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Democracy Dies in Darkness

MONDAY, JULY 1, 2024 • \$3

France punishes centrists in election

Le Pen's far-right coalition secures top spot in first round of votes

BY RICK NOACK,
EMILY RAUHALA,
ANNABELLE TIMSIT
AND ANTHONY FAIOLA

PARIS — French voters appeared to have boosted the prospects of the far right while potentially shattering the centrist alliance of President Emmanuel Macron, according to projections released after polls closed in the first round of French legislative elections on Sunday.

Projections by France's public broadcaster showed the far-right National Rally, guided by Marine Le Pen and her protégé, Jordan Bardella, comfortably securing the top spot with 33 percent of the national vote. An alliance of leftist parties, the New Popular Front, was in second, projected to garner 28 percent. Macron's Together alliance lagged behind, with 21 percent.

The projections showed National Rally narrowly falling short of a majority of seats. If it can expand its lead in the second round of voting on July 7, it could form the country's first far-right government since World War II, with 28-year-old Bardella as prime minister, and replace Macron's pro-Europe, pro-business agenda with its populist, euro-skeptic and anti-immigration platform.

Alternatively, a second-round result that doesn't produce a clear majority could paralyze French politics.

"The French crisis has only just started," said Gérard Araud, a former French ambassador to the United States.

Bardella pledged Sunday night to become "the prime minister of

SEE FRANCE ON A9

Life in defiance of bombardment



SERHIY MORGUNOV FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Karima and Serhiy Kovalenko embrace along Heroes of Ukraine Avenue in Kharkiv on June 21. Serhiy, a contract soldier, is fighting on the southern front and had just 10 days off to wed. Despite the constant threat of Russian bombing, residents of Ukraine's second-largest city are seeking joy in the traditions of early summer. **Story, A8**

As planet warms, mosquitoes carrying dengue may thrive

BY LENA H. SUN
AND SARAH KAPLAN

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO — The curly-haired girl came to the emergency room with fever, aches and signs of dehydration, common indications of many childhood illnesses. But the 9-year-old — pale and listless beneath her Pokémon blanket — looked sicker than most children and exhibited no respiratory symptoms. She could only whimper as a pediatrician stroked her hair and softly

Puerto Rico's surge in cases provides warning about virus's spread

questioned her in Spanish.

The sharp-eyed doctor suspected dengue, a disease that is often missed but is now exploding around the world.

The girl, Genesis Polanco Marte, is among a record 10 mil-

lion people who have fallen ill with dengue so far this year — an unprecedented surge that scientists say is fueled in part by climate change. Soaring global temperatures have accelerated the life cycles and expanded the ranges of the mosquitoes that carry dengue, helping spread the virus to roughly 1 in every 800 people on the planet in the past six months alone. An influx of patients has overwhelmed hospitals from Brazil to Bangladesh, recalling the worst days of the coronavirus pan-

dem. Puerto Rico declared a public health emergency this spring, with more dengue cases reported in the first five months of 2024 than all of last year. Public health officials are bracing for the virus to crop up in more temperate regions, including the southernmost portions of the United States.

"The storm's comin', folks," Grayson Brown, executive director of the nonprofit Puerto Rico Vector Control Unit, advised a

SEE DENGUE ON A7



ILLUSTRATION BY MIKYUNG LEE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

How one family escaped North Korea in a rickety boat on the open sea

BY MICHELLE YE HEE LEE
IN SEOUL

Hardly anyone has escaped from North Korea these past four years, since leader Kim Jong Un shuttered his country's border with China in the earliest days of the coronavirus pandemic.

But Kang Gyu-rin and her mother, aunt and a family friend are among the few. To do so, they used a perilous route that has become almost the only option for escape: by sea.

One night last October, the four boarded Kang's rickety wooden boat — with a rudimentary pumping system for bailing out the water — and set out for

South Korea. Or death.

"I was ready to die, so I wasn't afraid," said Kang, now 23. "We had to give it our best shot."

Kang and her mother, Kim Myung-sook, told The Washington Post about their life during the covid era and their decision to flee by sea, offering rare insight into how North Korea has changed in the past four years. The women changed their names after arriving in the South because they are escapees and wanted to protect family members back home. They spoke to The Post on the condition that

SEE DEFECTORS ON A10

Meta's 'Supreme Court,' faced with a threat to funding, seeks a second act

BY NAOMI NIX

Last summer, the situation was dire for Meta's Oversight Board, an experimental court of journalists, analysts and experts empowered to investigate Meta's handling of controversial posts. Meta, its sole funder, had private-

ly threatened to pull back support, pushing the board to cut costs or seek new sources of revenue.

The Oversight Board had tried for years to find new clients, approaching YouTube, TikTok, Pinterest and a host of other tech companies without much luck,

according to half a dozen people familiar with the board's efforts, all of whom spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private organizational matters. Many cited Meta's blemished reputation, noting that the board — launched with great fanfare in 2020 — had failed to improve the

social media giant's image.

Now, however, the Oversight Board may get a second chance. A sweeping European law, known as the Digital Services Act (DSA), requires tech companies to supply an independent group of experts to social media users seeking to appeal restrictions on their

accounts. And the board is offering itself up for the task.

The board's trust, an independent entity that oversees its finances, has funded a separate center to handle an influx of European user appeals, some of the people said. Thomas Hughes, the former

SEE META ON A13

IN THE NEWS

Bannon heading to prison The sometime Trump adviser discussed the presidential race in an interview as he prepares to serve his sentence for contempt of Congress. **A2**

A new surrealism? AI has unleashed a wave of images that are too weird to be legitimate but real enough to stir feelings. **C1**

THE NATION
A U.S. airman ended his 22-year military career after an Israeli strike killed his aunt. **A3**
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Trump advisers are pushing to simplify the official GOP platform. **A5**

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A Maryland family has spent the past decade teaching police how to interact with people with autism, a mission that now faces an uncertain future. **B1**
Two tech executives indicted alongside a retired admiral in an alleged bribery scheme are fighting the charges. **B1**

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A new congressional caucus aims to raise awareness of fast fashion's negative impact. **C1**

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THE TRUMP TRIALS

High court to decide on immunity in D.C. case

BY DEVLIN BARRETT
AND PERRY STEIN

Welcome back to the Trump Trials, where we'll be a bit manic Monday, waiting for the Supreme Court decision on Trump's claim that presidential immunity prevents his prosecution for allegedly conspiring to obstruct the results of the 2020 election.
Have questions on Trump's trials? Email us at perry.stein@washpost.com and devlin.barrett@washpost.com and check for answers in future newsletters.
Okay, let's get started.

What's ahead

The Supreme Court's long-awaited immunity decision is likely to land around 10 a.m. You can count on us for extensive coverage of the decision as we sort through what it means not only for the D.C. case, but for future presidents, the constitutional balance of power between the different branches of the U.S. government, and maybe even Trump's other criminal cases.

Legal experts expect the court will reject Trump's broad claim of presidential immunity — but the *how* of it will be very important. If the court leaves conditions or a degree of ambiguity in its ruling, that could create more legal issues to fight over before the federal case against Trump can go to trial. And remember, if Trump becomes president again, any remaining trials may get dropped or delayed until he again leaves the White House.
Now, a recap of last week's action in the criminal cases against the 45th president:

1. Florida: Federal classified documents case

The details: Trump faces 40 federal charges over accusations that he kept top-secret government documents at Mar-a-Lago — his home and private club — and thwarted government demands to return them.

Planned trial date: Indefinitely postponed

Last week: U.S. District Judge Aileen M. Cannon held hearings on pretrial issues, including defense arguments to have the indictment dismissed. The hearings were occasionally contentious, as prosecutors grow increasingly impatient with the slow pace of the case.

Cannon later denied a Trump request for a hearing on one issue but granted requests for a hearing on two others — whether the Mara-a-Lago search warrant was too vague, and whether prosecutors may use the audio notes of a former Trump lawyer against him.

Based on the known evidence, those defense arguments can be charitably called long shots, but the stakes are higher for one



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Former president Donald Trump leaves the stage during a commercial break of the presidential debate on Thursday. Trump's election-interference trial is facing a pivotal moment as the Supreme Court decides on his presidential immunity claims.

than the other. If prosecutors were to lose the statements of ex-Trump lawyer Evan Corcoran, that would make a dent in their presentation; if they were to lose the evidence gathered in the search of Trump's Florida home — more than 100 classified documents — that would leave a gaping hole in the heart of the case.

Gag-tracker

Cannon also held a hearing on special counsel Jack Smith's request to modify the conditions of Trump's release to bar him from making any further pointed criticism of the FBI agents who worked on his case. While not technically a gag order, Smith's request, if granted, would function similarly, with the additional danger for Trump that a violation could result in him being sent to jail, as opposed to a fine.

But the hearing did not go well for the prosecutors. Cannon sounded skeptical that they could draw a direct line between Trump's social media posts and the dangerous, threatening conduct of some of his supporters. She has yet to rule on the issue.

Separately, the judge overseeing Trump's New York case loosened the restrictions of his gag order in that case (more on that below).

Nerd word of the week

Spoilation: One of those words that even veteran lawyers sometimes struggle to pronounce correctly, spoliation is the destruction of evidence. In the Florida classified documents case, the special counsel filed court papers last week pushing back against Trump's claim that the case should be thrown out because FBI agents did not preserve the precise order of documents and other items found in boxes at Mar-a-Lago. That amounts to spoliation, the defense claims, and should result in the dismissal of the charges against Trump.

Prosecutors called that argument absurd, noting not only that Trump's boxes were a seemingly disorganized mess, but that the legal standard for a spoliation claim is quite high — judges typically have to be convinced the evidence destruction was both intentional and consequential. Cannon has yet to decide whether to hold a hearing on the issue.

D.C.: Federal case on 2020 election

The details: Four counts related to conspiring to obstruct the 2020 election results.

Planned trial date: Unclear (was March 4, but that's been

delayed)

Last week: U.S. District Judge Tanya S. Chutkan waited one last week for guidance from the nation's highest court. The pretrial proceedings in the case have been frozen since appeals courts began reviewing the question of immunity, and Monday's Supreme Court decision could give Chutkan a green light to press ahead toward trial.

3. New York: State hush money case

The details: 34 charges connected to a 2016 hush money payment.

Verdict: Guilty. Sentencing is scheduled for July 11.

Last week: New York Supreme Court Justice Juan Merchan lifted some of the restrictions in Trump's gag order. Merchan said Trump can talk about witnesses like his ex-lawyer Michael Cohen and adult-film actress Stormy Daniels. The judge said he would like to keep barring Trump from talking about the jurors, but concluded the law did not allow him to do that.

Under the looser restrictions of the gag order, Trump is still prohibited from talking about court staffers, the prosecution team and their families until he is sentenced on July 11. Trump is allowed to comment on the

judge himself and Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, whose office prosecuted the case.

Georgia: State case on 2020 election

The details: Trump faces 10 state charges for allegedly trying to undo the election results in that state. Four of his 18 co-defendants have pleaded guilty.

Planned trial date: None yet (Case paused while awaiting an appeals ruling)
Last week: All quiet.

Question Time

Q. If Fulton County District Attorney Fani T. Willis recused herself from the Georgia case, could her office proceed with it without waiting for a ruling from Georgia's high court?

A. Probably not. For one thing, when Willis recused herself from an unrelated high-profile case early in her tenure as district attorney, the recusal applied to her entire office. For another, it's hard to imagine the defendants who have appealed the disqualification question would simply concede the issue and agree to go to trial; they would likely bring up that it was Willis who oversaw the investigation and indictment of Trump and was behind every key decision in the case.

Bannon says Biden withdrawal would backfire, hurt Trump

Ex-presidential adviser to begin prison sentence for defying subpoena

BY ISAAC ARNSDORF

Stephen K. Bannon — the sometime adviser to presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump and influential podcast host who will report on Monday to serve a four-month prison sentence for contempt of Congress — predicted that President Biden's debate performance will force him out of the race, denying Republicans their weakest opponent.

