stephen Fry wrote about it in his book "Mythos."

"It's the idea that life in Greek mythology, instead of a big bang, they said that the universe began with chaos. And out of this chaos — this great cosmic yawn of a cacophony of noises — in the darkness, creation sprang forth," she says. "That felt like my creative process because songwriting is what comes out of the chaos in my mind. So it's both what informed the song and the title of the album because all of these songs are born out of this creation myth."

"It's so chaotic to the point that creation is what must spring from it in order for you to cope."

Sunday at 8 p.m. at the Atlantis, 2047 Ninth St. NW. theatlantist.com. Sold out.

ASTATKE FROM 6

Jazz musicians, Astatke learned, often use pentatonic (i.e., five-note) blues scales to improvise. Traditional Ethiopian music also uses pentatonic scales: Specifically, a set of four five-note modes with wide intervals (called qeñet) between the notes form the music's basic foundation.

In his desire to develop an individual sound, Astatke decided to see what happened when he swapped out jazz's pentatonic harmonies for Ethiopian ones. That experiment was the birth of Ethio-jazz, a sound that to lovers of Black American music is both comfortingly familiar and fascinatingly foreign.

It's the consistent presence of qeñet modes in his music that Astatke refers to when he says that the bottom is always Ethiopian. "I put these four modes on the bottom, and built the whole world on top," he says. "That's how Ethio-jazz is put together. Always those four modes are there: always Ethiopia."

Astatke spent most of the 1960s living and working in New York, where he formed his Ethiopian Quartet (name aside, most of the band members were Puerto Rican) and incorporated Latin rhythms into the Ethio-jazz concept. He returned to his homeland in 1969. However, it was in Brooklyn that he made the genre-defining album "Mulatu of Ethiopia" in 1972, combining the qeñet modes with jazz, funk, Latin rhythms and even psychedelic rock. (Last month, Britain-based Strut Records issued a new special edition of "Mulatu of Ethiopia" on white vinyl.)

It wasn't until the early 1970s that he brought the new sound back to his homeland. He joined Duke Ellington on the legendary bandleader's 1973 tour of Ethiopia and Zambia, which culminated in their performing together in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, for Emperor Haile Selassie.

Selassie was deposed the following year by a military junta, whose strict curfew and censorship curbed Astatke's career in Ethiopia. While many musicians emigrated, Astatke stayed and worked as a music teacher until the junta collapsed in 1991.

Astatke's career wasn't really revived until 1998, when the French label Buda Musique included Astatke's early recordings on a series of compilations called Ethiopiques. He gained success touring in Europe, Asia and Australia, with occasional trips to the United States. Somehow, though, the D.C. area — which hosts the world's largest Ethiopian community outside of Africa — has been a rare stop on his itinerary.

"I never really have the chance to come over and play," Astatke says. (He was in Alexandria in October to receive an award during the 2023 Grand African Run.) "But now that Ethio-jazz is beloved and admired all over the world, it is so nice also to be able to come over, to perform for the Washington audience, and I hope they will understand what the science of Ethio-jazz is all about. I think they will really enjoy it."

Sunday and Monday at 8 p.m. at Howard Theatre, 620 T St. NW. thehowardtheatre.com. Sunday sold out; Monday \$35.

MOCTAR FROM 6

Victime," released in 2021, was critically acclaimed and expanded the group's reach. The album's title track starts slow, with a guitar squeaking quietly as Moctar cries out the title as the first lyrics, his voice bending with a soft, twinkling percussion. Moctar's sirenlike guitar eventually takes its place at center stage. It's a seven-plus-minute jam session that revs up to a headbanging explosion when the drums come in heavier than ever.

The band has enjoyed watching audiences connect with its powerful and politically charged music, regardless of the language barrier. "For me, it's like, 'Push the music.' If people understand the aggression and the urgency of the music, they'll ask

more questions of 'What is this about? What is this feeling they're giving out?'" Coltun says. The band's listeners are definitely connecting. Just about a year ago, it opened for another music act at the Orange Peel in Asheville, N.C.; the night before the band's interview with The Post, it was the headliner.

Mdou Moctar's music is a promise in some ways: a promise to stay real, and a promise to let the music do all the necessary yelling. "When you listen to our album and then you come to the show live ... you can have the same feelings," Moctar says. "You're going to [feel] the same things, or you're going to get more than what you asked for."

Thursday at 7 p.m. at 9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW. 930.com. \$28.



PHOTOS BY FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY/LLOYD WOLF

What to expect from the newly renovated Folger Shakespeare Library

Reopening brings more exhibit space, fun for kids

BY LUCAS TREVOR

"Who was Shakespeare?" This is how the new exhibition at the Folger Shakespeare Library begins. Starting Friday — and following major renovations to the interior and exterior of the building — the library will be open to the public to answer that question.

After closing in the summer of 2020, the original building was expanded underground to add 12,000 square feet of exhibit space. The library has a new wing to showcase the Folger collection, which includes about 277,000 printed books, 60,000 manuscripts and 90,000 graphic materials. Here's what you can expect as the Folger reopens its museum space to the public.

Expanded exhibition space

Greg Prickman, director of collections at the Folger, said the goal of the library's overhaul was to

make it "a destination that is worth your while."

The highlight of the Folger's expanded footprint: 82 copies of Shakespeare's First Folio, the largest such collection in the world. The folios are flanked by objects and artifacts from the entire history of Shakespeare's life and influence. From a schoolbook used by Henry VIII as a boy to a bust of Earle Hyman as Othello, mementos from centuries of modern history are littered throughout the exhibition hall. Peggy O'Brien, a former high school English teacher and current director of education for the library, wants Shakespeare obsessives who may come to say, "Wow, I never knew that."

Showcase for other legendary authors

In addition to new exhibitions focused on Shakespeare, the library has space for rare books and manuscripts disconnected from



TOP: Visitors can try a reconstruction of a 17th-century printing press that might have printed Shakespeare's First Folio. **ABOVE:** The Folger's new visible vault for all the library's copies of the First Folio, the largest collection in the world.

the famous playwright. The exhibition "Into the Vault" showcases some of the non-Shakespeare work included in the Folger collection, while "Imprints in Time" features work from the collection of Stuart and Mimi Rose. The latter exhibition includes a first-edition copy of Frederick Douglass's "Narrative" from 1845, a galley proof of "The Lord of the Rings" with author J.R.R. Tolkien's handwritten corrections and an advance press

copy of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. "Imprints in Time" will run through Jan. 5 before being replaced by another temporary exhibition.

Appeal for kids

The library worked with exhibition designers to engage younger guests. For kids under age 6, "The Discovery Trail" is a sort of I spy game, set against the backdrop of the Bard's plays. Meanwhile, "The

Decoder Trail" challenges kids ages 6 to 8 to use their reading skills to decipher clues to a larger puzzle. Both bring the life of Shakespeare to their level with clues placed at a lower eye line throughout the exhibition spaces.

Finally, older kids and teens can play games using Shakespeare's actual words, see up close the process used in the 17th century to print a folio, and practice printing their own words and phrases using light. Stressing the desire to make the library "a space for all ages," Prickman added, "Elements can work on a couple of different levels."

What's been preserved

Garland Scott, the head of external relations for the Folger Shakespeare Library, said the impetus behind the renovations was to modernize the building while maintaining the original structure. "The chance to improve accessibility, inside and out, has been one of the best parts of renovating our building," she said. Scott highlighted the fully accessible garden paths, and elevators that "make all the public spaces of the Folger accessible, including the balcony of the Elizabethan Theatre for the first time."

Many of the library's signature features were kept intact. The exterior of the building features bas-reliefs — a kind of stone tableau — of scenes from some of Shakespeare's most famous plays as well as inset quotes.

Onstage

The library's 6,000-square-foot Victorian theater will also continue to showcase performances of both classic works and modern productions. Running through Sunday is Mary Zimmerman's "Metamorphoses," while the fall season will kick off with a production of "Romeo and Juliet."

Food and drink

Outside the theater, the library has added a cafe, the Quill and the Crumb. The cafe will feature light food, coffee and teas as well as a full-service bar in the evenings.

If you go

Reopening weekend will run through Sunday and feature jumbo lawn games, local food trucks and musical performances. Timed tickets, which can be reserved on the website, are recommended for entry to the exhibition halls. Beginning Tuesday, the museum will return to its standard schedule, opening from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The library is located at 201 East Capitol St. SE, about a 10-minute walk from the Capitol South Metro. For a full lineup of events, visit folger.edu.

ASK TOM FROM 5

to pool cash tips? My server went above and beyond during a recent meal, and I reciprocated handsomely. While I wanted him to benefit fully from the gratuity, I suspect he might have had to add it to the pool.

A: A little survey of half a dozen restaurateurs in the area — something I had time to do, thanks to your early submission — shows that most of them pool tips, in most of their establishments. Another way to reward a specific server is to share your rave with a manager or supervisor on your way out, preferably in hearing distance of the good worker.

Q: Tom, a follow-up from two weeks ago. Thank you for nudging us to keep the Shoto reservation. Food was tasty. Service was great. The waitstaff in training who helped our table did a better job than many experienced waitstaff at other restaurants. Manager checked in unrequested, which was a nice touch. Overall, it was an outstanding experience!

A: Take a bow, **Shoto**. I honestly thought it was going to be Another Pretty Face at launch, but the Japanese restaurant continues to impress. It's one of the most alluring dining rooms in the city to boot.

Q: I'm often surprised by the significant difference in what is served on prix fixe and tasting menus. For our appetites, Bazaar's tasting menu was too much food, Shoto's was perfect, and Causa and Rania each were delightful with a small supplement. As a critic with readers of, I presume, wildly different appetites, how do you think about informing us based on your experience? Any kitchens getting this especially right in your estimation? Your column always is a highlight — thank you!

A: I guess I try to make my personal preferences clear, week in and week out, in my reviews and in this forum. While I know a number of readers equate portion size to quality, for instance, I've never been a big fan of mountains of food on a plate. Give me two great appetizers over a starter and an entree and I'm a happy camper. Let me add that the novel **Rooster & Owl** in the District does a great job with its four-course tasting script. The portions are just right. You leave the table sated but not stuffed.

Q: Hi, I'm looking for a spot for a 50th birthday dinner for six to eight people on a Sunday night in D.C. or Northern Virginia. We're fans of fine dining and adventurous cuisine, but it can be just a fun spot. The birthday girl is a vegetarian. Budget is not a concern. Thanks!

A: If the birthday girl is vegetarian, you should do Indian. In the District, look into the **Bombay Club**, **Karma Modern Indian** or the regal **Rania**; in Northern Virginia, consider **Kismet Modern Indian** in Alexandria or **Celebration by Rupa Vira** in Ashburn.

Q: We need a D.C.-based place to have a small business meeting — four people total who enjoy eating. Great food, has vegetarian/pescatarian options. Must be low-key enough to discuss some business, plus enjoy each other's company, the food and not be overly rushed (two hours tops). Any suggestions? Looking at mid-July. Thanks!

A: You do know you're asking for a lot there, yes? Great food and a hushed environment tend to be the reserve of luxury venues. But let me throw you some bones: **La Bise** near the White House, where the vegetarian has options including entrees of roasted leeks and a spring risotto, and

SEE ASK TOM ON 10



DEB LINDSEY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Garlic cucumber salad, “Guobao” sweet and sour fish, spicy diced beef, and more small plates at Peter Chang Gaithersburg.

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Japanese restaurant Shoto “continues to impress” and is “one of the most alluring dining rooms in the city,” Tom Sietsema writes. Pictured are the high-ceilinged bar area, left, and salmon tacos, below.



PHOTOS BY SCOTT SUCHMAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

ASK TOM FROM 9

Karma Modern Indian in Chinatown, which has a stylish rear dining area that’s quieter than the main room.

Q: Hi, Tom, thanks for the great advice during these chats! My husband and I are getting a rare date night next weekend. We’d like to try somewhere that’s biking distance from Mount Pleasant (thinking Columbia Heights, Adams Morgan, Dupont, 14th Street, Park View or even in Mount Pleasant). We are adventurous and will enjoy any kind of food, but are looking for a nice ambiance and/or outdoor seating area for one of our few chances to go out without the kids. We’ve tried and enjoyed Purple Patch, Elle, Lapis, Thip Khao, Reveler’s Hour and Meli. Anything you’d recommend?

A: Look to my spring dining guide for some help. Among my favorite newcomers is **Bar Del Monte** in Mount Pleasant, which doesn’t take reservations but is worth the wait. (The family behind 2Amys owns it.) And the just-reviewed **Namak** is good for Turkish/Greek/Persian cooking. In Dupont Circle, I like the youthful **Alfreda** for salads and pizza. The chef behind the pies is

SEE **ASK TOM** ON 11



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festival.si.edu



LAURA CHASE DE FORMIGNY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Veal tagliatelle at 1789, a Georgetown restaurant offering genteel service. The Prime Rib is another spot with an old-school approach.

ASK TOM FROM 10

Russell Smith, whom you might know from the late Source.

Q: Tonight is the only night of my short visit to D.C. that a good friend and I both have free, and we want to dine together. The catch is that I'm flying in to DCA today, hoping my plane lands on time at 5 p.m., and my friend is on call for work tonight, so we are looking for a place in D.C., near a Metro station, that doesn't require reservations but is still high-quality. My favorites are usually farm-to-table type places; my friend likes a great cocktail list. What say you?

A: The pressure! The pressure! I'd aim for **Modena** or **Casa Teresa** for Italian and Spanish, respectively, downtown; **New Heights** in Woodley Park; or **Cafe Riggs** in Penn Quarter.

Q: Hi, Tom, I would like to host a small birthday dinner for my sister in August. She is vegetarian, but the rest of us are not. I often find that restaurants offer only one, possibly two vegetarian options. Can you suggest a restaurant in Montgomery County that would either accommodate everyone and would give my sister several options, or a restaurant that is strictly vegetarian but could

satisfy everyone? None of us are very picky eaters. Thank you!

A: The first place that comes to mind is the Greek-accented **Melina** in Rockville, which offers dishes including roasted eggplant, mushroom flatbread and seasonal salads in a handsome dining room. A second option is the new **Peter Chang Gaithersburg**, which I just reviewed. The tofu dishes and vegetable dumplings are among the scores on the menu.

Tom Sietsema hosts a weekly Q&A on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at live.washingtonpost.com.

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Making a world away from men in Paris

These American women found an art haven abroad in days before World War II

BY MARK JENKINS

The artistic American women who moved to Paris in the first four decades of the 20th century traveled there to change their lives. In the process, they changed much more than that. Their story is sumptuously illustrated by the National Portrait Gallery's sweeping exhibition "Brilliant Exiles: American Women in Paris, 1900-1939."

One well-known saga of Americans in Paris in those years is exactly what curator Robyn Asleson intends to counterbalance. In her catalogue essay, she writes that "focusing on the accomplishments and experiences of women brings into view a very different picture from that conveyed by the male-centered Lost Generation legend."

Some of the subjects of this exhibition, it's true, are known for their links to famous men. Bookseller Sylvia Beach published James Joyce's "Ulysses" when no one else would, and author Gertrude Stein is represented in the show by a notable portrait painted by Pablo Picasso.

Yet Beach and Stein helped construct a world largely independent from men. As lesbians, along with more than a few of their fellow American expatriates, they were able to live women-centered lives in Paris that would have been improbable, if not impossible, in the United States. This freedom was facilitated by a privilege many of them shared: inherited wealth.

A smaller but no less significant contingent sought freedom in Paris not only from traditional female roles but also from American racism. Of these, the most celebrated is Josephine Baker, who began by dancing in exoticized "native"

SEE EXILES ON 23

If you go

BRILLIANT EXILES: AMERICAN WOMEN IN PARIS, 1900-1939

National Portrait Gallery, Eighth and F streets NW. npg.si.edu. 202-633-1000.

Dates: Through Feb. 23.

Prices: Free.

"Sylvia Beach," Paul-Émile Bécát, 1923, oil on canvas. Beach, the bookseller who published James Joyce's "Ulysses," was among the American expats who remained in Paris after the Nazis arrived, working for the resistance.



LOUIE PALU/AGENCE VU FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

The patio scene at Showtime in Bloomingdale, where one of D.C.'s top vinyl DJs turned a barbershop into a bar. (Cash only, please.)

If you want to start an argument with a bunch of regular bar-goers, ask them what makes a bar a dive bar — or, if you want a fight on your hands, tell them their favorite bar isn't a dive bar.

When Food writer Tim Carman and I crisscrossed the country to write about dive bars for a 2017 story, then turned our attention to bars in our own backyard, we set some ground rules: They must have regulars. They should have been around for decades. They shouldn't have fancy cocktails or too many kids running around.

But the definition of a dive bar is, by nature, fluid and extremely personal. So when I invited readers to share their favorite local dive bars, and tell me why they considered that bar to be a dive, the answers varied but had many common qualities: dim lights, cheap drinks, friendly (if occasionally grouchy) staff, good music.

Even the operators of some of the best dive bars are conflicted about the term. "You don't know if you love that people call it a dive bar or hate that they call it that," says Quarry House Tavern owner Jackie Greenbaum. "It signals that it's awful in a way, and doesn't connote a good quality of

food and drink." But, she adds, "we own it. It's a shorthand for a type of bar. ... My first love is bars like this."

"The Pug is a dive bar," says Tony Tomelden, the owner of the 17-year-old H Street warhorse, "but I like the term 'neighborhood spot' better than 'dive bar.'" A dive, in his view, attracts people from around the area, drawn by reputation, while "neighborhood bar" implies the primary goal is to serve people who live and work in the immediate vicinity. But he gets why people use the term: "We're low-key, and we're cheap, and we're just a place where you can go and there's very little pretension," he says. "We try to be respectful and welcoming to everybody. But, I mean, we let everybody in, for better or for worse."

And just about everybody, it seems, has strong feelings about the landscape of local dives. More than 1,400 readers weighed in, voting for their favorite and relaying — in colorful, gritty, surprisingly poignant detail — why it deserves to be crowned D.C.'s best dive bar.

Here are the results. Bottoms up.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

A deep dive into D.C.'s top dive bars

Cheap beer. Sass. Questionable bathrooms. All the good stuff.

BY FRITZ HAHN

OUR METHODOLOGY

In March, we posted an open-ended form asking readers to nominate their favorite dive bars and tell us why they considered those bars to be dives. After receiving hundreds of votes, we counted the nominations, cut the list down to the top 12 and posted a poll online with those choices, as well as another opportunity for readers to tell us why that bar was the best dive bar in the area. In May and June, we visited all 12 finalists to revel in their divey-ness — and evaluate the bathrooms and service, listen to the music, and sample their beer-and-a-shot combos.

More than 1,400 readers cast votes in the final poll. This isn't a scientific survey: Some bars and bar regulars ran get-out-the-vote campaigns on social media. Tune Inn staff printed out QR codes linking to The Post's website and hung them around the bar. And other bars just didn't care, which is probably the truest mark of a dive.

Reader comments under each bar have been edited for length and clarity.



DJ Bracey Boone, a.k.a. "the Darkness," spins at Showtime. It's a simple, one-room spot with booths and a small bar, where the cocktails are never too complicated.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

12. Showtime

113 Rhode Island Ave. NW. [instagram.com/showtimebar](https://www.instagram.com/showtimebar).

This is what happens when one of D.C.'s top vinyl DJs turns a barbershop into a bar. A mural of D.C. musicians, from Duke Ellington to Harmon "Mask Man" Bethea, covers one wall. The jukebox is stacked with throwbacks by Link Wray, Bo Diddley and homegrown soul label Shrine. Stop in on a weekend and the DJs in the window might be spinning girl groups, Afrobeats or '70s funk. If you're lucky, it might be owner Paul "Soul Call Paul" Vivari himself. (Just know that many DJs have a "no requests" policy. Even if it's your birthday.)

Showtime is a simple, one-room spot with booths and a small bar, where old movies — "Titanic," "Batman Returns," forgotten '80s flicks — play on the TV, and bartenders don't make cocktails fancier than the Dreamsicle, which combines vanilla vodka and orange soda. Mark your calendars for Sunday night shows by Granny and the Boys, the beloved house funk band led by nonagenarian keyboard player Alice "Granny" Donahue.

Cost of a beer and a shot: \$8 for the basic model, with your choice of canned beer and a rail shot, though there are more expensive liquor options. The bar is cash only.

State of the bathrooms: Cramped, covered with graffiti, but not trashed.

Why readers love it: "Showtime's about the people: the bartenders, the regulars, the new folks who stop in every night. There's always a good conversation, usually a bad movie on TV, and cold, inexpensive beers and combos. It's the kind of spot you stop by for a quick drink after work and find yourself there hours later chatting with a stranger. My husband and I got our engagement photos taken here, with rail whiskey in our glasses and the wonderful Pat — a truly lovely guy who still remembers our first date there — behind the bar." — Sarah McLeod

"You can do whatever you want in Showtime and no one will judge you. Dance your heart out. Or don't. The drinks are cheap, and there's always some crazy movie playing on the TV. The bathroom is adequately defaced. And you can always bum a ciggie from the nice patrons smoking outside." — Michael Kohler

11. VFW Post 350 'Hell's Bottom'

6420 Orchard Ave., Takoma Park. [facebook.com/VFWPost350](https://www.facebook.com/VFWPost350).

You don't have to be a veteran to spend an evening at the VFW Post in Takoma Park. You just have to love classic rock and country bands, and sitting next to folks who might want to bend your ear with a story or two. "Regulars debated whether anyone should nominate it for this article, lest hipsters descend upon it," reader Gregory Gorman wrote, perhaps slightly tongue in cheek. "The consensus was that it wasn't a threat, since the aforementioned crowd probably wouldn't deign to travel that far to check it out, and would be turned off by the fact that it's a real dive bar that only takes cash, serves Bud Light in those fake aluminum bottles, has a decibel meter and a Keno monitor, a TV with a sports game and a jukebox, all operating even when there's a band on the stage." Except that's exactly why it's worth a trek to Takoma Park.

Like many VFWs across the country, Takoma Park's VFW faced declining membership in the 2010s, so it began hosting concerts and events and welcoming non-veteran residents of this tie-dyed town through the doors, past the anti-aircraft gun in the parking lot. These days, live music is featured Tuesday through Saturday, plus the occasional Sunday, with customers warmly greeting bartender and VFW Post 350 Auxiliary secretary Kiki Oliver at the enormous, vaguely U-shaped bar, or having a cigarette out on the spacious backyard, where the mournful sound of a pedal steel guitar leaks out whenever someone opens the door.

Cost of a beer and a shot: Beers start at \$3 for domestics and \$3.50 for Yuengling, though crafts and locals, such as 7 Locks, are available for a buck or two more. Shots of Jim Beam are \$3. The bar is cash only.

State of the bathrooms: Clean and stark, and decorated with framed images of



PHOTOS BY LOUIE PALU/AGENCE VU FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Open jam night at VFW Post 350 in Takoma Park, affectionately known as "Hell's Bottom." There's live music Tuesday through Saturday, and sometimes Sunday, and beers start at \$3 (cash only). The regulars hope it never gets popular with hipsters.

World War II and montages of personal photos of service members sitting on tanks.

Why readers love it: "It's a diamond in the rough. No food is sold other than chips, but you can bring food in. Also, many a time there's a potluck or snacks on the side table, free! Great live music, no cover charge, plenty of parking and a wonderful backyard that has a fire pit you can start!