"The campaign is starting to wake up after spiking the football, I think wrongly," Bannon, who ran the final months of Trump's 2016 campaign, said in an interview Sunday.

"Trump's Thursday was a Pyrrhic victory. ... You're going to take out a guy you know you can beat and beat badly, and we're going to have a wild card," Bannon added.

The Biden campaign has acknowledged the president's weak debate performance but has been adamant that it doesn't change the fundamentals of a close race. In a memo on Saturday, campaign manager Jen O'Malley Dillon wrote that a dip in polls, which already showed that Biden trailed Trump before the debate, would be attributed to negative news media coverage rather than a change in voter attitudes.

Bannon, though, predicted that the debate, during which Biden gave answers that were hard to follow and repeatedly appeared to lose his train of thought, would lead to a collapse in poll numbers



STEVEN HIRSCH/AP

Stephen K. Bannon in court in New York on Jan. 12, 2023. He will report to federal prison in Danbury, Conn., on Monday to serve a four-month sentence for contempt of Congress.

"Trump's Thursday was a Pyrrhic victory. ... You're going to take out a guy you know you can beat and beat badly, and we're going to have a wild card."

Stephen K. Bannon,
former Trump adviser

that the president would be unable to survive. If Biden were to withdraw from the race, it would upend Trump's campaign, which has always been premised on unseating the incumbent.

Trump campaign spokesman Steven Cheung said O'Malley Dillon's memo threw "every potential replacement under the bus" by emphasizing their polling weaknesses. "Now they have to face the reckoning of having an inept candidate as their nominee," he said.

Bannon remains in occasional contact with Trump and his aides.

He ruled out any future official role with the 2024 campaign or in the White House. If Biden withdraws, Bannon said, Republicans should attack the messy process of replacing him after Democratic primary voters already cast their ballots.

"We must weaponize their process and show the nation how callous they were, how self-serving they were, how they didn't put the good of the nation first, they put the good of personal ambition first," he said.

"They're going to be searching

for a messiah, and then you're going to have the honeymoon," Bannon continued. "By the time you get to the Democratic convention in late August, it must be so toxic that whoever it is — if it's Michelle Obama or Gavin Newsom or whoever it is — that they start off with a minimum of a five-point to seven-point deficit."

He compared the fallout from the debate to earlier discussions about whether House Republicans should proceed with efforts to impeach Biden for fear of weakening him so much that he did not run for reelection.

"This is the best guy we're ever going to get," he said, predicting that Republicans in November would win 340 electoral college votes in the presidential race.

Bannon gave an interview while preparing to surrender to authorities and enter a low-security federal prison in Danbury, Conn. On Friday, the Supreme Court rejected his last petition to delay his sentence, after a Washington appeals court denied similar requests. He was convicted in July 2022 on two counts of contempt of Congress for refusing to comply with a subpoena from the House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Bannon, who encouraged Trump supporters to come to Washington that day, has kept mum on his activities after the mob turned violent, including about two calls with Trump that day. Bannon claimed executive privilege, which no court has accepted. Bannon said he would spend his sentence continuing to guide his audience through emails and interviews. "They can't shut me up," he said. "I'll be bigger from prison."



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POLITICS & THE NATION

For this U.S. airman, the Gaza war hit too close to home

Mohammed Abu Hashem, whose aunt was killed in an Israeli strike, left the Air Force, saying that he “can’t be part of the system that enabled this”

BY ALEX HORTON

Though he’d been in the U.S. Air Force for 22 years, Mohammed Abu Hashem felt like he had more to give. But that changed in October, when urgent messages poured in from family in Gaza.

An Israeli airstrike had killed Abu Hashem’s aunt and more than 20 neighbors, and left other relatives injured, he was told. Twelve children were among the dead, his family said. His thoughts turned to Washington’s “ironclad” support for Israel through policy and vast amounts of weaponry, and soon he concluded that 22 years was in fact enough.

“It was extremely emotional for me, knowing the amount of bombs that are being supplied to Israel was the cause of her death,” Abu Hashem, who is Palestinian American, said in an interview after retiring from the military in June. “I knew right then that I can’t be part of the system that enabled this.”

Abu Hashem, 41, said he was compelled to enlist after the 9/11 terrorist attacks on his adopted country. Today, he is among the smattering of experienced government officials and service members who have left their jobs disillusioned, they say, by the Biden administration’s management of the Gaza crisis and unflinching support for Israel in its campaign to destroy the militant group Hamas. His is the first known departure with such a direct connection to the war’s staggering civilian death toll. Others have sought conscientious objector status.

Saida Saleh Abu Hashem, Mohammed’s aunt, is at least the second Palestinian relative of an American service member to be killed in the Gaza war. This account is based on interviews with the former airman and people who know him, a review of messages he exchanged with Air Force superiors expressing alarm about the attack on his relatives’ home, text and voice messages shared by his family, and images of the damage to their apartment building in Gaza.

The Israel Defense Forces, which has faced allegations of using indiscriminate force throughout the conflict, told The Washington Post that its target that day was “a Hamas operational structure within a building” and that the operation involved two “precise” munitions. “The strike was planned,” a spokesperson said, to avoid excessive civilian deaths. The IDF declined to provide further details.

Abu Hashem cast doubt on that assertion. “If this is true,” he said, “and my family’s home was targeted by precise GPS-guided munitions, it wouldn’t be difficult for the Israeli military to release the evidence and the name of the Hamas operatives publicly.” It has not done so, he noted, or demonstrated that the strike was “imperative.” Humanitarian groups have said Israel’s tolerance for civilian deaths when striking militant targets is far too high.

Abu Hashem said he spoke to Air Force superiors about his concern that Israel, Washington’s closest ally in the Middle East, had potentially committed a human rights violation, and may have used U.S.-supplied weapons in doing so. He called their response unsatisfying, and said it was a factor in his decision to end his government service.

“I can’t serve an administration that disregards facts,” he said, “and denies U.S. and international law to defend and enable such horrific violence.”

An Air Force official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to describe Abu Hashem’s interaction with his superiors, defended their handling of the situation and characterized their response as “empathetic.” This official said an enlisted leader who joined Abu Hashem’s unit in December offered him assistance, as did a predecessor, but acknowledged that they were at a loss over what to do.

“They behaved in a manner I would have expected,” the Air Force official said. “... As you know, though, no one in the Air Force has the ability to change foreign policy decisions.”

A family upended

Both sets of Abu Hashem’s grandparents were farmers in Yibna, a village outside Tel Aviv. In 1948, he said, they were forced to flee when Israeli soldiers seized the territory, among more than 700,000 Palestinians who were driven from their land that year after Israel declared independence and the first of several Ar-



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COURTESY OF ABU HASHEM FAMILY

ab-Israeli wars ensued. The family reached Gaza, where his father, Saady, was born in a refugee camp.

As an adult, Saady Abu Hashem fled to Qatar, where Mohammed and five of his six siblings were born. Mohammed recalled, as a 4-year-old, meeting his extended family in Gaza and touching their hands through the Egyptian border fence.

In 1991, when he was 8, Abu Hashem’s parents moved their immediate family to the United States, eventually settling in Ohio, where his father started a successful jewelry store.

Abu Hashem said he joined the Air Force because he “felt that sense to protect my family.” He worked on KC-135 refueling aircraft, a job that deployed him ten times, including three mobilizations to Qatar, where he was able to connect with other family uprooted from Gaza.

As he climbed the ranks, Abu Hashem switched careers and became a first sergeant, a leadership position responsible for advising commanders on training and quality-of-life issues. He said he relished the role, working for several units before arriving at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland in April 2023.

The strike

On Oct. 10, Mohammed’s aunt, Saida Saleh Abu Hashem was home in northern Gaza’s Jabalya neighborhood with her husband and two of her three sons. At least two other families shared their apartment building, including children.

It was three days after Hamas militants led the stunning cross-border attack into Israel in which they killed 1,200 people and took about 250 hostages. Israeli forces fired a warning shot at a building two doors down the street that was loud enough for most in the

neighborhood to hear, Mohammed Abu Hashem said. The practice, known as “roof knocking,” involves munitions with little or no explosives. Though largely abandoned now, it was intended to signal to civilians that a strike was imminent.

What happened next was described in voice messages sent to Abu Hashem by his aunt’s other son, whose name also is Mohammed. He was attending school in Turkey when his mother was killed.

Hearing the warning shot, families evacuated, but nothing happened. After waiting outside for about 90 minutes, they returned to the home. Saida Saleh Abu Hashem was in her living room when the bomb struck. She was 49.

“Suddenly, stones were falling on them,” Abu Hashem’s cousin said in the recording, surmising the Israelis had waited for everyone to go back inside and then “demolished the entire house.”

In all, 23 people died as a result of the strike, Abu Hashem’s cousin tallied. Among them was a family of six who lived in the same apartment building, according to a death registry maintained by the Gaza Health Ministry. The youngest was a 1-year-old girl.

“I know everyone there, and all of them, without exception, are civilians working in civilian jobs, including teachers, car drivers and a supermarket seller,” Abu Hashem’s cousin said in the recording. “I am certain that there are no resistance fighters or armed elements in this building.”

In its response to The Post, the IDF did not address questions about whether commanders assessed civilians were harmed in the attack or if they are confident the correct building was hit. Israeli and U.S. officials have said Hamas militants hide among ci-

vilians, though the two sides have had sharp disagreements about Israel’s efforts to limit civilian casualties.

The home was probably struck by U.S.-made MK82s, guided 500-pound bombs, or similar Israeli weapons, said Trevor Ball, a former U.S. Army bomb technician who reviewed photos and videos of the strike’s aftermath at The Post’s request. The MK82 is one of several American munitions that has been provided to Israel. The imagery, captured by neighbors

FAR LEFT: Saida Saleh Abu Hashem, Mohammed Abu Hashem’s aunt, who died in an Israeli airstrike that also killed several others. Israel’s army said the target was “a Hamas operational structure within a building.” LEFT: Mohammed’s cousin is pulled from the rubble. ABOVE: Mohammed, who ended a 22-year military career.

and bystanders, does not include any identifiable munition components or fragments.

Channeling grief

Abu Hashem said he sought to channel his grief into something productive. He confided in a friend, a senior enlisted leader in the Air Force, that he was struggling but hopeful that providing information about the strike on his family’s home would lead to the discovery of a war crime or reveal to the Israelis that a tragic accident had occurred. His friend, he said, told him she would pass along the details to contacts in the intelligence community.

Nothing came of it, Abu Hashem said. His friend, who has since left the service, did not return a request for comment.

Frustrated by the inaction, Abu Hashem decided in late October that it was time to go.

He took a temporary position at a company in the Akron, Ohio, area through a program for service members transitioning to civilian careers. In February, he was introduced to a younger man also leaving the Air Force. They exchanged pleasantries, but Abu Hashem made no mention of why he had left the military.

Days later that airman, Aaron Bushnell, doused himself in gasoline and lit himself on fire in front of the Israeli Embassy in Washington. “Free Palestine” were among his last words. Greg Kennedy, who

oversaw Abu Hashem’s work at the company, Leaf Home, confirmed the two men’s brief encounter.

Abu Hashem said he wonders what, if anything, he could have done to steer Bushnell toward another path, but that his grief was too overwhelming to share. “I had an opportunity to talk to this young man about my life,” he said. “I chose silence.”

Abu Hashem said his relatives in Gaza face an uncertain fate. They’ve been relocated to a camp for the displaced in Rafah, the city in southern Gaza where Israel began an offensive weeks ago that has forced more than 1 million people to flee. His uncle, in a voice message, spoke of the tents baking in the summer heat, hepatitis infections, and starving people grinding corn and animal feed as a last resort.

Abu Hashem criticized the Israeli military for not disclosing “any evidence to back up the reasoning for the strike” on their home. There are “no checks and balances to their narrative,” he said.

“What we should really be asking here,” he said, “is why my aunt’s life and the lives of innocent children were considered so worthless that they could just be considered collateral damage.”