There are fundraisers for animal rescues, school supplies and Takoma Park organizations. The people, the workers, the music, the dogs that are brought in make it a homey, relaxing place without the froufrou of other Takoma Park establishments." — Alice Richardson

"This is a true neighborhood watering hole. Nothing compares to this little local

bar, which has established an amazing lineup of local live music every night they are open. They also host events connected with the Takoma Park community, and have a welcoming atmosphere and interesting and diverse clientele that is hard to find in higher-end so-called dive bars." — Reggie Stout

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

10. Dan's Cafe
2315 18th St. NW. No website. (The X account @DansCafeDC is a much-loved parody.)
Going to Dan's Cafe is a rite of passage for 20-somethings new to D.C. The squat, unadorned building has no windows or sign, incongruous with neighbors on the neon-filled Adams Morgan strip. Inside, the dusty plants overhead, old beer signs hanging on brick walls, the cracked-tile bar and the groups huddled around a tarp-covered pool table resemble, as The Post's Tim Carman once opined, "a fern bar gone to seed." Maybe that's why it's open only Friday and Saturday nights.
Dan's has been around since the 1940s, and owned by the same family since 1965, but its signature drink is of much more recent vintage: Pick a shot, and your group is served a batched version in a squeeze bottle, like you might find holding ketchup in a restaurant. Squeeze it directly into your mouth, into a friend's mouth, into a glass, whatever — it's the ideal delivery method for young people who are looking to get sloshed while singing along to Cher or Dire Straits or whatever's blasting from the jukebox. There's simply nothing else



like it in D.C.
Cost of a beer and a shot: Bottles of domestic beer, including Rolling Rock and Yuengling, are \$3.75. Pair that with a miniature liquor bottle of your choice, such as Evan Williams bourbon for \$6 or Jack

Clues you are at Dan's Cafe: blue tarp, red vinyl stools and squirt bottle shots. Squeeze the bottle into your mouth, into a friend's mouth, into a glass, whatever you feel like.

Daniel's for \$8. (Yes, basically all liquor comes in a squirt bottle or from the kind of mini bottles served on airplanes.) The bar is cash only.
State of the bathrooms: "The bathroom is extremely smelly and suspect. Dan's is one of the few places I wish had smoking to cover up the smell," offers reader Andrew Wiseman, who might even be underselling it.
Why readers "love" it: "There is a level of grime and grit to the place that cannot be replicated or falsified, and it informs the spirit of the place. There are no frills. There is no ceremony. You go into there for one thing and one thing only, and that is to rashly imbibe via squeeze bottle. What is a dive bar if not a bar divested of all artifice?" — Kevin Marcou
"Well, it smells like urine CONSTANTLY. The pool table has definitely never been used; it might as well be cinder blocks under that tarp. The complete lack of signage out front. Oh, it's cash only, of course. But nothing — nothing — reads 'dive' more than the bartender. He loves you if you know what you want and have your cash out, but he will dismiss you with an incredible disdain if you are up at the bar wasting his time." — Frank Gorman

9. Trusty's Full-Serve
1420 Pennsylvania Ave. SE. trustys-fullserve.com.
When Trusty's Full-Serve opened near the Potomac Avenue Metro station in the summer of 2005, its calling card was that it was the closest bar to RFK Stadium, home of both the Nationals and D.C. United. The neighborhood has changed a lot since then, but not Trusty's. Cheesesteaks and half-smokes still sizzle on a flat-top grill behind the bar, the smell making your stomach growl even if you just stopped in for a beer. In keeping with the automotive theme, blocky old oil cans have been converted to overhead lamps, and vintage road atlases have been repurposed into an off-kilter map of America. TVs are tuned to whatever sports are on, while the internet jukebox blasts everything from yacht rock to hip-hop.
The upstairs, which contained apartments when Trusty's opened, has become the Bus Bar, with the bar and craft beer coolers tucked behind the unmistakable shell of a yellow school bus, now a canvas for taggers. There's also a large, shaded patio, with multiple TVs for catching games. If you prefer a dive bar vibe, stay downstairs.
Cost of a beer and a shot: \$8 for a Miller High Life or light beer with a house spirit.
State of the bathrooms: Relatively clean, and covered with vintage automobile magazines, photos of burned-out cars and side-view mirrors.
Why readers love it: "I love the cheesesteak griddle behind the bar, run by multi-talented bartender/cooks. We leave with



ABOVE: Trivia night at Trusty's Full-Serve on Capitol Hill. BELOW: The Bus Bar upstairs, in a space that used to be taken up by apartments. The bathrooms at Trusty's are covered with vintage automobile magazines and photos of burned-out cars.



PHOTOS BY LOUIE PALU/AGENCE VU FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

our bellies full and our hair smelling like burgers and cooking grease. Stacks of board games on the tables have incomplete pieces, forcing us to get creative. So fun." — Veronica Wilson
"My wife and I had a boozy lunch up Pennsylvania Avenue one Saturday and walked around a bit before I suggested we go to Trusty's — a bar I had been to several times with friends, but my wife hadn't been to yet. As we walk up the stairs, my wife says, 'I really want a martini,' to which I responded, 'I don't think that's in the cards here, and I wouldn't ask if I were you.' My wife, who is strong-willed, especially when tipsy, goes ahead with her order of a martini at the bar. The bartender, looking surprised, says: 'Yeah, we're not that kind of bar. ... While I apparently have vermouth up here for some unknown reason, it hasn't been opened in all the years I've been here.' While this could have ended awkwardly, my wife rallies with an order more appropriate, bourbon soda. Despite the order misstep and potential for appearing a bit too uppity, we ended up having a great time, staying much longer than planned and having a couple of shots of well tequila with the bartender — as is customary for any self-respecting dive in my fairly robust dive bar experience, having lived in New Orleans for a pretty good while in my '20s." — Casey Pickell

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

8. The Raven

3125 Mount Pleasant St. NW. x.com/ravengrilldc.

First-time visitors venturing into one of D.C.'s oldest neighborhood bars can expect to get the lay of the land from the bartender: The bar is cash only. The sign outside says "Grille," but there's no food, except for bags of Utz chips and Cheez-Its. Keep your drink orders simple, just a spirit and a mixer: "I don't have limes, so I can't make you a margarita," a bartender recently told a pair of newcomers. The rest you can figure out for yourself: There are board games behind the bar, from Trivial Pursuit to Risk. (The bartender's never seen anyone playing the latter.) The cute vintage jukeboxes at every table are for decoration only; if you want to play a song, head to the back of the room. Old movies play on the TV.

The bar opened in 1935, and the framed portraits around the room reflect a mid-century sensibility: Elvis, John Lennon, Jimi Hendrix, Judy Garland. It's brighter than it used to be, and a little more presentable than it was two decades ago, but that can't diminish the genuine dive patina that customers of all ages come to bask in.

Cost of a beer and a shot: \$3 for a can of Natty Boh, \$6 for a shot of Old Grand Dad.

State of the bathrooms: The Raven's bathrooms are legendary, with one particularly memorable piece of graffiti from the 1990s that read, "If you had to take a cab here, you don't belong here." While they've been refurbished and repainted in the last decade or so, it doesn't take long for graffiti — tags, philosophical musings, "Simpsons" quotes — to again cover every square inch of the single stalls.



PHOTOS BY LOUIE PALU/AGENCE VU FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

The Raven is one of D.C.'s oldest neighborhood bars. The sign outside says "Grille," but there's no food, except for bags of Utz chips and Cheez-Its. The bathrooms are legendary for the graffiti that covers every square inch of the single stalls.

Why readers love it: "Cheap drinks, nothing trendy, and long-standing bartenders of an eccentric or curmudgeonly demeanor," writes Jonathan Psotka, who remembers "the bartender shouting 'Hell, no!' when a bachelorette limo rolled up, and jumping from behind the counter to

bar the door."
"The regulars. Hands down the best feature! We all knew one another. It's an extended living room for the Gen X folks in the neighborhood. Also, so many people are tattooed, not giving a care, yet are overeducated federal workers." — *Kendrea Snead*



Bartender Koyta Mounoubai at Solly's Tavern, an old-fashioned corner bar on U Street that's a gathering place for Ohio State alumni and Miami Dolphins fans.

7. Solly's Tavern

1942 11th St. NW. sollystavern.com.

Solly's is an old-fashioned corner bar, located on the busy corner of 11th and U streets NW. It feels like it's been there forever, and it kind of has — John Solomon, the former manager of Old Dominion's brewpub and coach of the Washington Irish rugby club, opened the no-frills bar in the fall of 2006. It's expanded and contracted over the years, but settled into a nice groove as a low-key destination with a variety of beers and whiskeys at different price points, with no-nonsense bartenders who look out for their regulars.

The two-story building is a gathering place for Ohio State alumni and Miami Dolphins fans, but the framed rugby jerseys are a reminder of Solly's roots — members of Solomon's rugby teams literally built out the space. The nooks in the glass bay windows are the best place to sit and watch U Street go by — unless you want to claim one of the picnic tables on the patio.

Cost of a beer and a shot: \$8.50 for a Miller High Life and rye whiskey, but the chalkboard behind the bar has a whole menu of combos, depending on how fancy you're feeling. (\$10.50 for a DC Brau and Jameson is a move.)

State of the bathrooms: Stickers, markers, spray paint — every inch of the bathroom walls has been tagged and retagged, even on the ceiling.

Why readers love it: "Solly's is the perfect dive bar for a few reasons: cheap cans of beer and ever-flowing shots of liquor, especially after a big sports victory; it is small and cozy; loyal customers that love Solly's for everything it is (and it is not), and where all the regulars know each other; and a staff that mixes friendliness with a bit of apathy for the annoying 20-something-year-olds that frequent U Street." — *Melissa Harto*

"On a random Tuesday, there was a flood warning all across D.C. The streets were flush with water, my plans were canceled, but I was bored. I didn't want to go home, which was conveniently near Solly's at the time. Lo and behold, the door to Solly's was open, not a soul in the place besides Neil hanging out behind the bar. To have a place like that where I could drink PBR to my heart's content and shoot the s--- for a few hours is the last remaining relic of places that act as social gathering spots without hurting the wallet." — *Meital Kupfer*

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

6. Ivy & Coney*1537 Seventh St. NW. ivyandconey.com.*

When Ivy & Coney opened on New Year's Day 2014, the owners were upfront about their inspirations: They wanted to re-create the "archetypal Midwestern corner bar," down to the Old Style sign swinging outside, with touches like murals of Harry Caray and Sparky Anderson. The owners hail from Chicago and Detroit, two of the great dive bar cities of the United States, and their vision involved showing the Cubs and Tigers on TVs, serving hot dogs topped with beefy chili or a garden's worth of veggies, and shots of Malort, the love-it-or-hate-it bitter spirit from Chicago.

The formula has changed a little over the years: Ivy now accepts credit cards, no longer offers free peanuts, and doubled in size with an all-weather rooftop deck, providing more room for intramural teams to gather after their games. Its annual Hanukkah Bar pop-up draws large crowds. But it's still a neighborhood bar at heart: Wisecracking bar staff welcome Michigan alumni and Midwestern transplants as



Bar-goers watch a hockey playoff game at Ivy & Coney in Shaw, which is meant to evoke the "archetypal Midwestern corner bar." The Chicago Handshake pairs a pint of lager with a side of Malort, the love-it-or-hate-it bitter spirit from Chicago.

well as those who've been here far longer, delivering cheap beers and better food than you'd expect. In early June, Ivy & Coney's owners announced the bar was dropping tipping and moving to an all-inclusive pricing model, while keeping daily specials like half-price Detroit-style pizza (Monday) and Italian beef sandwiches (Tuesday). Who says dive bars can't innovate?

Cost of a beer and a shot: \$8 for either Miller Lite and a Four Roses bourbon or the signature "Chicago Handshake": a pint of lager with a side of Malort.

State of the bathrooms: Cozy and covered in (often clever) graffiti.

Why readers love it: "The little nooks and crannies, and the lights and food, and everything about it. Just has the perfect 'old' vibe. Always a mix of people in there, too." — *Lisa Ebel*

"Love the feeling that it's a hometown bar in the Midwest somewhere! Plenty of TVs, outdoor patio and very reasonable prices." — *John Colpoys*

"Cheap beer, hot dogs with neon-green relish, tacky Upper Midwest decor, and everyone's a jerk!" — *William Kenlon*

5. The Red Derby*3718 14th St. NW. redderby.com.*

"Great vibes." "Welcoming atmosphere." "Best staff." "Feeling of community." Variations on these phrases jump out again and again while reading nominations and votes for the Red Derby, which has been a firm favorite since it arrived on 14th Street in late 2007, after a brief stint in Adams Morgan. As more than one reader noted, the Derby really does have "something for everyone" — raucous trivia tournaments, board games, pool, darts, a rooftop deck for lazy summer afternoons and a dimly lit, red-hued main floor for cold winter evenings. The canned beer and cider are affordable, the mixed drinks are creative, and the reliable, just-out-of-the-fryer bar food includes fried mac and cheese and popcorn shrimp. There are plenty of specials — all sides are half-price on "Paul Rudd Wednesdays," and the "24/7 happy hour" means there are always

\$3.50 rail shots and \$3.50 mystery beers. The Derby might be a little too cool and self-aware for some dive connoisseurs — \$13 cocktails on a rooftop deck? — but its legion of fans love it as is.

Cost of a beer and a shot: The Red Derby

has a whopping 16 combos on its menu, ranging from the \$8 Max & Lou (Natty Boh and rail bourbon) to the \$25 1 Night in Tokyo, which pairs a 22-ounce can of Sapporo and a side of sparkling jelly peach sake. Feeling indecisive? Let your bartend-

er pair any beer and any spirit in the house for \$15.50, but, the menu warns, "no bitchin', no moanin', no refund."

State of the bathrooms: Surprisingly spacious. The walls are covered with gilt-framed paintings and magazine collages — most of which have had mustaches added, are covered in graffiti, etc.

Why readers love it:

"Everyone has a home away from home at Derby. The kind, quirky staff, eclectic music, and the hangout options of a large outdoor space and luxurious, mirrored main floor make Derby not only a time capsule of sorts but an ever-fulfilling place you can find your vibe in. The dependable bar food, local bottle fare and fun beer shot combos are all [an] added bonus." — *MaryAlice DeMatteo*

"No TVs. The music is generally really amazing. The bartenders are incredibly smart and friendly, yet there's no pretense. The regulars frown upon people coming in and acting 'D.C.' More radicals than snobs at Red Derby. Great prices on everything. Incredible people." — *Tony Miller*



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CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

The Red Derby in Columbia Heights is known for its welcoming atmosphere and "great vibes." And don't forget Paul Rudd Wednesdays.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

4. Quarry House Tavern

8401 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. quarryhousetavern.com.

It hasn't been an easy few years for Silver Spring's favorite basement hangout. In March 2015, a two-alarm fire at the Bombay Gaylord restaurant upstairs shuttered the building. In January 2016, a water main on a neighboring street broke twice, sending four feet of standing water into the Quarry House, which was gutted and closed for more than two years while it was restored down to the exact finish of the knotty pine paneling. Then came the pandemic, when it didn't seem like a great idea to share a low-ceilinged, below-ground watering hole with complete strangers. "We used to joke, 'What's next, locusts?'" says Jackie Greenbaum, who bought the venerable bar in 2005. Its history goes back to before World War I, she says — the Quarry House's liquor license is No. 30 in Montgomery County, issued in 1934.

But regulars don't come here for a Dis-

ney-fied version of a dive bar. They come because the Quarry House has soul, the kind that sounds like Tom Waits on the free CD jukebox, or local punk and rockabilly bands playing in the back room, and regulars conversing over whiskeys at the bar, or under a framed beer sign from the 1960s. The menu is basic, but better than you might expect while walking down the 13 steps from the Georgia Avenue sidewalk, starring juicy burgers topped with smoky cheese and fresh jalapeños, and tater tots fried to a satisfying crunch. The multi-page drink menu includes around 250 whiskeys — you can spend anywhere from \$4 to almost \$400 on a sip — and an extensive craft beer list with a Maryland focus, but with beers starting for less than \$4. It's a choose-your-own-adventure kind of place — one you'll want to explore again and again.

Cost of a beer and a shot: A pint of Peabody Heights' Old Oriole Park is \$3.67, and whiskeys — take your pick from Beam, Dickel, Overholt and so forth — start at \$4.

State of the bathrooms: One of the quirks of the Quarry House is that the

bathrooms are located in the back dining room, behind where the bands set up. When newcomers are on what looks like a first date on a Saturday night, "I always think, 'Let's [see] what kind of date you got here,' because they have to walk through the show to get to the bathroom," Greenbaum jokes. "It's part of the capital-C charm of the Quarry House." The two bathrooms have been thoroughly and cleverly graffitied, including with an image of Che Guevara wearing a clown nose, labeled "Cheer up!"

Why readers love it: "You go down the steps from the sidewalk into a low-ceilinged '70s/'80s-esque small bar that smells a little of smoke and mildew. If you sit in the back room, you'll have to share space with boxes of liquor, and the bathroom is a tiny little cupboard that is adorned with some very creative, and extensive, graffiti. The food is cheap, but decent, and their whiskey and beer menus are big." — *Phil Hosea*

"It's a basement bar with cheap local beer, surprisingly great burgers, good specials and just the right amount of grime.

The \$6 burger on Monday with a \$3 beer followed by a \$4 whiskey ginger is value I haven't found anywhere else in the D.C. area. The constantly rotating taps mean there is new beer to try every time I visit, while their spicy BLT is one of the best BLTs I have had." — *Mark Thiergartner*

"Nothing fancy or pretentious; but at the same time, it's not dirty or run-down, a frequent misconception people have when thinking of dive bars. What makes it perfect is, first of all, the people — both the staff and much more so the clientele, who are a very broad and diverse range of people. Secondly, the beer selection is legendary, with an extensive whiskey list. And the food is good but at an appropriate level for the venue and ambiance." — *Mark Anderson*

"It's been a long tradition in downtown Silver Spring. I loved it enough to spend the evening there after our wedding reception with our friends and family 41 years ago! Just went back on our anniversary!" — *Janice Williams*

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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Bartender Chris Shahmohammadi pours beer at the Quarry House, Silver Spring's favorite basement hangout. The multi-page drink menu also includes around 250 whiskeys.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

3. JV's Restaurant

6666 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church. jvs-restaurant.com.

"Ageless charm without yuppie bastardization" is the slogan at JV's, which has been operating in a strip mall on the side of Arlington Boulevard since 1947. Some things don't seem to have changed since then, like the cold bottled beer and legendary meatloaf. (Owner Lorraine Campbell boasts that 60 tons of the meatloaf has been sold over the years.) More importantly, JV's is a honky-tonk throwback in the truest sense: Live music is featured every night, and twice Friday through Sunday, when one act starts at 4 p.m. and the headliner hits the stage at 8:30.

First-time visitors might take in the comfortable booths, the walls fully covered in patriotic tributes to veterans and autographed band photos, and the big central bar, and think it's always been like this. But JV's doubled in size in 2015, when Campbell took over the pharmacy next door and knocked down the walls, expanding both the stage and the hardwood dance floor where couples joyfully twist and twirl to blues, classic rock, disco and soul. They can get onstage, too, during the regular blues and bluegrass jam sessions and the popular open mic nights.

Cost of a beer and a shot: JV's doesn't sell hard liquor, but a bottle of Yuengling is \$2 at happy hour (\$5.99 regularly).



PHOTOS BY LOUIE PALU/AGENCE VU FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

The Bee Charmers got 'em up and dancing at JV's in Falls Church, which has been running since 1947 (and sold 60 tons of its meatloaf since then, the owner says).

State of the bathrooms: Industrial, but clean, and filled with signs for upcoming concerts instead of graffiti.

Why readers love it: "This place has been in business for over 75 years, and not only does it have its own feisty and unique atmosphere, but it is also a strong community of music-loving locals and musicians passing through. There's live music every

night, which is hard to find these days as music venues are dropping like flies since covid. They are also big supporters of veterans. Lorraine and her staff really took care of their community during covid and were offering meals to the homeless or anyone needing a hot meal at a time when restaurants were really struggling. JV's is more than just a 'dive bar'; it's a legendary

and iconic testament to the true heart of community and the power that music has to bring people together. It's my favorite dancing spot, and the music is always top-notch, along with the staff!" — *Karen King*

"It's been around since 1947, quite a feat for any establishment in NoVa. Still possesses its old honky-tonk charm — live music almost every night, cheap beer, friendly but a little edgy staff, greasy-but-good bar food. Plus, you can hang at the bar and watch soap operas on weekday afternoons.

"I have seen a few fights break out, once between two screaming, hair-pulling women. The band (including the great Danny Gatton) just segued into a cool instrumental to accompany the brawl." — *John Williams*

"When I arrived in the DMV area over a decade ago, JV's became my first and favorite dive. There is a relaxed energy that feels like both a party vibe and a family gathering, even on your first visit. An elementary teacher by day, and moonlighting 'girl' trumpet player after hours, I sometimes struggle to find safe spaces to perform and network. JV's is always there, ready and waiting, to be that musical home for me and countless others. Lorraine, the owner and heart of JV's, makes it her personal mission to use her platform to elevate and celebrate others — especially women and those in need of a boost." — *Melissa Escobar*

2. The Tune Inn

331 1/2 Pennsylvania Ave. SE. tuneinnndc.com.

Taxidermied animals — including a bear, an owl and the backsides of several deer — keep watch over shenanigans at the Tune Inn, a legendary dive bar just over three blocks from the Capitol. Hill staffers, veterans, neighbors and tourists all pull up bar stools for cold drinks and the city's best mozzarella sticks, but it's the crowds of loyal regulars, who refer to themselves as a family, that really make this bar worth coming back to. You never know what you'll find: baseball fans watching games, a happy hour office crew singing along to country music on the jukebox, couples in black tie rolling in for patty melts and drinks in a corner booth after a fancy dinner.

The Tune Inn has been a fixture on the Hill since 1947, and it's currently operated by the third generation of the Nardelli family — an anchor of stability in a neighborhood that turns over every couple of years. It was spruced up in 2011 after a devastating fire, adding retro booths, removing the dingy drop ceilings to uncover a skylight and putting local craft brews on tap. The antler chandeliers even got a nice dusting. But it still opens every day at 8 a.m. and serves breakfast until the wee hours. The bartenders and customers greet

one another by name. And the neon sign outside is a beacon.

Cost of a beer and a shot: \$12 for a Pabst Blue Ribbon and a rail whiskey.

State of the bathrooms: The dark gray walls are surprisingly graffiti-free.

Why readers love it: "There are always regulars drinking cocktails in the morning. There are no fancy drinks, and the food is greasy. After the fire, it was basically the same but just cleaner and with less aging on the woodwork." — *Stratton Edwards*

"I saw a bar fight where neither party could actually stand long enough to hit the other one. Hardly anyone blinked an eye, not even the bartender. A woman, perhaps connected to one or other of the swaying combatants, dumped a pitcher of beer on both of them." — *Lynne Larkin*

"Utterly unpretentious, the Tune Inn has a timeless feel and gruff but efficient waitstaff. Well drinks and beer are the focus, and you might get a weird glance if you try to order a martini. It's a good place for a boisterous conversation among friends." — *Tommy Brown*

"The odd decorations give it a quirky but homey feel. With the news always going and Hill staffers decompressing after their days, it's always a great place for eavesdropping and a happy hour beer." — *Natalie Giannini*

"Everyone loves the Tune Inn. Senators.



Justin Kane and Lori Reynolds embrace at the Tune Inn on Capitol Hill, where Hill staffers, veterans, neighbors and tourists alike pull up bar stools for cold drinks and the city's best mozzarella sticks.