Hazem Balousha in Cairo, Hajar Harb in London, Reem Akkad and Meg Kelly contributed to this report.

KOSTAS IS FRED



Kostas Karametos was born and raised in Athens, Greece. Kostas completed his associate degree from Doxiadis College of Art with a concentration in Interior Design. Kostas led his own remodeling firm for 18 years designing and remodeling kitchens, bathrooms, and other home improvements. He joined the Fred team in 2017, drawn by the opportunity to utilize his creativity and expertise with every project he undertakes. Find out how all 35 of us at FRED are here to take on repairs and renovations **just the way you like it.**



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ELECTION 2024

Biden team makes post-debate attempt to calm Democrats

BIDEN FROM A1

president’s family encouraging him to stay in the race, appears to have at least temporarily stemmed the flood of public doubt and bought him some time. Still, the effort by the president’s aides, supporters and family members to contain the damage after he struggled to make a coherent case against Republican rival Donald Trump during the debate Thursday has been tumultuous and frenzied. It has also become a case study of a campaign thrust into crisis.

In private conversations, the president has expressed complete commitment to staying in the race, according to people briefed on those conversations, who, like others in this article, spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private deliberations. But he has asked aides and allies about what they’re hearing in the aftermath of his performance. He has also expressed concern about the fallout and dismay over some of the commentary that calls on him to drop out of the race, the people said.

One of those calls came from Tom Harkin, the former Democratic senator from Iowa, who wrote a note to friends Friday describing the debate as “a disaster from which Biden cannot recover.” He called on Democratic lawmakers to jointly encourage the incumbent to drop out of the race.

“I think the president should step aside and let the convention pick a new candidate,” Harkin, who served alongside Biden for more than two decades in the Senate, said in an interview. “He has a great legacy, and now it’s time to pass the torch.”

But as of Sunday evening, no prominent Democrat in office had called for Biden to drop out of the race, something the president’s allies have pointed to as they work to contain a groundswell of trepidation about his electoral chances.

Several people familiar with the situation described the president and those around him as even-keeled and unshaken amid the turbulence, pointing to a long history of political and personal trauma that Biden has endured during his 81 years.

“You have a bad night. Bad nights end,” one person said. “We’re still here. Let’s go.”

At Camp David, Biden was gathered with his children and grandchildren for a family photo by celebrity photographer Annie Leibovitz.

Behind closed doors there, Biden’s family has been encouraging him to stay the course, according to two people familiar with the situation.

Biden plans to return to the

White House early in the week and host a Fourth of July celebration there. After sometimes freezing up and losing his train of thought during the debate, Biden’s public appearances in the days ahead are likely to be closely scrutinized by voters and lawmakers alike.

In the meantime, several top Democrats have publicly expressed renewed support for Biden, even as they acknowledged that his debate performance has prompted worries about the party’s showing in November.

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) said on MSNBC’s “The Weekend” that House Democrats are involved in conversations over the future of Biden’s candidacy. He noted that because the House will be in recess this week for the Fourth of July, those conversations will continue over the phone and virtually.

But he added that “one thing should be clear: There is a big difference between our view of the world, the country and the future, and the extreme MAGA Republican view.”

Biden’s performance Thursday “certainly was a setback,” Jeffries added. “But of course, I believe a setback is nothing more than a setup for a comeback.”

Some Democrats are publicly voicing their concerns about Biden’s age and abilities, while others have been conspicuously silent, awaiting polling numbers before offering their opinions.

Appearing on MSNBC on Sunday, Rep. Jamie Raskin (D-Md.) said there was a “big problem with Joe Biden’s debate performance.”

“There are very honest and serious and rigorous conversations taking place at every level of our party,” he said.

The public show of support came on the heels of a harried private effort that began even before the debate ended Thursday, as private group chats, hushed conversations and social media posts teemed with consternation about Democrats’ prospects.

Biden aides began telling the media as the debate was under way that the president had a cold, rationalizing his thin, raspy voice and unsteady delivery. Vice President Harris said immediately afterward that his “slow start” was not a sign of a broader weakness, and campaign surrogates in the spin room tried to shift the focus from Biden’s stumbles to Trump’s falsehoods and extreme comments.

The push continued Friday and through the weekend, including a rush of activity by Biden; his wife, Jill Biden; and other allies that came against the backdrop of top editorial boards, columnists and Democratic commentators calling on the president to exit the race.



EVAN VUCCI/AP

President Biden walks to Air Force One at McGuire Air Force Base in Burlington County, N.J.

In the days since the debate, a wave of influential voices that have previously backed Biden, including New Yorker editor David Remnick, New York Times columnists Thomas L. Friedman and Nicholas Kristof, and “Morning Joe” host Joe Scarborough, have called on the president to pull out of the race or at least seriously consider it.

In a Facebook post shared Sunday morning, former Democratic National Committee vice chair R.T. Rybak said the public has to push Democratic leaders to get Biden off the ticket.

“Our elected officials are staying shockingly silent in public, especially considering how many of them acknowledge privately that this has to happen,” he wrote. “They fear political retribution but they should really fear that if we lose this election because they didn’t have the guts to do what they know needs to be done, holy hell and history will come down on them like an anvil.”

During a virtual Democratic National Committee meeting Saturday, which was hastily scheduled less than 24 hours before, leaders implored their members to stick behind Biden.

“We have to have his back,” DNC Chair Jaime Harrison said, according to members on the call who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe private discussions. Harrison acknowledged that Biden had not gotten younger but emphasized the message that he was not a liar like Trump, one person recalled.

However, the call did not pro-

vide an opportunity for members to share their concerns with the party’s leaders; there was no question-and-answer session and the chat function was disabled. Such moves frustrated members who had hoped for a more honest conversation about the party’s difficult path forward.

Party leaders and campaign officials instead bragged about their fundraising success, yard sign distribution, house parties and surrogate events. They explained a strategy to bring in social media influencers to the Democratic convention in Chicago.

Harrison concluded the call by telling the members he was going on a Disney cruise, fulfilling a promise he made to his children. The event did not eliminate doubts, while stoking the frustration of some.

For his part, Biden has tried to showcase a more forceful public visage than the stumbling, raspy-voiced debater that millions of Americans watched at the prime-time event his campaign negotiated and advocated for.

Over the course of three days, Biden traveled to five states for public and private appearances. During a raucous rally in Raleigh, N.C., he vigorously prosecuted the case against Trump while debating a line acknowledging his age and limitations directly.

“I don’t walk as easily as I used to. I don’t speak as smoothly as I used to. I don’t debate as well as I used to,” Biden said, his voice rising as the crowd responded in kind. “But ... I know how to tell the truth. I know right from wrong. I

know how to do this job.”

Several Democrats have pointed to the Raleigh event as a critical moment of reassurance, even as they questioned the sharp difference between the president’s performance at the debate and his rally appearance one day later.

“That is the Joe Biden we all know and love, and frankly the one we had hoped would have shown up on the debate stage,” said Maria Cardona, a Democratic strategist who remains committed to backing Biden’s reelection.

Cardona, who was on the DNC call Saturday, dismissed the “tangential chatter from strategists and pundits and editorial boards” calling on Biden to drop out.

“They don’t really matter,” she said. “What really matters are the elected officials, the donors and the voters.”

Around the same time Biden was rallying in Raleigh, he received a critical message of support from former president Barack Obama, whose own shaky debate in 2012 also rocked his reelection bid.

“Bad debate nights happen. Trust me, I know,” Obama posted on social media Friday afternoon. “But this election is still a choice between someone who has fought for ordinary folks his entire life and someone who only cares about himself.”

Back at Biden’s campaign headquarters in Wilmington, Del., several staffers gathered to watch the rally Friday, standing up and celebrating as they saw a more energized Biden in front of a crowd of more than 2,000 supporters.

During an all-hands staff meeting afterward, campaign chair Jen O’Malley Dillon sought to rally the troops, acknowledging the rough night and encouraging aides to focus on drawing a sharp contrast with Trump.

“We’ve all been through hard times,” she told the gathered staff, according to a recording of the meeting. “We’ve all wished something went a little bit better than maybe it did. And then our job and our decision is, can we keep going to fight for it and make sure we put in the work, and that’s what I think the president has done.”

In memos and presentations to donors and voters, the campaign has sought to downplay the concerns of pundits and commentators who claimed Biden had done irreparable harm to his candidacy during the debate. They have pointed to a flood of donations — more than \$33 million so far since Thursday — and other metrics that suggest voters are still on board with Biden. The campaign said Sunday that Thursday was its best-ever “grassroots fundraising day.”

On Saturday, O’Malley Dillon released a memo saying that despite Biden’s poor performance, little had changed about a race that she had long expected would remain close until the end. She suggested that any polls that showed Biden bleeding support would only be temporary and the result of “overblown media narratives.”

Hours later, deputy campaign manager Rob Flaherty went a step further in a sharply worded memo to supporters aimed at forcefully combating those who have tried to force Biden out of the race.

“The bedvetting brigade is calling for Joe Biden to ‘drop out,’” he wrote. “That is the best possible way for Donald Trump to win and us to lose. First of all: Joe Biden is going to be the Democratic nominee, period. End of story. Voters voted.”

He suggested that Biden stepping aside would lead to weeks of chaos and internal fighting among Democrats, all serving to boost Trump’s chances.

Such an argument must weigh heavily on Biden’s mind as he considers his place in history and thinks about the implications of what it would mean to end his presidential bid prematurely, said Tevi Troy, a presidential historian.

“Biden holds all the cards here,” he said. “As long as he says he’s going to run, he gets to keep running. It doesn’t matter what Tom Friedman says. It doesn’t matter what Nick Kristof says. It’s Biden’s decision.”

Mariana Alfaro and Leigh Ann Caldwell contributed to this report.

Advisers’ gamble on debate doesn’t pay off

DEBATE FROM A1

rehearsed answers, met with policy aides and participated in mock debates, with his personal lawyer, Bob Bauer, playing the part of Trump.

Every topic he was asked about Thursday, he had practiced answers for — including the final one about his age.

So aides were bewildered by his performance. Many felt they had never seen him collapse so dramatically. After all, Biden was a veteran of numerous debates — as a senator, vice-presidential nominee and presidential candidate. And they did not understand why he gave an entirely different answer on the age question than the one they spent more than a week perfecting.

The president did not just stumble over words. He appeared to lose his focus and often was unable to finish sentences. His voice was raspy and thin, and when the debate concluded, first lady Jill Biden appeared to help her husband down the stairs.

His performance sent shock waves through the Democratic Party, resulting in calls from some Democrats for him to step aside. In the 48 hours after the debate, Biden campaign officials sought to reassure supporters and donors, blaming the debate on “just a bad night” and vowing that the president would remain in the race. The president should be judged by his 3½ years in office, they argued, not 90 minutes onstage.

But with another debate scheduled for September — a Biden campaign spokesman

said the president would not withdraw from it — aides and allies are scrutinizing the president’s preparation for last week’s debate to figure out if they missed signs of what would unfold in CNN’s Atlanta studio.

Biden’s aides over the years have developed a tested formula to prepare him for debates, a process overseen by Ron Klain, his first White House chief of staff and longtime debate guru for Democratic presidential candidates. Early in the process, Biden will often meet with Klain one-on-one or with a small group of aides to practice answers, sometimes writing his favorite responses on notecards — his way, aides say, of clarifying his thinking.

Aides who work on specific topic areas, such as national security or the economy, will join the prep for sessions focusing on those topics. Finally, Biden will partake in mock debates, designed to mimic the actual event as closely as possible.

At Camp David, Biden participated in several such mock sessions, held in a movie theater and airplane hangar outfitted to resemble the CNN studio. They were held at various times of day, including at night when Biden sometimes seems to flag and when the debate was to be held, officials said.

Some Biden officials speculated that the president was over-prepared by days of lengthy prep sessions and got inside his own head. Others lamented that too many aides were part of the preparations, noting that the White House distributed a list of 18 officials who accompanied



CRAIG HUDSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Aides to President Biden hoped that the timing of last week’s debate with Donald Trump, unusually early for an initial presidential debate, would give the Biden campaign time to recover if he struggled.

the president to Camp David, and that did not even include everyone who was involved.