Staffers. Longtime neighborhood residents. Young people. Old people. And there is nothing like getting a room full of that kind of diversity all singing along to the jukebox." — *Tara Bunch*

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



LOUIE PALU/AGENCE VU FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Good times in the booths at the Pug, owned by Tony Tomelden on H Street NE. The place doesn't take itself too seriously, and that's just one reason for its loyal following.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

1. The Pug

1234 H St. NE. thepugdc.com.
The AC conks out for weeks or months at a time.
The ceilings leak, sometimes onto unsuspecting patrons sitting at the bar. Oh, and one of the bathrooms has a warning on its door about the dripping ceiling.
Some bar stools are so wonky, you worry they might collapse at any minute.
The vinyl covering the booths is torn, exposing foam inside.
And yet. Just try to find a seat at the Pug on H Street NE on weekend nights, when go-go and ska and punk rock blast from the stereo and the bartenders serve up streams of whiskey shots and cold canned beers. It's even more crowded on the semiregular Taylor Swift nights, in which a much younger crowd packs into the bar to sing along with vinyl playing behind the bar, much to the bemusement of regulars.
Owner Tony Tomelden says he didn't set out to open a dive bar back in 2007, when the Pug was part of the first wave of bars that heralded a revival on H Street NE. "But we're low-key, and we're cheap, and we're a place you can go where there's very little pretension," he says. "If I had the money to get my air conditioning working full time, or to seal that leaky roof, I would, but at \$5 for a Miller High Life, I'm not going to

make it." Still, the Pug's atmosphere, from the music to year-round Christmas lights to the motley collection of bartenders and customers, is enough that regulars roll their eyes and embrace the Pug's quirks. Bartender Chaz Powers even printed up fans with the Pug's logo to use the next time the air conditioning dies. The place doesn't take itself too seriously, and that's just one of the reasons it's built such a loyal following.
Cost of a beer and a shot: \$10 for a bottle of Miller High Life and a shot of Jameson.
State of the bathrooms: As noted above, patrons are greeted with a sign reading: "Please excuse our leaking ceiling. Unless you have an umbrella handy, please use the bathroom to the left." The working bathroom is roomy but a mess, with open shelves of supplies, and mops and buckets sitting out. Old newspaper front pages from the 2019 World Series and 2018 Stanley Cup finals cover the walls, alongside images of Marion Barry and local boxers, though many have been graffitied. Ignore the "Please don't shower in our bathroom" sign at your peril.
Why readers love it: "You need cheap drinks, bartenders who know your name and a collection of characters who sit at the bar. A vibe is also essential. The Pug has all this and more. There's Taylor Swift nights that bring people in and 'Bachelorette' watch parties that create community. Any-

time I've stopped in for a Miller High Life, I can always find a bar patron or two to chat with about everything and anything, except politics, per the Pug's rules. The Pug Taylor Swift nights are just incredible. But I feel like the installation of the Marion Barry head from the H Street Country Club golf course is the diviest thing about this D.C. staple." — *Katherine Knott*
"It has great decor as a boxing-themed bar. The staff is gruff yet friendly (especially to regulars). The overall atmosphere is a local watering hole that happens to have a good selection of regional beers, and a D.C./Baltimore game is always on the TV. Normally, they only offer bar snacks (especially cheese balls), which only makes it feel more like a fun dive. One time a bachelorette party repeatedly asked for a round of lemon drop shots, even though the bartender said they didn't make lemon drops. When the bachelorette party insisted, the bartender took their credit card and gave them whiskey shots instead." — *Greg Stathes*
"A man walked in, sat down on the stool next to me and proceeded to down the cocktail to my left, which was unattended while its owner went to the bathroom. Clearly inebriated, he then fell off his stool backward with a crash, and was carried out in a firm yet respectful manner by bar staff. The man's drink was remade before he returned in a mechanical way that made

me think that this had inexplicably happened before. Equilibrium restored, patrons continued their conversations without a hitch, and the bartender returned to folded-arms position." — *Ben Mahler*
"Completely unpretentious. Good regulars. Cheap beer and whiskey. Good bartenders. Mismatched 'furniture.' Crappy AC. Shots are plentiful." — *Tapio Christiansen*
"Its authenticity, its variety of proper dive-bar beers and spirits, the cast of regular characters that call it home, its owner Tony and his unique, eclectic taste in music (Tony himself is a D.C. dive bar icon), and the fact the Pug has survived on H Street for as long as it has and never changed, though almost everything around it has! And finally, its name itself: the Pug, short for 'the pugilist.' No better dive bar name than that!" — *Michael Semler*
"It's a local bar. They welcome everyone from ages 21 to 80. Tony T, the owner, has fundraisers for great causes, and he's a wonderful person also who is kind and caring. He's been on H Street quite a while, while many bars have closed. He opens on Thanksgiving so anyone [who] has nowhere to eat can go to the Pug, bring a dish, and enjoy some turkey and fixins." — *Maryann Mazza*



NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION/STANISLAUS JULIAN WALERY/MARK GULEZIAN



PRIVATE COLLECTION

FROM LEFT: Josephine Baker, photographed by Stanislaus Julian Walery, 1926, gelatin silver print; “Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney in Bakst Costume with Fleurs du Mal,” Howard Gardiner Cushing, 1911-1912, oil on canvas; and “Self-Portrait,” Romaine Brooks, 1923, oil on canvas. All are on display at the National Portrait Gallery as part of “Brilliant Exiles: American Women in Paris, 1900-1939.”



SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM/GIFT OF THE ARTIST, ROMAINE BROOKS

EXILES FROM 13

costumes at the Folies Bergère. She’s seen here in a vibrant Paul Colin print in which she wears one of her best-known outfits, simply a skirt of artificial bananas. After World War II, during which Baker joined the French Resistance, she took less stereotypical roles.

The exhibition is divided into eight sections, some of which overlap. The Black émigrés are divided between “The Stars of Montmartre Nightlife” and “Harlem’s Renaissance in Paris.” Sculptor and art patron Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, who founded New York’s Whitney Museum of American Art, appears in both “Modern Art and Modern Women” and “Dancer of the Future,” which spins around modern dancer Isadora Duncan.

In addition to the chapter devoted to Duncan, several other sections center on a single woman, such as Stein (and lover Alice B. Toklas) or writer Natalie Clifford Barney (and one of her lovers, painter Romaine Brooks). Barney’s celebrated salons may have been quintessentially Parisian, but they were modeled in part on the ones hosted by her mother, Alice Pike Barney, at the family’s home near Sheridan Cir-



SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM/BEQUEST OF THE ARTIST, LOÏS MAILLOU JONES

“Self-Portrait,” by Loïs Mailou Jones, 1940, casein on board. Jones, who spent most of her career at Howard University, studied in Paris for just a year, although she considered that sojourn pivotal.

cle in Washington. (The building is now the Embassy of Latvia.) The show’s painted portraits of Natalie and her sister, Laura, are by Alice.

Of the more than 60 women documented in this overview, not all became full-time Parisians. Writer Katherine Anne Porter lived there about four years, which is longer than Los Angeles-born Chinese American actress Anna May Wong. Loïs Mailou Jones, who spent most of her career at Howard University, studied in Paris for just a year, although she considered that sojourn a crucial influence. The three Jones paintings on display include a portrait of opera singer Lillian Evanti, a native Washingtonian who during the 1920s performed often in France but did not settle there.

The show’s chronology ends, understandably, in 1939. Yet some of these exiles stayed even after the Nazis arrived. Beach and Stein remained, and the former, like Baker, worked for the resistance. Stein, more problematically, supported the Nazi-collaborationist Vichy government. Also a fascist sympathizer for a time, Natalie Barney lived in Italy during the war but resumed her Paris salon in 1949.

The 77 artworks include photo-

graphs of Wong by Edward Jean Steichen; Black nightclub proprietor Ada “Bricktop” Smith by Carl van Vechten; Peggy Guggenheim (whose name ended up on more than one museum) by Man Ray; and several by Berenice Abbott, including a self-portrait. One of the most striking paintings is Alfred Courmes’s portrayal of Guggenheim, formally posed in front of a Renaissance-style landscape where an automobile offers the only clue as to what century it is.

Also a painter, Steichen produced the show’s centerpiece, three panels of the vast seven-panel “In Exaltation of Flowers.” The art nouveau-influenced tempera-and-gold-leaf picture of women posed in a stylized garden was made in 1901-1913 for Eugene and Agnes Meyer, who would purchase this newspaper in 1933.

Thematically, some of the sections cohere better than others. “Refashioning Modern Women,” encompassing Wong, Guggenheim, Anaïs Nin and others, is something of a grab bag. But perhaps the show shouldn’t be approached as a “counternarrative,” Asleson’s description of it. Maybe it’s better seen as an extension of Steichen’s “In Exaltation of Flowers,” a garden scattered with wild blooms.

Thelma ★★★★★



PHOTOS BY MAGNOLIA PICTURES

Grandma's got a new ride and a mission

94-year-old star defies clichés and races into action (at about 30 mph)

BY TY BURR

Have you heard about the new youth tonic that's just arrived on the market? It's called "Thelma," it's playing at your local movie house, and it stars the incomparable June Squibb as a grandma who gets scammed and sets out to get her money back.

Squibb's been acting professionally for the last seven decades or so, but she's only been getting bigger parts in recent years, with her performance as Bruce Dern's ornery wife in "Nebraska" (2013) earning her a supporting actress Oscar nomination. "Thelma" marks her first lead role in a feature film, and it's safe to say that, at 94, a star is born. There's a lesson there, children.

"Thelma" casts Squibb as Thelma Post, an elderly widow living contentedly and independently in Los Angeles' Encino neighborhood, despite the loving concerns of her daughter Gail (Parker Posey), son-in-law Alan (Clark Gregg) and 24-year-old grandson Danny (Fred Hechinger). Danny, sweet and dis-



tracted, may not have figured out his own life yet, but he has Thelma in his corner as cheerleader and best friend; their relationship is one of the early delights of writer-director Josh Margolin's debut feature-length film.

It's that bond, though, that undoes Thelma when a scammer pretending to be a jailed Danny calls her on the phone and convinces her to part with \$10,000 in "bail money." Once the ruse is revealed, Thelma is more embar-

rassed and angry than bewildered, especially since it gives her family further ammunition for talking about assisted living. "Thelma" subverts movie clichés about little old ladies at every turn by making the character fiercely individualistic and no one's victim — sometimes to her own disadvantage — and Squibb responds by building Thelma from the inside out. She's not just anybody's grandmother, she's this very particular woman who happens to be a grandmother.

And you kind of want her to be *your* grandmother.

Anyway. Thelma vows with narrowed eye to retrieve her money, and, while she no longer drives, she has a P.O. box number in Van Nuys as a clue. (Don't look too hard at the logic or logistics of the scam; it'll only distract from the fun.) Enter Richard Roundtree as Thelma's old friend Ben, who lives in a nearby care community (and likes it, thank you very much) but, more importantly, has a spiffy red mobility

TOP: June Squibb, in her first feature-film lead role, stars in "Thelma" as an elderly woman who tries to get her money back from a scammer with the help of an old friend, played by Richard Roundtree. **LEFT:** The bond between Thelma and her grandson, played by Fred Hechinger, is a highlight.

scooter that can go 43 miles on one charge. By the scene in which our hardy heroine takes Ben's ride for a spin — and just keeps on going — you know you're watching something very special.

"Thelma" doesn't rest just on the gutsy charms of its lead actress, but on everybody in the show. Roundtree, in the "Shaft" star's final performance before his death in October 2023, makes Ben a fussy but loyal companion on the bumpy road to retribution, and Posey is marvelously funny as a tightly wound helicopter mom/daughter. Her and Gregg's scenes with Hechinger's Danny are blissful sendups of Parents Who Worry Too Much, and Hechinger responds with a shaggy, exasperated grace that will be recognizable to anyone who's been stuck too long in

SEE **THELMA** ON 28

The Bikeriders ★★★★★

The story is thin, but the actors go whole hog

Rambling road odyssey is based on 1968 book of biker club photography

BY TY BURR

“The Bikeriders” offers an interesting test case: If one aspect of a movie is way above average, does it make up for the parts that are subpar? Specifically, if the performances are phenomenal across the board, is it okay if there’s no plot? Or not much of one?

“The Bikeriders” is an immersion in the life and times of the fictional Vandals, a Chicago motorcycle gang that evolves over the course of the 1960s from a working-class racing club to a criminal outfit involved in drug-running, extortion and murder. The film is based on a 1968 photo book of the same title by the celebrated New Journalism photographer Danny Lyon, who lived with the Chicago Outlaws for several years and documented their lives around the same time that Hunter S. Thompson was writing *his* nonfiction book on California’s Hell’s Angels. Lyon is played in “The Bikeriders” by Mike Faist (“West Side Story,” “Challengers”) as a scruffy, polite college kid type hanging around the scene’s fringes with a camera and a tape recorder.

Faist is a compelling figure, but he’s cast in the shadows by the film’s main characters: Johnny (Tom Hardy), the club’s president and alpha dog; Benny (Austin Butler), a silent hog-riding heartthrob; and Kathy (Jodie Comer), the neighborhood girl who takes one look at Benny and is gone, baby, gone.

There are other, lesser characters who make impressions: Brucie (Damon Herriman), Johnny’s sensible, capable lieutenant who’ll never be anything more; Cal (Boyd Holbrook), the gang’s chief gearhead; Cockroach (Emory Cohen), named after the bugs he eats for the sheer pleasure of freaking other people out. Then there’s Zipco, a crazy-eyed, beer-swilling, conspiracy-spewing gorilla played by the estimable Michael Shannon.

That actor’s presence is a sign that we’re in a Jeff Nichols movie.



FOCUS FEATURES



KYLE KAPLAN/FOCUS FEATURES

ABOVE: Austin Butler plays the strong, silent heartthrob Benny, part of the fictional Vandals, in “The Bikeriders.” **LEFT:** Mike Faist portrays real-life New Journalism photographer Danny Lyon, and Jodie Comer is Kathy, who narrates the motorcycle gang’s story.

The writer-director made his mark in 2011 with “Take Shelter,” starring a fearsome Shannon as a Midwestern husband and father who smells apocalypse coming in on the wind. Shannon also appeared in Nichols’s sci-fi suspense drama “Midnight Special” (2016) and had a smaller role in the director’s “Mud” (2012). That he’s a side dish to the main buffet here

seems a mark of Nichols’s growing ambitions.

To put it simply, that ambition is to make the “Goodfellas” of biker movies — less a tight narrative of A to B to C than a portrait of a milieu and its unwinding. In “The Bikeriders,” the gang gets started after Johnny sees Marlon Brando on TV in the seminal 1953 biker movie “The Wild One” and

decides he wants to do that — or, rather, *be* that. Johnny bestrides the film like a king whose crown grows increasingly heavy; he’s a cool head who only acts hot as a way of asserting his dominance. Hardy has drawn Brando comparisons from the beginning — the heft, the charisma, the mumbles — but this performance is a particular piece of genius, since

he’s not consciously imitating Brando but rather playing a man who *unconsciously* imitates him, so the Brando comes out squished and sideways but also some kind of magnanimous. It’s one of the darnedest things you’ll see — a noble parody.

What Comer is up to is related but different. The actress arrived on the half-shell of TV’s “Killing Eve” as the brilliant psychopath Villanelle, and she has a spooky, wide-eyed presence that hides a mind like a box of knives. Kathy serves as our narrator in “The Bikeriders,” ostensibly telling the story to Danny Lyon a few years after it’s all gone down, and as the only three-dimensional female character in the entire movie, she has to fight for the space to be recognized in a ritualistic macho world. If Johnny represents the wildness of the road, Kathy is the domesticity that pulls the bikers back to the hearth, their wives, their children. And she’ll tell you as much in a deep-dish Chicago accent that is either a prizewin-

SEE BIKERIDERS ON 27

Ratings guide

Masterpiece ★★★★★

Very good ★★★★☆

Okay ★★★☆☆

Poor ★☆☆☆☆

Ghostlight ★★☆☆

In sincere drama, a bottled-up man finds resolution in the Bard

BY TY BURR

"A madness most discreet/ A choking gall, and a preserving sweet" is how Shakespeare has Romeo describe the contradictory nature of love in the opening scene of "Romeo and Juliet." Those words could describe the act of mourning as well, and, in an oblique way, they get to the heart of the theater, too — the comedies and tragedies we stage to cast light on the chaos of life.

"Ghostlight," a sincere and somewhat over-tidy modern-day drama, explores all three — love, grief and the healing nature of playacting — and their effect on one heartland family. Made without stars or much of a budget but with a lot of heart and good vibes, it's an exemplary and moving independent film.

Keith Kupferer plays Dan, a burly Chicago-area construction worker who, when the movie opens, is at the end of his tether. He's grown distant from his wife, Sharon (Tara Mallen), has had enough of his rebellious teenage daughter (Katherine Mallen Kupferer), and violently snaps when a rude driver gets in his face at a worksite. Clearly, something's eating at the man, but what? Wonder on, till truth make all things plain.

Somewhat unbelievably, Dan is pulled in off the street by Rita



LUKE DYRA/IFC FILMS

Keith Kupferer and Dolly De Leon in "Ghostlight." Kupferer, joined in the film by his real-life wife and daughter, plays a grieving construction worker who gets drawn into a "Romeo and Juliet" production.

(Dolly De Leon), an actress in an amateur storefront theatrical troupe that's rehearsing "Romeo and Juliet" — the actor reading for the Friar hasn't shown up, and they need a body. Somewhat unbelievably, Dan stays and, without telling his family or co-workers, comes back the following days until he's a full-fledged member of the volunteer troupe. Kupferer conveys the character's terse, bearlike resistance to it all — the Bard's flowery speech, the feigned emotions — but he also

gets Dan's curiosity and, beneath that, a drive to express himself that no other outlet seems to serve. Like him, we have to take a lot on faith.

Without giving away too much, recent events in Dan's past resonate with Shakespeare's tale of star-crossed lovers, so much so that he finally rages against the entire notion of unhappy endings in a scene that's most touching for the way the other members of the company instinctively gather around to comfort him. Never has

anyone seemed more in need of hoary theatrical trust exercises than this decent, bottled-up man.

"Ghostlight" was written by actress Kelly O'Sullivan and directed by her and Alex Thompson; it has a pleasingly handmade feel that extends to the casting of a real-life husband, wife and daughter — actors all — in the central roles. After a few serious but amusing misapprehensions, Dan's family is drawn into the production, and the overlap between life and art becomes overt,

then anxious, and finally the source of emotional resolution. It's fully felt and also a little too pat, not least in the way the family's trauma neatly matches some of what transpires onstage.

De Leon played the cruise ship maid who becomes queen of the desert island in "Triangle of Sadness" (2022), and both she and her world-weary character here bring a touch of backstage professionalism to the proceedings. The other actors cast as members of the troupe have a lot of fun with the egos and petty dramas of amateur theatricals, and Lia Cubilete has a few stirring moments as a teenage girl reeling from the same tragedy that wrecked Dan's family.

"Ghostlight" is a nice film and sometimes a lovely one about the therapy that can come with art and pretending, and its message is soothing enough to make one wish things always worked this way. As a reminder that sometimes they do, it'll do. Like Mercutio's fatal wound, the movie "tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church door, but 'tis enough."

Ty Burr is the author of the movie recommendation newsletter Ty Burr's Watch List at tyburrrswatchlist.com.

R. At area theaters. Contains strong language. 110 minutes.

Flipside ★★★★★

A poetic meditation on life disguised as a record-store documentary

BY MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN

Every life is a trip, like being on a boat of which you are the captain, the documentary "Flipside" tells us — or, rather, an old man in close-up speaks those words. It's the jazz photographer Herman Leonard, dispensing wisdom as he prepares for an exhibition of his pictures of musicians at a Los Angeles gallery in 2010, a few months before his death at 87 of cancer.

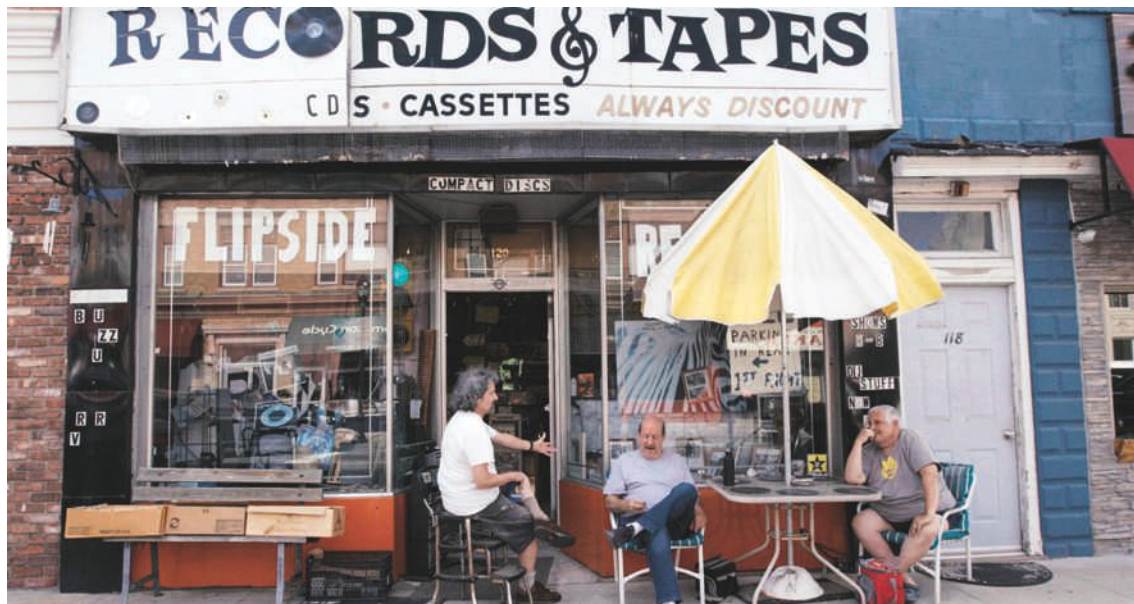
"You may not have decided on a final destination," Leonard continues, "but along the route you'll stop at different ports of call. You must take control of your life and set a course in the direction you want to go. Otherwise, you are subject to unpredictable circumstances."

That would be a good epigram to open a film looking back on the life and career of an artist,

which "Flipside" is. But it turns out that Leonard, who died before enough footage was shot to finish such a film, is not the artist whose life is under the microscope. That would be the director, Chris Wilcha, a filmmaker who made a small splash in 2000 with the release of "The Target Shoots First," a humorous memoir about the onetime philosophy major and aspiring documentarian's struggle to maintain artistic integrity while working in the marketing department of the Columbia House Record Club.

After "Target," Wilcha mostly supported himself as a director of television commercials, with stops along the way to collect an Emmy for directing the short-lived "This American Life" TV show, and for making a making-of documentary about Judd Apa-

SEE FLIPSIDE ON 27



OSCILLOSCOPE LABORATORIES

"Flipside," ostensibly about the New Jersey record store where director Chris Wilcha worked as a teenager, is about much more: creativity, doing what one loves vs. what one must, finding purpose.

FLIPSIDE FROM 26

tow's film "Funny People." That behind-the-scenes film aired precisely once on Comedy Central, we're told, before ending up as a DVD extra on the 2009 film's home-entertainment release. Wilcha's own life, it seems, is littered with abandoned and dead-end projects.