Not all of these people were in the room with Biden at all times, people familiar with the preparations said. But they still noted that there is a risk in having too many opinions, which can be contradictory and confusing.

When the debate began Thursday, Biden’s top aides, gathered in a hold room at the CNN studios, knew immediately the president had gotten off to a rough start, stumbling on answers about the economy and ending remarks about the national debt with a gaffe: “We finally beat Medicare.” Trump seized on the flub.

Early in the debate, Biden officials started telling reporters the president had a cold and a sore throat, an effort to explain

why his voice sounded weak and raspy.

“We were asked about his hoarse voice,” Karine Jean-Pierre, the White House press secretary, told reporters aboard Air Force One on Friday. “We shared that he had a cold, we shared that he tested negative [for covid], and then we moved on. That’s it. It was from his — his voice as he was speaking during the debate, obviously.”

Still, at a feisty campaign rally the next day, Biden’s voice showed no sign of the previous night’s raspiness.

Biden’s aides and allies had worried for months about whether he should take part in the traditional presidential debates. Some vigorously argued he should not participate, concerned that he was not up to the task and that Trump would

dominate the encounter with his shouting and bluster.

Others thought skipping a debate would make Biden look weak. And they predicted that he would perform well, pointing to the forceful delivery of his State of the Union address, when he engaged in a rapid-fire exchange with Republican lawmakers who heckled him.

The Biden campaign ultimately agreed to two debates, insisting the events would be on their terms: There would be no studio audience, and each candidate’s microphone would be muted when it was not their turn to speak. Some allies speculated afterward that those rules may have actually helped Trump by reining in his impulse to interrupt his opponent and play to the crowd, moves that appeared to turn off television

viewers in previous debates.

And Biden’s aides demanded an unusually early date for the first encounter, in hopes that a strong performance would turbocharge the president’s campaign — and calculating that it would give Biden time to recover if he floundered. Rather than turbocharging the campaign, the event has prompted a surge of renewed calls for him to reconsider his candidacy.

On Thursday night, after Biden left the debate studio, he stopped by a Waffle House and told reporters he thought he “did well.” But in the following hours, the campaign scrambled to control the damage. Officials worked to reassure donors, allies warned against overstating the effect of a bad night, and Biden himself debuted a new line to address his age.

“I don’t walk as easy as I used to,” he said Friday at a boisterous rally in Raleigh, N.C. “I don’t speak as smoothly as I used to. I don’t debate as well as I used to. But I know what I do know: I know how to tell the truth.”

At a fundraiser later Friday, the first lady told donors her husband had admitted something went wrong.

“After last night’s debate, he said, ‘You know, Jill, I don’t know what happened. I didn’t feel that great,’” she recounted. “And I said, ‘Look, Joe, we are not going to let 90 minutes define the four years that you’ve been president.’”

By the end of his three-day swing, even the president was acknowledging publicly that the night did not go his way.

“I understand the concern after the debate. I get it — I didn’t have a great night,” he said at a fundraiser Saturday night in Red Bank, N.J. “But I’m going to be fighting harder.”

Michael Scherer in Washington contributed to this report.

Trump advisers seek to simplify Republican Party platform, memo says

BY HANNAH KNOWLES
AND MAEGAN VAZQUEZ

Former president Donald Trump’s campaign advisers are pushing to significantly simplify and streamline the official platform of the Republican Party, according to a memo obtained by The Washington Post.

Trump campaign advisers Chris LaCivita and Susie Wiles, the authors of the memo, criticized the “textbook-long platforms” the party has published for decades, which they said should be free from “special interest influence.” With the party’s current platform standing at more than 60 pages, the advisers emphasized that it was “incumbent upon” the party “to ensure our policy commitments to the American people are clear, concise, and easily digestible for every voter.”

Republicans opted not to write a new platform in 2020, leaving much to potentially be revised over the coming weeks. This year, the GOP hopes to hash out its platform during a closed-door meeting the week before the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, which is to be held July 15-18.

Platform committee meetings have been televised in the past.



TOM BRENNER FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Chris LaCivita and Susie Wiles, campaign advisers for Donald Trump, said GOP platforms have been “textbook-long” for decades.

Holding a private meeting earlier would also reduce public attention on the process.

A person familiar with the planning, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal details, said that in past years lobbyists and special interest groups at the convention have pushed for issues that their clients sought.

“Publishing an unnecessarily verbose treatise will provide more fuel for our opponent’s fire of misinformation and misrepresentation to voters,” the memo,

dated Thursday, states.

The New York Times earlier reported on the memo.

Although it’s not clear yet what this year’s document will say, several pieces of the most current document, last adopted in 2016, run counter to Trump’s present-day political positions.

In 2016, Trump ran on a Republican platform that called for a federal ban on abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy and a “human life amendment” to the U.S. Constitution that would give a fetus legal protections.

Trump has said that his position now is to allow states, not the federal government, to decide on any limits on the procedure in the wake of the Supreme Court’s decision overturning the constitutional right to abortion. Democrats have continued to attack Trump for appointing several of the justices who overturned *Roe v. Wade* in 2022, paving the way for near-total bans in some states.

The 2016 document also said Republicans “will not accept any territorial change in Eastern Europe imposed by force,” though Trump has indicated that he would pressure Ukraine to give up territory to achieve peace after the 2022 Russian invasion.

The 2016 platform condemned the Supreme Court ruling that legalized same-sex marriage and said parents should “determine the proper medical treatment and therapy for their minor children,” which was widely interpreted as a tacit approval of conversion therapy. But the language was written in a way that would also appear to diverge from Trump’s call to outlaw gender-affirming treatment for minors, even with the support of parents.

The process for crafting the new party platform is being run by lawyer Randy Evans, who was

U.S. ambassador to Luxembourg under Trump and is executive director of the 2024 platform committee; former Trump budget adviser Russell Vought, a self-described Christian nationalist who is seeking sweeping expansion of presidential power in a potential second Trump administration; and Ed Martin, a well-known social conservative activist who is president of Phyllis Schlafly Eagles, whose platform includes opposing feminist goals and championing of traditional, stay-at-home roles for women.

Some social conservatives have worried the party will make changes that soften its official stance on issues such as abortion. Antiabortion groups have called for the platform to nod to a federal role on abortion.

“It’s not the number of words, it’s the intent that matters,” said Kristi Hamrick, vice president of media and policy for the anti-abortion group Students for Life. “A strong statement that affirms the need to protect all Americans from conception to natural death, in law and in service, and that affirms GOP support for addressing the human rights issue of our day — abortion — at every level of government, local, state and federal — is acceptable.”

Steve Deace, a conservative

commentator in Iowa who supported Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis in the GOP presidential primary, said he “stopped fighting over the party platform a long time ago” because he believes it has not mattered much in practice.

“Trump is king. He conquered the party. ... He may now do as kings do,” Deace added.

Charles Moran, the president of the Log Cabin Republicans, a group for LGBTQ+ Republicans and their allies, said in a recent interview that he hoped to see a more “inclusive” platform than the one adopted in 2016.

Moran argued that the previous platform had outdated language on many issues and said he would “love to see” a pared-down platform that was more of a “statement of beliefs.”

Some veterans of GOP politics said Saturday that the move to pare the platform was politically smart.

“Maybe 15 people from each state care about the party platform, good for them. All it becomes is a Dem messaging doc anyway,” Rick Wiley, a former political director for the Republican National Committee, wrote on social media.

Michael Scherer contributed to this report.

Administration will suspend payments on some student loans

BY DANIELLE
DOUGLAS-GABRIEL

With federal judges having halted key parts of the Biden administration’s new student loan repayment plan, the Education Department said Friday that it will suspend payments and interest charges for about 3 million borrowers.

The decision affects enrollees in the Saving on a Valuable Education plan, commonly known as Save, which ties monthly payments to earnings and family size. More than 8 million people are signed up for the plan, with 4.5 million of them qualifying for monthly payments of \$0 because of their low earnings. Those borrowers will continue to receive

that benefit while others with higher earnings will now have their payments and interest accrual postponed. Education officials have not said how long this forbearance will last or when exactly it takes effect, but borrowers will be notified in the coming days.

Postponing payments for Save enrollees is a direct response to an injunction imposed on the plan last week. In Kansas, U.S. District Judge Daniel D. Crabtree blocked the administration from launching the final component of the Save plan, which would have cut most enrollees’ monthly payments in half starting this month. His ruling stems from a lawsuit originally brought by 11 Republican-led states that allege President Biden exceeded his authority

by creating a repayment plan that could cost more than \$230 billion over the next decade.

Crabtree agreed the department failed to clearly show that Congress authorized the repayment plan and said the economic impact of the program would require congressional input. On Thursday, Justice Department attorneys filed a motion to set aside the injunction.

A spokesperson for the Education Department said the agency is taking action to support borrowers while meeting the terms of the injunction. The department plans to pull down the online application for all income-driven repayment programs and loan consolidation while updating its system to ensure borrowers have ac-

curate information about their loans. The department said the changes will take approximately four to six weeks.

Student advocacy groups praised the move but questioned whether it is enough to ensure other borrowers are not harmed amid the ongoing lawsuit.

“We are pleased to see the Department of Education take quick and decisive action,” said Natalia Abrams, executive director of the nonprofit advocacy group Student Debt Crisis Center. But many borrowers still face “uncertainty and financial instability,” she added. “Given the lack of clarity, swirling questions, and legal uncertainty of the Save plan, [we’re] calling for a widespread payment pause on all federal student loans.”

bill for nearly 8 million individuals each month.”

The Biden administration is also facing an injunction in Missouri that has stopped the department from forgiving any loans under the Save plan. The agency has already approved \$5.5 billion in loan cancellation for 414,000 enrollees who met the plan criteria by originally borrowing less than \$12,000 and paying down their debt for at least 10 years.

In that case, U.S. District Judge John A. Ross agreed with Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey and five other Republican-led states that Biden probably lacks the authority to erase debts through the Save plan. He also agreed that the loan-forgiveness component would harm the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority, a quasi-state agency that services federal student loans and funds state scholarships.





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CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

What the Supreme Court’s Chevron decision means

BY MAXINE JOSELOW

The Supreme Court on Friday curtailed the power of federal agencies to regulate the environment, public health and other fundamental aspects of American life. The 6-3 ruling, written by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., could make it easier for courts to block regulations aimed at addressing air pollution, combating climate change and protecting endangered species, lawyers say. Here’s what to know about the ruling and its potential impact on environmental protections in the United States:

What did the Supreme Court decide?

The pair of cases — *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo* and *Relentless, Inc. v. Department of Commerce* — challenged a federal rule that requires the herring industry to cover the costs of observers on fishing boats.

In the decision released Friday, the Supreme Court struck down the rule, issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service, finding it to be overly burdensome. Lower courts had previously upheld the rule, finding it to be a reasonable interpretation of federal law.

The decision effectively overturns a long-standing precedent known as the *Chevron* doctrine.

What is the Chevron doctrine?

The doctrine says that courts should defer to an agency’s interpretation of a law, as long as that interpretation is reasonable. It was established by the Supreme Court’s landmark 1984 ruling in *Chevron U.S.A. v. Natural Resources Defense Council*.

The 1984 decision represented a victory for the Reagan administration and a loss for environmental groups, including the Natural



ERIC RISBERG/AP

The Chevron Richmond Refinery in California. A Friday Supreme Court decision overturned the long-standing precedent set in 1984 by *Chevron U.S.A. v. Natural Resources Defense Council*.

Resources Defense Council. Under President Ronald Reagan, the Environmental Protection Agency had issued a rule that allowed manufacturing plants to install or modify one piece of equipment without obtaining a federal permit.

Environmental groups had challenged the rule, saying it violated the Clean Air Act and would cause more air pollution. But in the unanimous 6-0 decision, Justice John Paul Stevens wrote that the court should defer to the EPA’s reading of the Clean Air Act, and to other agencies’ interpretations of other statutes.