Until now. Ostensibly a documentary about the New Jersey record store where Wilcha worked as a teenager, "Flipside" (which takes its name from said emporium of vinyl) ultimately turns out — hilariously, bizarrely, brilliantly — to be about so much more than a now-foundering music store that at times it teeters on the verge of being as cluttered as its namesake. In addition to appearances by Leonard, Apatow and Ira Glass, "Flipside" includes interviews with Wilcha's parents; writer/producer David Milch, creator of "Hill Street Blues," "NYPD Blue" and "Deadwood," now diagnosed with Alzheimer's and the man who originally hired Wilcha to make that abortive movie about Leonard; writer Starlee Kine, who speaks about her own struggles with writer's block; Wilcha's documentary "hero," Errol Morris; and, perhaps most serendipitously, Floyd



OSCILLOSCOPE LABORATORIES

Dan Dondiego, the owner of the foundering Flipside record store in New Jersey, is described in the documentary as more archivist than merchant, trapped in the amber and inertia of the past.

Vivino, a.k.a. Uncle Floyd, the Pee-wee Herman-esque host of a cult New Jersey and New York cable TV show from 1974 to 1998. Vivino, name-checked in the David Bowie song "Slip Away," pops up here as a surprise customer of Flipside, but his presence ends up being less comedic than poignant, even profound.

As overcrowded as it all

sounds, "Flipside" never falls off the cliff into confusion or incoherence, thanks mainly to Wilcha's superb grasp of his theme. The director's wise and discursive narration, which worms its way from regret about life's disappointments to gradual acceptance of the compromises we all make, ties together the film's subject matter with the skill and

vision of a novelist, weaving together threads about creativity; doing what one loves vs. what one must; the impulse to hold on to the past, ever at war with the need to let go and move on; growing up and growing old; finding purpose; selling records and selling out; and discovering a kind of bliss in the cracks between. (When Wilcha returns

to his parents' house — still filled with his old record albums and his father's vast collection of soap taken from hotels — you may be overcome by both feelings of nostalgia and the burning desire to have a yard sale.)

Like some jazz, perhaps, the movie is a simultaneously melancholy and lyrical meditation on life that, in the end, belies Leonard's opening admonishment about our ability to set our own course. In "Flipside," at least, control over one's destiny is an illusion.

The title is intended both literally and figuratively. On one level, "Flipside" is a love letter to a dying business, whose owner, Dan Dondiego, is described as more archivist than merchant, trapped in the amber and inertia of the past. (The failure of his business, which predates the opening of a second, successful record store, may not be due entirely to forces beyond Dondiego's control.) On another level, "Flipside" is a poetic allusion to the B-sides of life: all the roads not taken and the one path — or the one ride — we all inevitably end up on, despite kidding ourselves that we're at the helm.

Unrated. At the AFI Silver. Contains nothing objectionable. 96 minutes.

BIKERIDERS FROM 25

ning work of civic imposture or the height of actorly fraudulence. Either way, she's incredibly fun to listen to.

Butler's Benny is the Johnny Angel of this group — the strong, silent one who *is* what all the other bikers want to be. That includes Hardy's Johnny, and Nichols and his actors have great sport tiptoeing around the line of homoeroticism between the two men. Against Hardy and Comer acting their blessed hearts out, Butler ("Elvis") maintains a pure and magical presence, and while the movie never sugarcoats Benny's dimness, it finds a kind of Zen grandeur in the character's unwillful perfection.

Around these three boils a cauldron of testosterone and violence, and "The Bikeriders" skips from incident to incident without building much steam. ("Goodfellas," remember, had the Lufthansa heist as a narrative spine.) There's a funny, bloody dust-up between the Vandals and a rival gang that falls apart in exhaustion and shared beers, and a tense standoff in a bar that ends sadly for

the unlucky proprietor (actor-singer Will Oldham). A young, feral kid (Toby Wallace) moves steadily in from the movie's sidelines like an ugly rumor; he wants to join the gang, but he lacks what Johnny considers ethics. What the movie's aiming for isn't so much how an innocent idea became corrupted as how that idea's latent corruption became manifest as younger, rougher members joined the gang. Was this a tragedy? The characters certainly think so. Maybe Jeff Nichols does, too.

Adam Stone's cinematography is rich and atmospheric, golden with the dust kicked up by spinning wheels, and when Lyon's original photos are shown at the end, it's not hard to acknowledge that the director has done right by them. The same goes for the terrific soundtrack of period garage rock, doo-wop, R&B and crazed girl-group classics. All that's missing, really, is a story. "The Bikeriders" is almost good enough to convince us we don't need one.

Ty Burr is the author of the movie recommendation newsletter Ty Burr's Watch List at tyburrrwatchlist.com.

R. At area theaters. Contains language throughout, violence, some drug use and brief sexuality. 97 minutes.



FRANK MASI/SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT

Martin Lawrence, left, and Will Smith in "Bad Boys: Ride or Die."

ALSO PLAYING

Star ratings are from Post reviews; go to [washingtonpost.com/go/outgoing/movies](https://www.washingtonpost.com/go/outgoing/movies) for the full-length reviews. For showtimes and directories, see the Movie Directory.

★★★☆☆ **BAD BOYS: RIDE OR DIE**

The surprisingly good sequel finds Martin Lawrence and Will Smith fretting about bad reputations and the quest for forgiveness. (R, 115 minutes)

★★★★☆ **CHALLENGERS**

Luca Guadagnino's tennis-themed three-way is a masterstroke of court and spark. (R, 131 minutes)

★★★☆☆ **THE FALL GUY**

Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt star in a meta-movie action-comedy with plenty of romance. (PG-13, 126 minutes)

★★★☆☆ **FIREBRAND**

Alicia Vikander and Jude Law star in a counterfactual Tudor drama. (R, 120 minutes.)

★★★★☆ **FURIOSA: A MAD MAX SAGA**

An epic prequel starring Anya

SEE MOVIES ON 31

New movies and shows to stream

BY OLIVIA MCCORMACK

Trigger Warning

Jessica Alba stars as a Special Forces commando who uncovers a conspiracy after returning to her hometown to find answers about her father's death.

Where to watch: Netflix

Orphan Black: Echoes

Krysten Ritter ("Jessica Jones") leads the cast in this sci-fi series set in the same world as "Orphan Black." In the year 2052, a group of women weave their way into one another's lives as they attempt to uncover the mystery of their identities.

Where to watch: Sunday on AMC Plus

I Am: Celine Dion

This film from Oscar-nominated documentarian Irene Taylor provides a behind-the-scenes look at the world-renowned singer's battle with stiff-person syndrome.

Where to watch: Tuesday on Prime Video

Land of Women

Eva Longoria stars in this dramedy about an upper-class New Yorker who is forced to flee to her hometown in Spain and start a new life after her husband fails to repay a debt to some shady characters.

Where to watch: Wednesday on Apple TV Plus

The Bear

Things heat up in the kitchen in the third season of "The Bear," as Carmy (Jeremy Allen White), Sydney (Ayo Edebiri) and Richie (Ebon Moss-Bachrach) struggle to raise the standard of their restaurant.

Where to watch: Thursday on Hulu



URSULA COYOTE/NETFLIX

In "Trigger Warning," Jessica Alba plays a Special Forces commando who uncovers a conspiracy.



SOPHIE GIRAUD/AMC

From left, Kathy Baker, Amanda Fix and Krysten Ritter in the series "Orphan Black: Echoes," set in the year 2052.



FX/HULU

Jeremy Allen White stars as Carmy in "The Bear," where things heat up in the kitchen during the third season.



MANUEL FERNANDEZ-VALDES/APPLE TV PLUS

From left, Victoria Bazúa, Eva Longoria and Carmen Maura in "Land of Women," a dramedy about an upper-class New Yorker who is forced to start a new life.



AMAZON MGM STUDIOS

The famed singer reminisces about her childhood in the documentary "I Am: Celine Dion."

THELMA FROM 24

prelaunch mode.

Even the smaller roles are choice, including Nicole Byer and Quinn Beswick as beleaguered staffers at the elder care community from which Ben has gone AWOL and David Giuliani as Ben's roommate, who becomes a kind of running sight gag that keeps paying off. As for the identity of the scammer, suffice to say the role has been cast to perfection with an actor you believe might actually rip off old ladies in his spare time.

Secondly, Margolin, whose résumé is mainly acting credits, has a new career ahead of him because "Thelma" is rock solid in its story construction, in the confidence of its filmmaking and in the expert detonation of jokes along the way. (One of my favorites: Danny desperately searching for Thelma throughout Ben's assisted-living community, calling out "Grandma?" and being answered by a "Hello?" from every room on the hallway.) Art this movie isn't. Good, unshowy narrative storytelling the way they used to make 'em before the superheroes took over it is.

Lastly, what keeps "Thelma" from floating away on a bubble of whimsy is the film's acknowledgment of the sorrows and struggles that come with old age: the rusty joints, the small daily humiliations, the loneliness above all. At one point in their odyssey, Ben and Thelma drop in on an old friend (Bunny Levine) who's become fossilized in the amber of early dementia; the sequence ends with one of the best gags in the movie, but the sadness lingers. On its least forced and most moving level, "Thelma" is about the indomitable human urge to *keep going* and the hard-won wisdom to know when to heed time's warnings. It's a movie that rages against the dying of the light — at 30 mph.

(Stick around through the credits for a postscript: brief footage of the real Thelma, Margolin's own grandmother, whose near-scamming inspired the movie and whose endless curiosity and zest have been imported intact to her namesake. Last we heard, she's 104 and going strong. There's a lesson there, too.)

Ty Burr is the author of the movie recommendation newsletter Ty Burr's Watch List at tyburrrswatchlist.com.

PG-13. At area theaters.

Contains strong language. 97 minutes.

Common Sense Media What parents need to know

Presumed Innocent (TV-MA)

STREAMING

Age 15+

Intense courtroom drama has violence, sex and smoking.

“Presumed Innocent” is David E. Kelley’s drama-mystery series about a lawyer (Jake Gyllenhaal) suspected of a colleague’s murder. The limited series has lots of strong sexual content, including simulated sex scenes with bare buttocks shown. Language includes frequent use of “f---” and more. Characters yell and argue, and bloody, violent crime scene images depict sexual violence. Adults also drink and smoke pot. The show is based on Scott Turow’s novel, which was adapted into a 1990 movie starring Harrison Ford. (Eight episodes)
Available on Apple TV Plus.

Kinds of Kindness (R)

Age 17+

Graphic sex and gore in strange, slow but funny anthology.

“Kinds of Kindness” is a darkly comic anthology movie from acclaimed (but also divisive) Greek director Yorgos Lanthimos (“Poor Things,” “The Favourite”). There’s humor, but the content is definitely mature. A woman is knocked out and raped; a character is found with their liver removed and slashed wrists; a person chops off their own thumb (and cooks it); a vehicle runs over someone several times; a person is shot in the hand (and



APPLE TV PLUS

Jake Gyllenhaal stars in “Presumed Innocent” as a lawyer accused of murdering a colleague. The series is based on Scott Turow’s novel, which was adapted into a 1990 movie starring Harrison Ford.



ATSUSHI NISHIJIMA/SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

Emma Stone and Joe Alwyn in “Kinds of Kindness,” a darkly comic anthology movie from Greek director Yorgos Lanthimos.

the shooter licks up the blood); and there’s the suggestion of domestic violence. A brief four-way sex scene has explicit nudity (male and female), and there’s simulated masturbation and oral sex, passionate kissing, and more. Language isn’t particularly frequent but includes “f---.” Adults drink regularly, sometimes to excess, and we see vaping, cigarette smoking and teen drinking. Emma Stone leads a star-studded cast. (165 minutes)

Available in theaters.

A Stork’s Journey 2 (PG)

STREAMING

Age 7+

Animated bird adventure sequel has mild violence and peril.

“A Stork’s Journey 2” is an animated adventure in which Richard the sparrow (voiced by Jay Myers) meets a new group of birds and embarks on a journey to help them. There are brief moments of peril when characters outfly villainous birds, get zapped by electrical lines and fall from the sky. Cartoon violence includes wrestling, pecking, chasing, punching and car accidents. There’s a bit of language along the lines of “doo-doo” and “screw it up.” On a positive note, the movie has messages about teamwork, friendship and keeping an open mind. (85 minutes)
Available on demand.