At the time, *Chevron* was not seen as a historic ruling. But it became a major precedent once it filtered through the lower courts, and it eventually gave future administrations more power to issue stronger environmental rules

than those of the Reagan era.

Who supported overturning Chevron?

A wide array of conservative advocacy groups have urged the court to overturn *Chevron*. But petrochemicals billionaire Charles Koch has played a particularly influential role.

Both cases were backed by conservative legal organizations — the Cause of Action Institute and New Civil Liberties Alliance — that have received millions of dollars from the Koch network, founded by Charles Koch and his late brother, David Koch. Charles Koch is the CEO of Koch Industries and a fierce critic of federal regulations.

Asked about this funding, Ryan Mulvey, counsel at the Cause of Action Institute, said the focus should be on the fishermen.

“Like any public interest law firm, Cause of Action Institute took this case to defend the rights of individuals who do not have the resources to challenge unconstitutional actions on their own,” Mulvey said in an emailed statement. “This case has always been about vindicating their interests.”

Who supported retaining Chevron?

Ironically, many environmental groups supported retaining *Chevron*, even though the original 1984 decision handed them a defeat.

Two heavyweights in the environmental movement — the Environmental Defense Fund and the Natural Resources Defense Council — both submitted amicus briefs urging the justices not to overturn *Chevron*. The environmental law firm Earthjustice also filed a joint brief in defense of the doctrine on

behalf of Conservation Law Foundation, Ocean Conservancy and Save the Sound.

Additional support for *Chevron* came from a wide range of other individuals and groups, including Democratic senators, the American Cancer Society and the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

Will this affect efforts to combat climate change?

Probably. That’s according to David Doniger, senior strategic director of the climate and clean energy program at the Natural Resources Defense Council, who argued the *Chevron* case. Doniger said the ruling released Friday could prevent agencies from using older environmental laws to tackle newer environmental problems — such as climate change — as they arise.

“The real goal of the interest groups on the right that are backing this litigation is to enfeeble the federal government’s ability to deal with the problems that the modern world throws at us,” Doniger said. “We could end up with a weaker federal government, and that would mean that interest groups would be freer to pollute without restraint.”

Still, President Biden’s signature climate law gave the EPA more authority to curb planet-warming emissions, Doniger said. For the first time, the climate law, known as the Inflation Reduction Act, defined greenhouse gases as air pollutants that the EPA can regulate under the Clean Air Act.

Will this affect efforts to protect endangered species?

Probably. In litigation over protections for vulnerable plants and animals, courts have often deferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s interpretation of the Endangered

Species Act. That could change in response to Friday’s ruling, said Damien Schiff, a senior attorney at the Pacific Legal Foundation, a conservative public interest law firm that supported overturning *Chevron*.

“*Chevron* has been invoked to justify a very broad level of discretion for how endangered species are protected,” Schiff said.

Will this affect efforts to regulate toxic chemicals?

Probably not. The EPA assesses the health risks posed by specific chemicals by interpreting scientific studies, not by interpreting ambiguous statutes, said Madeleine Boyer, a principal at the firm Beveridge & Diamond who represents clients in the chemical industry.

Chevron “isn’t intended to address the deference that should be given to an agency’s interpretation of its own facts and science,” Boyer said.

What will be the near-term impact of the ruling?

There could be a spike in lawsuits over actions by federal agencies — not only environmental agencies such as the EPA, but also the Departments of Education, Labor, and Health and Human Services. It could take years for this litigation to play out.

In the meantime, the ruling could prompt Republican lawmakers on Capitol Hill to intensify their oversight of the Biden administration’s environmental rules, staff for the House Republican Study Committee wrote in a memo released Monday.

“If *Chevron* is rolled back or overturned, this will be a landmark decision which could open the door to Congress ... rolling back Biden’s woke and weaponized administrative agenda,” the memo says.

Flooding in Midwest exposes nation’s vulnerabilities as storms intensify

BY SCOTT DANCE

The torrent of water pushing the Rapidan Dam to the brink of failure last week came from one of southern Minnesota’s wettest stretches on record. For the second time in five years, near-record floods pounded the century-old structure and clogged it with trees that died during intervening years of drought.

And when the waters churned around the west side of the dam, its vulnerabilities already exposed in past floods, they scoured away so much earth that they carried away a utility substation and a home, and raised fears that a bridge just upstream could be the next structure to falter.

Residents of downstream Mankato, Minn., where the Blue Earth River meets the Minnesota River, feared a wall of water was coming if the dam failed, despite authorities’ assurances the river would rise only modestly. Still, though this crisis did not live up to those worries, it underscored ways that extreme precipitation could overwhelm infrastructure not designed to endure it — and how other environmental, economic and social problems can cascade from there, experts said.

More potential hazards loom even as waters slowly recede across the upper Plains: The pools of livestock manure that spilled waste and bacteria into the Mississippi and Missouri river basins; the threat that high waters made room for invasive carp to migrate north; the risk that nutrients washed from cropland will fuel larger algae blooms and contaminate drinking water wells.

And what if the floods had overpowered a bigger dam, upstream of more people? Some in Minnesota and across the country said more must be done to prepare for that growing likelihood.

“We’re not prepared for this new climate regime,” said Whitney Clark, executive director of Friends of the Mississippi River. “While we’re figuring it out, we’re at risk of lots more of these challenges.”

Floods shocked an already vulnerable dam

Even before waters began rising, the integrity of the Rapidan was in doubt. The hydroelectric dam built in 1910 has not been generating power since floods that damaged it in 2019 and 2020. There has been debate over whether to repair or remove it ever since.

The latest floods only complicate the matter.

They came amid widespread floods across the Midwest and upper Plains, the product of



BEN BREWER/REUTERS

The bank of the Blue Earth River next to the Rapidan Dam, southwest of Mankato, Minn., is seen after torrential rains last week.

storms that dumped rainfall exceeding 10 inches, up to as much as 18 inches, across swaths of the Missouri River basin in parts of Minnesota, South Dakota and Iowa.

For much of southern Minnesota, it was about two months’ worth of rain within nine days, said Pete Boulay, a climatologist in the state Department of Natural Resources.

And it fell on soil already saturated from months of wet weather, sending it coursing into streams and rivers. Even before the most recent storms, researchers at the University of Minnesota’s Southwest Research & Outreach Center measured more moisture in the soil than ever recorded, since at least 1966. Since April, much of southern Minnesota has experienced one of its top 10 wettest stretches on record, Boulay said.

“We have seen some wet spells before, but this one is a bigger shock because we had four dry years in a row,” Boulay said.

Even after dry spells and past floods, David Hruska told The Washington Post that he never imagined the river could overtake the only house he had ever lived in — one that crumbled from eroded banks into the Blue Earth River on Tuesday.

It should be a warning beyond Minnesota, experts said.

Intensifying rainfall is testing infrastructure nationwide

Around the country, infrastructure is being tested by new precipitation extremes. Even under the most optimistic forecasts, the number of extreme precipitation events is expected to rise dramatically in the upper Plains — and even more so in other parts of the country, said Eric Chu, an assistant professor of human ecology at the University of California at Davis.

The number of extreme precipitation days — where totals are among the top 1 percent of all events — has grown by about 60 percent in the Northeast since the 1950s, and by 45 percent across the Midwest, according to the latest National Climate Assessment report.

Warming global temperatures, the result of a blanket of greenhouse gases from fossil fuel combustion, mean the air can hold more moisture. That is making downpours heavier and also droughts more intense because warmer air has a greater capacity to carry moisture, and to leach it out of the land.

Not only are existing dams and other infrastructure not built for

such extremes, it’s even hard to keep guidelines for new projects in line with future climate projections, said Christine Kirchhoff, an associate professor of engineering design and innovation at Pennsylvania State University.

“There’s got to be hundreds if not thousands of dams out there in similar situations,” Kirchhoff said.

Any trend in the frequency of dam failures is unclear in part because of incomplete historical data, said Martin McCann, director of the National Performance of Dams Program at Stanford University. But the rising intensity of precipitation is probably having an impact, with more recent examples of storm events elevating threats to infrastructure, he said.

In 2015, severe flooding across South Carolina caused dozens of dams to fail. In California, recent stormy years have damaged dams including the one impounding its largest reservoir, Lake Oroville, in 2017. Last year, flooding overwhelmed levees and inundated agricultural communities in the center of the state.

“We’re going to see more and more instances of these smaller dams with small spillway capacities overtopping and failing,” McCann said.

Dams considered to be “high

hazard” — meaning their failure could cause significant death and destruction of homes — are typically designed for as much as 25 inches of rainfall within a 48-hour period, said Bill McCormick, a past president of the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. In the Blue Earth River watershed upstream of the Rapidan — which is considered to be of a slightly lower risk category, “significant hazard” — rainfall came mercifully short of that intensity.

But those risk calculations don’t consider how often heavy rains are falling, and how much more frequently a dam may now be hit with major or near-record storms. With some \$3 billion in outstanding costs to rehabilitate dams across the country and heavier rainfall becoming more common, the stress on infrastructure could compound to create more crises like the one in Minnesota, said Lori Cannon Spragens, the dam safety association’s executive director.

“That’s one of our biggest concerns nationwide,” she said.

Impacts can cascade far beyond floodwaters’ reach

The hazards go far beyond the floods and dam failures themselves, said Chu, the lead author of a chapter devoted to the vulnera-

bility of socio-economic and natural systems to climate change in the National Climate Assessment, a major federal report on climate impacts and forecasts most recently updated last year.

There are costs of disrupted supply chains when major roads are inundated or washed out, raising prices for consumers and perhaps lowering job security in transportation and shipping-related industries, he said. The damage is sending costs of infrastructure maintenance upward.

More frequent floods, plus rising heat, lead to greater incidence of mold and mildew, adding to scarcity and costs in housing markets, as well as exacerbating risks to public health, especially in historically Black neighborhoods that are more likely to sit in floodplains, Chu said.

Health problems and housing instability make it harder for people to participate in the labor market, he added.

“That’s the classic cascading effect,” Chu said.

In Minnesota, the situation on the Blue Earth may have spared the community of Mankato. But it still only adds to environmental concerns facing rivers.

The Minnesota River, which the Blue Earth feeds, was already one of the most sediment-laden rivers in the state, Clark said, with about nine times as much dirt and silt clouding its waters as the natural background level. Sediment smothers underwater life and clouds waters, preventing sunlight from reaching plants and animals, destroying ecosystems.

The scouring on the Blue Earth will only add to that, and could send more debris downstream to the Mississippi, he said.

There was already a forecast of a larger-than-normal dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico this summer, the product of farm fertilizers, animal waste and other sources of nutrients that feed massive algae blooms. When those blooms die, they strip the water of dissolved oxygen and can suffocate fish and other aquatic creatures.

The upper Plains floods are likely to make that problem worse, too, Clark said.

Invasive carp that have been creeping their way up the Mississippi are known to spread their territory when water levels surge, he added. There are fears that breeding pairs could soon be discovered farther upriver, a threat to native fish populations and ecosystem balance.

Whether the impacts continue to cascade remains to be seen. But it’s nonetheless more proof that such consequences are becoming more possible, and probable, he said.

As heat rises, so will dengue

DENGUE FROM AI

group of California officials in a recent webinar. “It’s here in Puerto Rico, but you guys are going to feel it pretty soon.”

Last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warned of an increased risk of dengue infections in the United States, urging clinicians to stay on alert for the disease when treating feverish patients who have traveled to places with dengue transmission.

But even as human-made warming spurs cases to historic highs, dengue remains one of the world’s most neglected tropical diseases, according to the World Health Organization. Three in 4 cases are mild or asymptomatic, making the illness difficult to track. And because the virus comes in four varieties, or serotypes, natural immunity after one illness does not protect against future infections with other types. What makes dengue unusual is that the risk of severe complications may actually increase with sequential infections of a different type.

There is no cure for the virus, which in severe cases can lead to plasma leaking from veins, internal bleeding, organ failure and, in rare instances, death. Unlike other illnesses, vaccination is complicated. Few options are available, and few people know about them. The only vaccine available in the United States is for children 9 to 16 years old who have already been infected with dengue — those most vulnerable to hospitalization. But it won’t be available after 2026.

The crisis in Puerto Rico is a warning sign for the rest of the United States. It shows how quickly an outbreak can metastasize in communities with fragile infrastructure, underfunded health systems and temperatures that get higher with each passing year.

Without drastic action to control the virus and slow climate change, research suggests some 2 billion additional people across the globe could be at risk for dengue in the next 50 years.

Rising temperatures spur global dengue spread

It has been more than a decade since Puerto Rico saw its last dengue outbreak. Though the virus is endemic in the territory and typically recurs every five to seven years, that cycle was interrupted by the emergence of Zika — a closely related virus that tore through the island in 2016 and gave some cross protection against dengue — and the isolation measures necessitated by the coronavirus.

But the return of global travel — especially Caribbean cruises — brought thousands of tourists who had been exposed to dengue elsewhere, introducing strains that hadn’t been dominant in Puerto Rico. The virus spread swiftly through the population of susceptible people, reaching Genesis in late May.

The girl had been feverish for several days before she arrived at the hospital. Her doctor, Zurisadai Rivera Acosta, pressed on the girl’s fingertip and saw it took longer than normal for the color beneath to return to pink — a sign of dehydration. More concerning, the doctor noted, she had begun vomiting and her count of blood platelets was low. Rivera admitted the girl to the hospital amid signs her condition was deteriorating. Genesis was one of 91 dengue cases reported in Puerto Rico that week, health department data show.

Puerto Rico public health officials are bracing for case counts to soar as the island heads into the hot and rainy season. By mid-June, the territory had reported more than 1,500 cases. At least two people have died.

Sweltering and stormy is the preferred weather for *Aedes aegypti*, the mosquito that is the main vector for dengue in the Americas. It lays its eggs wherever there is standing water: in vent pipes of septic tanks, water meters, discarded tires and broken flower pots. A single bottle cap filled with rainwater can hold

more than 100 eggs, said Sadie Ryan, a medical geographer at the University of Florida who specializes in insect-borne diseases.

“They’re tenacious, they’re pernicious,” Ryan said. “Really, they’re just good at being everywhere.”

Its eating habits further bolster the bug’s ability to wreak havoc. Unlike the mosquitoes that transmit malaria, which require only a single blood meal before laying their eggs, female *Aedes aegypti* are “sippers,” Ryan said. They behave like tiny vampires at a human buffet, flitting from person to person, potentially spreading disease with each bite.

In Puerto Rico’s crowded urban areas, most families cannot afford air conditioning, so they keep cool by opening windows and doors, which lack screens to keep mosquitoes out.

Meanwhile, human-caused warming is spawning an explosion of mosquitoes here. Greenhouse gas emissions, mostly from burning fossil fuels, have raised average temperatures in the commonwealth by about 2 degrees Fahrenheit since 1950, according to the National Centers for Climate Information.

The change has been a boon to *Aedes aegypti*, which is able to transmit diseases at higher temperatures than other mosquito species. In laboratory experiments, researchers have found that warmer conditions can make the insect grow faster, bite more people and lay more eggs. Heat also makes the dengue virus more infectious and allows it to replicate faster inside its hosts.

“They’re tenacious, they’re pernicious. Really, they’re just good at being everywhere.”

Sadie Ryan, a medical geographer at the University of Florida, on *Aedes aegypti*, the mosquito that is the main vector for dengue in the Americas

Models and real-world data show that these mosquitoes can transmit dengue at temperatures ranging from 64 to 94.1 degrees Fahrenheit — conditions that are found in Puerto Rico every month of the year.

Though this species is found in several states, including Texas, Florida and even California, the mosquito’s predilection for heat has historically limited dengue’s reach. Even when the virus hitches a ride via travelers from tropical regions, low nighttime and winter temperatures prevent it from spreading very far.

But officials are increasingly concerned that rising temperatures could set the stage for more outbreaks in the United States. Florida has already reported eight cases from local spread this year, health department data show — and the state’s warmest months are yet to come.

“Even one case in an area that doesn’t usually see dengue can consume a large number of resources, as well as create considerable public concern,” said Gabriela Paz-Bailey, chief of the CDC’s dengue branch in Puerto Rico. “It means the mosquito has acquired the virus, and you have the potential for additional transmission happening.”

In tropical regions across Latin America, Africa and Asia, where dengue once circulated primarily during summer months, a lengthening warm season is turning the disease into a year-round phenomenon. Meanwhile, the shifting climate is allowing dengue to infiltrate temperate regions and high-altitude communities where it has never been found before.

Nepal, which hadn’t seen a dengue case before 2004, recorded more than 50,000 cases in each of the last two years. Mauritius and Chad have experienced their first-ever significant outbreaks in the past 12 months. Meanwhile, Italy, France and Spain documented dozens of instances of local trans-

mission of the virus in 2023 — suggesting the disease may be gaining a foothold in spots where winter cold once kept it at bay.

But it’s not just rising temperatures that contribute to disease spread, researchers say. Climate-induced droughts can prompt people to stockpile water, creating more mosquito habitat. Escalating hurricanes and floods also produce standing water while simultaneously forcing people from their homes and increasing their exposure to mosquitoes, said Malory Harris, a disease ecologist at Stanford University.

By combining climate models with simulations of disease spread, Harris is developing techniques that can help link cases to climate disasters — and project how future storms and droughts could trigger new outbreaks. In an analysis of Cyclone Yaku, which ravaged Peru’s northern coast in March 2023, she found that the storm was responsible for 33,000 dengue cases. Nearly 400 people died of the virus.

Only U.S. dengue vaccine runs out in 2026

The fact that the dengue virus comes in multiple serotypes and has an unusual mechanism for causing severe illness in people makes it especially tricky to fight. An infection with one type generates disease-fighting antibodies that protect a person from future infection with that variety. But those same antibodies can bind to viruses of a different serotype, facilitating their entry and causing more severe illness.

Dengvaxia, developed by the French-based manufacturer Sanofi, is the only vaccine approved for use in the United States. It protects against all four dengue types and is approved for children 9 to 16 years old living in high-risk areas such as Puerto Rico. The shots are covered by most health insurance plans. But the three-dose regimen — administered six months apart over the course of a year to be fully protected — requires patients to have a laboratory-confirmed previous dengue infection. It’s the only vaccine with such a requirement, complicating rollout efforts in vulnerable communities.

In May, WHO expanded the use of a second vaccine, Qdenga, which is already approved in several hard-hit countries, including Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Indonesia and throughout Europe. The vaccine, developed by the Japanese company Takeda and is recommended by WHO for children ages 6 to 16, requires only two shots and can be used regardless of prior infection. But the company withdrew its application from the Food and Drug Administration in July 2023 because of data collection issues.

A third vaccine being developed by the National Institutes of Health is still in clinical trials and won’t be available in the United States for at least a few years.

Meanwhile, health-care workers in Puerto Rico lament that few residents know about Dengvaxia.

At HealthProMed, Hector Villanueva, the community clinic’s senior adviser for dengue, urged Mayra Rivera to vaccinate her teenage nephews, whom Rivera took in this year after their parents died. The boys had been hospitalized with fever, vomiting and diarrhea from the virus in January. Villanueva warned they could become even more severely ill if they were to be infected again.

Rivera eagerly signed them up for shots. The 13-year-old, whose diabetes can make dengue more lethal, received his first dose in April. His older brother is scheduled to receive his shot in July.

But uptake among other children in Puerto Rico has been slow. Many parents aren’t aware of dengue’s dangers and, after the pandemic, are tired of hearing about getting more vaccines, Villanueva said.

“Most of the cases, they didn’t know they have dengue or they may have mild to moderate symptoms, so there is low perception of risk,” Villanueva said. “Parents are saying: ‘What are you talking about? Dengue, does that still exist?’”

Only 145 children in Puerto Rico have started the vaccine series since it became available in 2022, according to CDC — a tiny fraction of the roughly 140,000 eligible.

And now access to the vaccine is closing. A few months before Puerto Rico declared its public health emergency in March, Sanofi informed U.S. officials that it has stopped producing Dengvaxia because of low demand. The last doses will expire in August 2026.

Adam Gluck, who leads Sanofi’s U.S. corporate affairs, said the company tried making the vaccine easy to access but the complexity of screening for a prior infection before administering the required three doses kept demand low. The



PHOTOS BY ERIKA P. RODRIGUEZ FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Genesis Polanco Marte, 9, is treated by a doctor as a suspected dengue case at Hospital Auxilio Mutuo in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The island declared a public health emergency over dengue this spring.

decision to discontinue the vaccine “is not driven by quality, safety or efficacy concerns,” he said in a statement.

Rivera said she is grateful her nephews qualify to receive the shots but is dismayed other children will no longer have the chance to protect themselves against dengue. “If they stop making these vaccines,” she said, “a lot of people will die.”

Combating dengue in Puerto Rico

On a recent steamy morning, a mosquito-control technician from Puerto Rico’s Vector Control Unit peered into a trap outside a home, a plastic bucket filled with water and hay whose odor was designed to attract egg-laying females. Sure enough, when he opened the trap, a mosquito with white markings was stuck on the special adhesive paper.

With schools out for the summer, another group of technicians went from classroom to classroom at a nearby elementary school, trapping mosquitoes to identify locations that could have been super spreaders. Workers thrust vacuum-like machines along walls, in corners, under piles of papers to flush out the insects, then caught their quarry in butterfly nets.

Unlike many mosquitoes, *Aedes*

aegypti tend to bite during the day and are resistant to the most commonly used insecticide. So officials must focus on identifying and destroying mosquito habitats in high-transmission areas to reduce spread.

Teams rely on low-tech traps placed outside homes to collect mosquitoes, then test them to determine what percentage carry the virus. In areas with high rates of dengue-carrying mosquitoes, field teams apply larvicide and go door-to-door urging residents to use repellent and get rid of breeding grounds, authorities said.

The ongoing explosion of cases presages a future in which dengue becomes one of the dominant mosquito-borne threats to humanity, experts said, in some countries even eclipsing malaria. As temperatures in tropical regions get too high for other mosquito species, *Aedes aegypti* is poised to take over.

Singapore, Brazil and Colombia have programs to infect mosquitoes with a bacteria called Wolbachia, which blocks offspring released into the wild from transmitting the dengue virus. But that expensive and labor-intensive strategy has not been approved in the United States.

In Puerto Rico, one big challenge remains awareness among

clinicians, who seldom treat the disease. The CDC and Puerto Rico health department are training doctors to monitor for warning signs of severe dengue, including abdominal pain, persistent vomiting and bleeding from the gums or nose. Unlike other diseases, where fever reduction is often a sign someone is getting better, the reverse is true for dengue.

Rivera, the emergency room pediatrician who recently treated 9-year-old Genesis, said she recognized the dengue symptoms in the young patient only because her own aunt and cousin had contracted dengue during the coronavirus pandemic. When Rivera rushed them to a hospital, doctors insisted the two had covid, not dengue. Her aunt almost died, Rivera said.

“There’s no rapid test for dengue,” Rivera said. “We have to diagnose it clinically.”

Genesis received intravenous fluids in the hospital, and her platelet count gradually trended up. Three days later, she was allowed to go home. Despite her recovery, the girl remains vulnerable to a second infection.

The mosquitoes are out here, waiting to bite.

Laura M. Quintero contributed to this report.



Rafael Saavedra Hernandez looks for mosquitoes stuck to the glue on traps at a home in Bayamón, Puerto Rico.