Erased: WW2’s Heroes of Color (Unrated)

STREAMING

Age 13+

Docuseries centers Black soldiers and the harsh realities of war.

“Erased: WW2’s Heroes of Color” is a compelling docuseries that illuminates the critical, often overlooked contributions of soldiers of color during World War II. It provides in-depth historical context on four major battles: Pearl Harbor, D-Day, Dunkirk and the Battle of the Bulge. The show features intense themes of war, racial discrimination and violence. Soldiers’ family members talk about the PTSD they suffered, and instances of racial violence, including a lynching, are discussed. (Four episodes)
Available on Disney Plus.

 **common sense** Common Sense Media helps families make smart media choices. Go to commonsensemedia.org for age-based and educational ratings and reviews for movies, games, apps, TV shows, websites and books.

MOVIE DIRECTORY

DISTRICT	AMC Annapolis Mall 11 1020 Annapolis Mall Road	The Bikeriders (R) CC: 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Origin (PG-13) CC: 3:00-6:30 Thelma (PG-13) CC: 1:15-4:00-6:45-9:30 Inside Out 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) CC: 11:00-1:45-4:30	Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) 1:30-5:15-9:15 The Bikeriders (R) 12:30-4:00-7:15-10:45	Regal Laurel Towne Centre 14716 Baltimore Avenue	Inside Out 2 (PG) OC: 2:50-10:00-10:55-12:25-1:20-3:45-5:15-6:10-7:40-8:05-8:35-10:05-10:30-11:00 Thelma (PG-13) OC: 3:00-3:50-7:00 HAIKYU!! The Dumpster Battle (PG-13) 10:10 The Fall Guy (PG-13) CC: 10:20-1:20-4:15-7:10-10:10 Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga (R) CC: 10:00-12:45-3:50-6:30-9:35 The Exorcism (R) CC: 10:25-12:45-3:15-8:10-10:30 If (PG) CC: 10:30-1:30-4:15-7:20-10:20 The Garfield Movie (PG) CC: 10:15-1:10-4:00-7:05-9:45 Inside Out 2 (PG) CC: 10:20-1:20-4:15-7:10-10:10 The Watchers (PG-13) CC: 10:50-1:30-6:30-9:00 Ghostlight (R) CC: 11:10-2:10-5:00-7:45-10:30 Thelma (PG-13) CC: 10:50-1:30-6:30-9:00 Inside Out 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) CC: 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30 Treasure (R) CC: 7:50-1:30-4:00-6:30-9:00 I Am: Celine Dion (PG) CC: 7:30-1:15-3:30-5:45-7:55 Inside Out 2 3D (PG) CC: 12:00-2:30-7:30-10:00 The Exorcism (R) OC: 4:50 Inside Out 2 (PG) CC: 11:00-4:00-5:20-6:30-9:00 The Bikeriders (R) OC: 4:30	Tuesday (R) CC: 10:40AM The Bikeriders (R) CC: 11:00-1:45-7:15-10:00 Origin (PG-13) CC: 3:50-7:00 HAIKYU!! The Dumpster Battle (PG-13) 10:10 Ghostlight (R) CC: 11:10-2:10-5:00-7:45-10:30 Thelma (PG-13) CC: 10:50-1:30-6:30-9:00 Inside Out 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) CC: 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30 Treasure (R) CC: 7:50-1:30-4:00-6:30-9:00 I Am: Celine Dion (PG) CC: 7:30-1:15-3:30-5:45-7:55 Inside Out 2 3D (PG) CC: 12:00-2:30-7:30-10:00 The Exorcism (R) OC: 4:50 Inside Out 2 (PG) CC: 11:00-4:00-5:20-6:30-9:00 The Bikeriders (R) OC: 4:30	Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga (R) 9:30 Inside Out 2 (PG) 10:15-11:15-11:45-12:30-1:30-2:00-2:45-3:45-5:00-6:00-7:15-9:35-10:30 Firebrand (R) 9:25 Robot Dreams 10:10-12:35-2:55-5:15-7:35-10:00 The Bikeriders (R) 11:15-1:55-4:30-7:05-9:45 Ghostlight (R) 11:00-1:45-4:30-8:15 Treasure (R) 10:00AM Thelma (PG-13) 10:55-1:15-3:30-5:45-7:55 I Am: Celine Dion (PG) 4:35-7:00 A Road to a Village 7:00	The Watchers (PG-13) 11:20-2:00-4:40-7:25-10:05 The Bikeriders (R) 10:20-1:25-4:20-7:15-10:10 GHOST: Rite Here Rite Now 7:00 Inside Out 2 3D (PG) 12:10-3:40-6:15	Regal Ballston Quarter 671 North Glebe Road The Exorcism (R) 1:20-4:30-7:40-10:20 Inside Out 2 (PG) 1:30-4:30-7:05-9:50 The Bikeriders (R) 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 GHOST: Rite Here Rite Now 7:00	Regal Dulles Town Center 21100 Dulles Town Circle The Exorcism (R) 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-10:10 Inside Out 2 (PG) 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30	Regal Fairfax Towne Center 4110 West Ox Road The Bikeriders (R) 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20	Regal Manassas 11380 Bulloch Drive The Exorcism (R) 11:10-1:30-3:50-6:10-8:30 The Bikeriders (R) 4:20-7:20									
MARYLAND	AMC Georgetown 14 3111 K Street N.W.	Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - DC Bryant Street 630 Rhode Island Ave NE	AMC St. Charles Town Ctr 9 11115 Mall Circle	Regal Rockville Center 199 East Montgomery Avenue	AMC Shirlington 7 2772 South Randolph St.	CMX Village 14 1600 Village Market Boulevard	Regal Ballston Quarter 671 North Glebe Road	Regal Dulles Town Center 21100 Dulles Town Circle	Regal Fairfax Towne Center 4110 West Ox Road	Regal Manassas 11380 Bulloch Drive											
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Street NE - Unit E Bad Boys Ride or Die (R) 1:50-4:30-9:35 Inside Out 2 (PG) 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:00-9:10 The Bikeriders (R) 1:00-3:45-6:30-9:30 I Am: Celine Dion (PG) 11:30-7:15 Avalon Theatre 5612 Connecticut Avenue Ghostlight (R) 11:30-2:00-4:45-7:30 Thelma (PG-13) 12:00-2:15-4:35-7:15 Landmark Atlantic Plumbing Cinema 807 V Street Northwest Bad Boys Ride or Die (R) 1:00-2:00-4:30-6:25-7:25-9:50 Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga (R) 1:15-4:10-7:10-10:05 Challengers (R) 3:40-8:50 Inside Out 2 (PG) 1:30-2:15-3:15-4:00-4:45-5:30-6:15-7:00-7:45-8:30-9:15-10:00 Regal Gallery Place 701 Seventh Street Northwest The Exorcism (R) 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Inside Out 2 (PG) 1:00-3:30-6:00-8:30 The Bikeriders (R) 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 I Am: Celine Dion (PG) 1:10-6:40 Inside Out 2 3D (PG) 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30	Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema 7235 Woodmont Avenue Bad Boys Ride or Die (R) 1:40-4:30-7:10-9:50 The Fall Guy (PG-13) 1:10-4:00-6:50-9:30 Inside Out 2 (PG) 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1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 Regal Hyattsville Royale 6505 America Boulevard The Exorcism (R) 11:20-1:50-4:20-7:00-9:40 Inside Out 2 (PG) 11:00-1:40-4:10-6:50-9:30 The Bikeriders (R) 11:10-2:15-5:20-8:20	Regal Westview 5243 Buckeystown Pike The Exorcism (R) 1:30-4:20-7:10-10:40 Inside Out 2 (PG) 11:10-1:40-4:10-6:50-9:15 The Bikeriders (R) 1:05-4:00-7:00-10:10 Inside Out 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) 10:30-1:10-3:40-6:20-8:50 Inside Out 2 3D (PG) 11:30-2:10-4:50-7:30-10:00 iPic Pike & Rose 11830 Grand Park Avenue The Bikeriders (R) (!) 12:15-3:30-7:00-10:15 Inside Out 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) (!) 11:45-2:45-6:00-9:15 I Am: Celine Dion (PG) (!) 6:45-10:00	AMC Tysons Corner 16 7850e Tysons Corner Center Inside Out 2 (PG) OC: 2:25-11:45-5:00-7:35-10:10 Thelma (PG-13) CC: 2:10-11:10-1:40-4:05-6:35-9:00 Abhi 2:40-8:00 Crisis Negotiators 10:55-1:40-3:40-7:20-10:05 The Bikeriders (R) CC: 11:05-2:00-4:55-7:50-10:45 Origin (PG-13) CC: 1:50-11:30-2:00-4:40-7:20-10:00 Thelma (PG-13) CC: 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Watchers (PG-13) CC: 12:10-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:20	AMC Tysons Corner 16 7850e Tysons Corner Center Inside Out 2 (PG) OC: 2:25-11:45-5:00-7:35-10:10 Thelma (PG-13) CC: 2:10-11:10-1:40-4:05-6:35-9:00 Abhi 2:40-8:00 Crisis Negotiators 10:55-1:40-3:40-7:20-10:05 The Bikeriders (R) CC: 11:05-2:00-4:55-7:50-10:45 Origin (PG-13) CC: 1:50-11:30-2:00-4:40-7:20-10:00 Thelma (PG-13) CC: 11:30-4:45-7:25-10:00 Inside Out 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) CC: 11:00-1:35-4:10 I Am: Celine Dion (PG) CC: 4:20-7:30 AMC Worldgate 9 13025 Worldgate Drive The Exorcism (R) CC: 2:30-5:00-7:30-10:00 The Bikeriders (R) CC: 1:30-4:15-7:00-9:45 Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - One Loudoun 20575 East Hampton Plaza Minions (PG) 11:30AM Angelika Film Center Mosaic 2911 District Ave Bad Boys Ride or Die (R) 12:25-3:00-5:30-8:00-10:15	Cinemark Centreville 6201 Multiplex Drive Inside Out 2 (PG) 1:20-3:55-6:30-9:05 Inside Out 2 3D (PG) 10:45AM Cinemark Fairfax Corner and XD 11900 Palace Way Inside Out 2 (PG) XD: 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PIXAR/DISNEY

Anxiety (voice of Maya Hawke), right, joins the old crew of emotions in the sequel “Inside Out 2,” which goes inside the mind of a girl named Riley as she hits puberty.

MOVIES FROM 27

Taylor-Joy shifts the Mad Max franchise into a whole other gear. (R, 148 minutes)

★★☆☆ **THE GARFIELD MOVIE**
A madcap heist plot gets its cartoon hero all wrong, without a lick of sardonic contempt. (PG, 111 minutes)

★★☆☆ **IF**
From John Krasinski, a sweet, scattered family film. (PG, 104 minutes)

★★☆☆ **INSIDE OUT 2**
It’s puberty blues as the

personification of Anxiety threatens to eclipse Joy in this Pixar sequel. (PG, 96 minutes.)

★★★★ **KINGDOM OF THE PLANET OF THE APES**
Despite a people problem, the new chapter still swings. (PG-13, 145 minutes)

★★☆☆ **TUESDAY**
Death is the thing with feathers in a strange Julia Louis-Dreyfus drama. (R, 111 minutes)

★★☆☆ **THE WATCHERS**
A second-generation Shyamalan’s first movie is undercooked horror. (PG-13, 101 minutes)



DNEG ANIMATION/COLUMBIA PICTURES



LARRY HORRICKS/ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Patsy Ferran and Junia Rees in “Firebrand,” which tells the story of Henry VIII’s sixth and final wife, Katherine Parr.



KEVIN BAKER/A24

ABOVE: Garfield (voice of Chris Pratt) and his estranged dad Vic (Samuel L. Jackson) in “The Garfield Movie.”

Lola Petticrew as a terminally ill teenager in the drama “Tuesday,” featuring death personified as a parrot.



STREAM the WASHINGTON MYSTICS



EVERY

- Live Game
- Pre & Post Show
- Mystics Courtside