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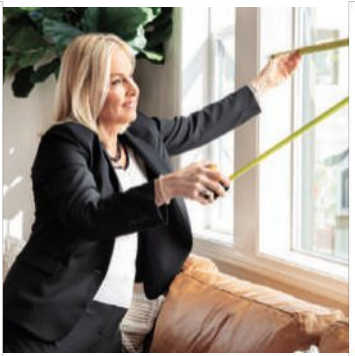
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THE WORLD

Weekend in Kharkiv: Beach, games, poetry jams, booms

As Russia pummels Ukraine’s second-largest city with glide bombs, residents relish the rituals of early summer — which they see as a form of resistance

BY SIOBHÁN O’GRADY,
KOSTIANTYN KHUDOV
AND SERHIY MORGUNOV

KHARKIV, UKRAINE — The beaming bride and groom posed in the street, kissing as cars wove around them.

No air raid sirens blared, but the backdrop was still war: boarded-up city hall to one side, a shop advertising the drones Ukrainian troops fly on the front lines to another.

When thousands of Russian forces poured into northeast Ukraine last month, it wasn’t clear whether the Kharkiv region could avoid reoccupation, or whether the country’s second-largest city — just 18 miles from the Russian border — would be safe for a wedding.

Rearmed with fresh supplies of weapons, and newly empowered by President Biden to strike targets on Russian soil, Ukraine’s military stalled the Russian ground assault. The relentless bombing, however, continues.

Fearing such attacks, at least 20 friends and relatives declined to attend the Friday afternoon wedding. Karima, 23, and Serhiy Kovalenko, 25, went ahead anyway. Serhiy — a contract soldier — is fighting on the southern front and had just 10 days off.

Despite the constant threat, Kharkiv is relishing the rituals of early summer. Seeking joy, residents say, is its own form of resistance against Russia. A Washington Post reporting team spent the weekend watching as the city and its people embraced life.

1. Friday afternoon — Music, not blasts

In a windowless room on the second floor of Kharkiv’s opera house, Armen Kaloyan jumped up from his seat again and again, to correct his actors as they ran lines for “A Zaporozhian Beyond the Danube,” premiering Sunday in the theater.

Outside, air alerts blared and explosions sounded in the distance. Inside, Kaloyan rushed upstairs to the main stage to observe a ballet rehearsal.

That stage, protected by a thick fireproof curtain, has been closed since 2022. The basement theater, which opened this spring, allowed performances to resume. “Kharkiv is going to stand,” Kaloyan said. “We’re unbreakable. We’re going to fight with what we are good at.”

An hour later, as Russia launched glide bombs on Ukrainian troops north of the city, dozens of people sat in the windowless basement theater as the singers — dressed in tuxedos and gowns — gave a Friday afternoon concert.

Veronika Koval, 45, belted out an aria from the opera “Samson and Delilah” — her voice almost too big for the small room.

“It’s impossible to constantly listen to ‘boom, boom,’” Koval said afterward. “We also need to listen to music.”

2. Friday evening — Rites of passage

In a bomb shelter, high school seniors — gold sashes slung across their chests — took selfies before their graduation. Inside, phones flashed with air raid alerts as students and teachers performed dance routines.

“We are the graduates of Kharkiv, the hero city!” the teenagers shouted from the underground stage. Parents cheered. Balloons sailed through the air.

Many students attended all of high school online — first because of the coronavirus pandemic, then because of Russia’s invasion.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Young men negotiate prices for flowers outside a bar in Kharkiv. Leaves from a damaged tree blanket the ground at the site of a Russian glide bomb attack. A ballet troupe rehearses at the opera house. “Kharkiv is going to stand,” said Armen Kaloyan, who was directing the dancers at the opera house. “We’re unbreakable. We’re going to fight with what we are good at.”

But for one night, in a brightly lit basement, they left that all behind.

A short drive away, a small crowd gathered to hear local band Alcohol Ukulele play a street show. Ukulele player Anton Derbilov was missing. He was killed on the front line last year.

The crowd swayed to the music, singing along. Among them was Derbilov’s widow, Kateryna, his daughter Oksana and several soldiers fresh from the nearby front line. Derbilov’s best friend, Oleksandr, 35, who fought alongside him for nearly a year, was also there, on a short break from his unit’s position north of the city. Like most active-duty soldiers interviewed for this article, he spoke on the condition that his last name not be used, in accordance with military protocol.

“This is precisely what I’m fighting for,” he said. “For these peaceful moments.”

Soon after, the air raid alarm started again.

3. Saturday morning — War routines

At 7 a.m., in a nearly empty park in Kharkiv, Serhii Preskornyyk, 34, finished his daily run and dove into a freezing cold pool.

It was his 2,688th day running without a break. In the early days of the war, “every run was a risk,” he said. “And, in principle, this is still the case now.”

His own apartment has been

badly damaged twice — first by an S-300 missile in January, then by a glide bomb last month.

Before the war, he used running to raise money for environmental causes. Now he donates all the proceeds to the military.

By midmorning, Pavlo Makov, 65, was sitting with a cup of coffee in the Yermilov Center in Kharkiv, an art gallery that doubles as a bomb shelter. Makov is one of Ukraine’s most famous contemporary artists. He slept in the gallery at the start of the war, and now the space exhibits some of his signature works.

Although he tried to work from elsewhere in Europe during the war, he returned. To live away from home is “not life, it’s existence ... which is not very interesting,” he said.

To avoid falling victim to Russian strikes, he applied protective film to his apartment and studio windows. “I don’t want to please them by my death,” he said.

4. Saturday afternoon — Quiet, then boom

Kharkiv’s Central Park — which has been hit 70 times since 2022 — was nearly silent early Saturday afternoon. The park’s many amusement rides and sculptures are pockmarked from shrapnel.

Despite the few visitors, Mariia Zuiueva, 58, still comes to work each day to clean the bathroom and feed the fish living in a tank inside. She takes sedatives to stay

calm. Her son, who joined the military in 2022, is at home recovering after losing his leg in the battle for Bakhmut. “People are probably still afraid that there were a lot of hits in May, so that’s why it’s not so busy,” she said.

Shortly after, massive explosions rocked the city. A glide bomb landed smack in the middle of a busy street, burning all the cars waiting at a traffic light just a few yards away and destroying much of the building on the corner. A man’s body lay just outside. A woman’s lay near the main bus station across the street. Officials later said that two locations were bombed, killing three people and wounding more than 50, including children.

Volodymyr Pryshchepa, 46, jiggled his key in the back door of his furniture shop. Two hours earlier, he and his wife, Olena, 45, had closed early for lunch — probably saving their lives. The front of their shop was blown off in the blast. Almost everything inside the store, which had opened just days earlier, was destroyed.

Nearby, Kharkiv’s governor and mayor watched solemnly as workers sifted through the rubble searching for survivors. A rescue dog clambered through the collapsed building. Blood stained the sidewalks. Morgue workers wrapped a mutilated body in a foil blanket, placed it in a white bag and carried it into



PHOTOS BY SERHIY MORGUNOV FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

their van.

“Unfortunately, this is a scene we’ve seen many times,” Gov. Oleh Syniehubov said. “It’s not correct to get used to this.”

But Kharkiv residents have.

Blocks away, cafes and restaurants served drinks on patios. At the park where Preskornyyk ran that morning, families gathered around a small pond to fish.

5. Saturday evening — No canceled plans

Nataliia Fisun, 40, was on her way to the city with her son, Danylo, 11, when they heard the blasts. Her mother, Iryna, 68, rents fishing rods in the park, and they hoped to meet her for the evening.

Fisun called and asked her what to do. “I told them to come,” Iryna said. The place was packed — no one else seemed to be canceling their plans. “It’s very loud here, we got used to it,” she said. “Even kids were not scared.”

Later that night — at a bar just a seven-minute drive from the afternoon blast site — more than 100 young people gathered outside, drinking Ukrainian cherry wine.

Andrii, 29, a new naval recruit, was among them — on a short break from training. “Everyone’s got the right to have a rest from what’s going on,” he said.

6. Sunday morning — Preserving rituals

A group of regulars gathered

around table tennis tables under the shade of leafy trees, gossiping as they ran back and forth after the balls.

Pavlo, 80, lives nearby and has played nearly every day since he was 15. Several Russian strikes on the park near his house, including one that destroyed two table tennis tables, haven’t deterred him. He asked that his last name not be used, though, for security reasons.

When sirens blared early Sunday morning, he didn’t blink. Two years ago, the sounds of blasts made his chest compress, he said. Now, “we just stopped feeling fear.”

At a nearby church, parishioners gathered to celebrate the Feast of Trinity. Yevhen Kulyk, 33, was there with his wife, Taisiia, 27, and their children.

They are displaced from Vovchansk, a town north of Kharkiv that Russia tried to seize last month. Despite the constant threat of glide bombs, Yevhen still farms nearby.

Attending church “brings us together,” Taisiia said. “Like when people say, ‘Kharkivians, hold on.’ What should we hold on to? I believe we should hold on to our faith because it’s something that can’t be taken from us.”

7. Sunday afternoon — Beach, then bombs

The cool morning gave way to sticky afternoon heat. Seeking relief, dozens of locals headed to a popular lakeside beach in the city’s Saltivka neighborhood, which was heavily bombed in 2022.

Albina Nekhaieva, 28, who is six months pregnant, was there with her dad, Oleksii Toysa, 48. The day before, he was at a traffic light when a glide bomb landed nearby. He was unharmed and rushed to the scene. “People were covered with blood. ... I heard kids screaming,” he said. “This is insanity.”

He worries for his daughter, but she is determined to give birth in the city where she lives. “Kharkiv is my home,” she said. “I don’t want to leave.”

Two hours later, more glide bombs hit. One destroyed two houses, another struck a school. The shock waves knocked out all the windows in a neighboring apartment building.

One person was killed and a dozen wounded.

Valerii Volkov, 54, was returning home from a stroll when the first blast hit. He ran into his building, and the next explosion sent the heavy metal door slamming into his forehead.

On the eighth floor, Dasha Smirnova, 26, and her husband, Ihor, 31, sheltered in the hallway as their windows shattered.

They planned to sleep at a friend’s house that night, then maybe move out of Kharkiv for a while.

“Kharkiv is the best city in the world. I want to live here all my life,” she said. “But you can see it’s really difficult.”

8. Sunday evening — Powering on

An hour later, Ivan Senin, 30, took the stage in a small performance hall in Kharkiv. The poetry jam and concert was planned to raise money for the military — then was nearly canceled when the afternoon attacks knocked power out across the city.

Just after the strikes, Senin said, he passed by the central park on his way to the jam. “It looked peaceful,” he said.

“It’s not normal,” he added.

But neither is life in Kharkiv. Instead, it “is some kind of surrealism.”

DIGEST

NIGERIA Coordinated suicide bombings kill 18

Female suicide bombers targeted a wedding, a funeral and a hospital in coordinated attacks in northern Nigeria that killed at least 18 people, local authorities said Sunday.

The first bomber attacked a marriage celebration in the northeastern town of Gwoza, the head of the Borno State Emergency Management Agency, Barkindo Saidu, told reporters.

“Minutes later, another blast occurred near General Hospital,” Saidu said.

The third bomber, who attacked the funeral, was disguised as a mourner.

Children and pregnant women were among those killed. At least 30 others were wounded, and Saidu said injuries included abdominal ruptures and skull fractures.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attacks. Borno state has been heavily affected by the insurgency launched in 2009 by Boko Haram, the Islamist militant group.

— Associated Press

SUDAN Paramilitary group opens new front of war

Fighters from Sudan’s notorious paramilitary group looted homes and shops and took over the main hospital in a

central city, forcing tens of thousands to flee, residents said Sunday, as a new front opened in a 14-month war that has pushed the African country to the brink of famine.

The paramilitary Rapid Support Forces began its offensive against Sudan’s military in Sennar province last week, attacking the village of Jebel Moya before moving to the provincial capital, Singa, where fresh battles have erupted.

RSF fighters in pickup trucks mounting automatic rifles rampaged through Singa, about 220 miles southeast of the capital, Khartoum, over the weekend, according to residents and a local rights group. They looted houses and shops in a local market and took over the city’s main hospital,

they said.

The group claimed in a statement Saturday that it had seized the military’s main facility in Singa. Local media also reported that the RSF managed to breach the military’s defense. However, a spokesperson for the Sudanese armed forces said the military regained control of the facility and that fighting was still underway Sunday morning. Neither claim could be independently verified.

The Sudan Conflict Monitor, a group of experts and rights activists, said the RSF’s seizure of Singa is likely to have “severe humanitarian consequences” with potential future disruption of large-scale agricultural programs.

— Associated Press

Mauritania’s President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani is on track to secure a second mandate after positioning the country as a strategic ally of the West in a region swept by coups and violence, provisional election results showed. Ghazouani, who is seeking reelection on a pledge of providing security and economic growth, obtained 55 percent of votes, according to provisional results, the country’s independent electoral commission said Sunday afternoon. His main rival, anti-slavery activist Biram Dah Abeid, received 22 percent of votes, the commission said. Although Ghazouani’s opponents accused him of corruption and mismanagement, he remains popular.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán on Sunday presented a new alliance with Austria’s far-right Freedom Party and the main Czech opposition party, which hopes to attract other partners and become the biggest right-wing group in the European Parliament. Orbán traveled to Vienna to present the “Patriots for Europe” alliance of his Fidesz party with the Freedom Party and the ANO party. His visit came a day before Hungary takes over the European Union’s rotating presidency for six months. “Our objective is, and we believe that this will happen, that in a short time, this will be the strongest right-wing group in the European Parliament,” Orbán said.

— From news services

French voters boost far right, bash Macron’s centrists

FRANCE FROM A1

all French people” and promote “unity of the nation.” He then lashed out at the left and far left, now his main competition, saying they “would lead the country to disorder, to insurrection and the ruin of our economy.”

Le Pen declared in a speech Sunday night that voters had conveyed a “desire to turn the page after seven years of contemptuous and corrosive power.”

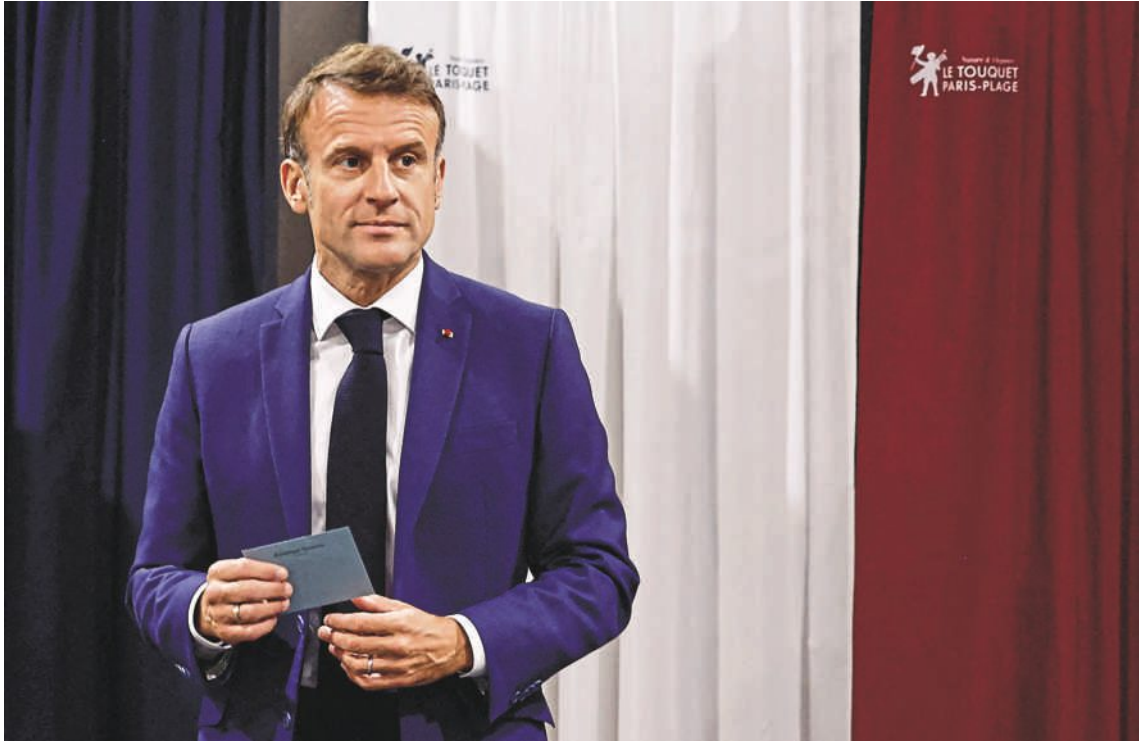
Macron did not acknowledge defeat. In a statement, he hailed the unusually high vote turnout and called for “a broad, clearly democratic and republican rally for the second round.” But the projected results suggested that his gamble in calling snap elections had backfired spectacularly and that his influence over French politics is rapidly waning.

Araud compared him with Napoleon Bonaparte when the French emperor launched his failed campaign to invade Russia in 1812. Many politicians who have supported Macron for years face the possibility of losing their seats, leaving him politically isolated.

Macron could stay on as president until his term expires in 2027 — and he has said he will not resign. But he wouldn’t be able to do much to prevent the adoption of laws passed by a far-right majority or enact new policies in the case of a hung parliament.

Sunday’s projected results are likely to cause alarm in many European capitals. France is one of the European Union’s original members, its second largest economy and a driving force in E.U. affairs. The National Rally party no longer advocates leaving the bloc, but many of its proposals are out of step with E.U. policies.

Another concern is whether the French far right might undermine Europe’s support for Ukraine and its stance on Russia. Le Pen is already challenging Macron’s hold on French foreign policy and defense, suggesting the president play a more honorary role as commander in chief of the armed forces.



French President Emmanuel Macron leaves the polling booth before casting his vote in the first round of parliamentary elections at a polling station in Le Touquet on Sunday.



Marine Le Pen, former president of the French far-right party National Rally, casts her vote in Henin-Beaumont.

“It’s possible that he underestimated the hate that he generates in a part of the population.”

Chloé Morin,
author and political analyst,
on Macron’s decision
to dissolve the National
Assembly

A hung parliament in France could unsettle European politics. France looks as if it is heading for “deadlock and confusion with an irreconcilably blocked National Assembly,” said Mujtaba Rahman, managing director for Europe at the Eurasia Group, a political risk consulting firm. “This spells bad news for France, the E.U. and Ukraine.”

In many ways, Sunday’s vote was a referendum on Macron, who founded a movement in his own image and upended French politics when he became the first modern president elected from outside the center-left and center-right parties that had dominated French politics for decades.

Having twice fended off Le Pen for the presidency, in 2017 and 2022, Macron was seen by his supporters as a masterful political strategist and perhaps the only French politician capable of derailing the rise of the far right.

But in the coming days, Macron’s centrist alliance could “ex-

plode,” said Pierre Mathiot, a political scientist at Sciences Po Lille. “The center right will reorganize itself without Macron,” he said.

Some of Macron’s critics accuse him of an imperial governing style and of decimating the traditional political parties in a way that made extreme parties the only viable outlets for anyone frustrated with his program.

The National Rally party grew out of a fringe movement co-founded by Le Pen’s father, Jean-Marie Le Pen, who repeatedly called the Nazi gas chambers a “detail” of history and reinforced the toxicity of the far right in many circles. But efforts by Marine Le Pen and Bardella to make the party more broadly appealing have yielded significant gains, and the party served Macron’s coalition a humiliating defeat in European Parliament elections on June 9.

While Macron wasn’t required to dissolve France’s National Assembly, he said he had little choice. If he had not called the

vote, he told reporters, “you would have told me: ‘This guy has lost touch with reality.’ ”

He seemed to be betting that the possibility of a far-right government would mobilize his supporters and reinforce his party’s mandate. But he appears to have both underestimated the far right and the French left, which — despite deep divisions — was able to cobble together a broad alliance, unified at least in part by opposition to Macron.

Although turnout on Sunday was more on par with a presidential election than a legislative first round, it appeared to primarily benefit the National Rally and the leftist alliance.

“It’s possible that he underestimated the hate that he generates in a part of the population,” said Chloé Morin, an author and political analyst.

Racist and antisemitic rhetoric and conspiracy theories spread by National Rally candidates came under scrutiny during the campaign sprint — and amplified questions about whether the party’s rebranding was merely window dressing. Almost 1 in 5 of National Rally’s candidates for parliament have made “racist, antisemitic and homophobic remarks,” French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal said in a televised

debate Thursday.

Many voters appeared underterred by these concerns.

On Sunday, far-left leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon cast his New Popular Front coalition as “the only alternative” to National Rally, amid the Macron alliance’s losses.

He said leftist candidates would drop out of races where they had placed third and risked splitting the vote in the second round, helping National Rally candidates win. That vow put pressure on Macron and his allies to promise the same.

Projections show that up to 315 second-round races could be between more than two candidates.

Attal said, vaguely, that the centrist alliance would withdraw candidates if their presence could prevent the victory of “another candidate — who, like us — defends the values of the Republic.”

But Macron has at times portrayed the far left as equally dangerous as the far right.

Mathiot, the political scientist, said the number of races with more than two candidates could be decisive next Sunday. “If there are many triangular races, the National Rally will have an absolute majority,” he said.

Rauhala reported from Brussels and Timsit from Nice, France.

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DEFECTORS FROM AI

their new names be used.

North Korea, run by the totalitarian Kim regime for almost eight decades, has long been one of the world's most reclusive and repressive countries, a dire place in which to live but an extremely difficult place from which to escape.

It was in the late 1990s, at the height of a devastating famine in the North, that waves of escapees started arriving in the South, almost all of them taking an overland route across the relatively porous border into China, then to Mongolia or down through Southeast Asia, where they could fly to South Korea.

Some 33,000 North Koreans had arrived in the South that way. But that stopped in January 2020, when Kim Jong Un slammed shut the borders and then erected new barbed-wire fencing and watchtowers — making it impossible for anyone to cross into China without permission.

Kim has now essentially ushered in a “zero escapees era,” human rights advocates say.

While some North Koreans who were already outside the country when the pandemic struck, such as laborers sent to Russia, have arrived in South Korea since 2021, only 15 or so people have been able to flee North Korea and make it south, according to estimates from defector-support organizations. That number includes Kang and her family.

That makes their account extremely valuable. Yet North Korean escapees’ stories are notoriously difficult to corroborate because journalists can’t reach residents or officials who can confirm their accounts. Kang’s aunt and the male family friend who steered their boat declined to be interviewed.

The Post cross-checked Kang’s account with two advocacy organizations in Seoul that have interviewed her — the Database Center for North Korean Human Rights and Liberty in North Korea — and confirmed that key details were relayed consistently. The Post met Kang and her mother independently of the advocacy groups.

Julie Turner, U.S. special envoy for North Korean human rights issues, has also met with Kang and was struck by the lengths to which she went to escape.

“The desperation piece has stuck with me,” Turner said, noting that North Koreans are having to resort to boats. “People are still so hungry for opportunities that they’re looking at these much more treacherous routes.”

The land route through China carried immense risks, including repatriation to North Korea — and extreme punishment — if caught. But in China, a network of brokers and activists helped North Koreans to safety. It was expensive and dangerous, but it was possible.

Escaping by sea is even riskier: Those fleeing must contend with border patrols on the coast and at sea, as well as woefully inadequate boats and unpredictable weather. Even seasoned North Koreans struggle to fish given the challenging conditions: Battered wooden “ghost ships” regularly wash up on Japan’s western shores, carrying the corpses of fishermen who have starved at sea.

Kang and her mother had heard of other families who fled on boats. It wasn’t until they arrived in South Korea that they realized none of those families made it alive.

If escapees make it to the South’s waters, they risk South Korean patrols mistaking them as hostile intruders — and potentially firing on them.

The water route may not even last much longer, with North Korea erecting new fencing around its coastlines to try to stop people from accessing the sea.

But for Kang and her family, the sea was the only way out. And they were only able to make the journey because they lived near the coast and Kang had a boat because she worked in the fishing industry.

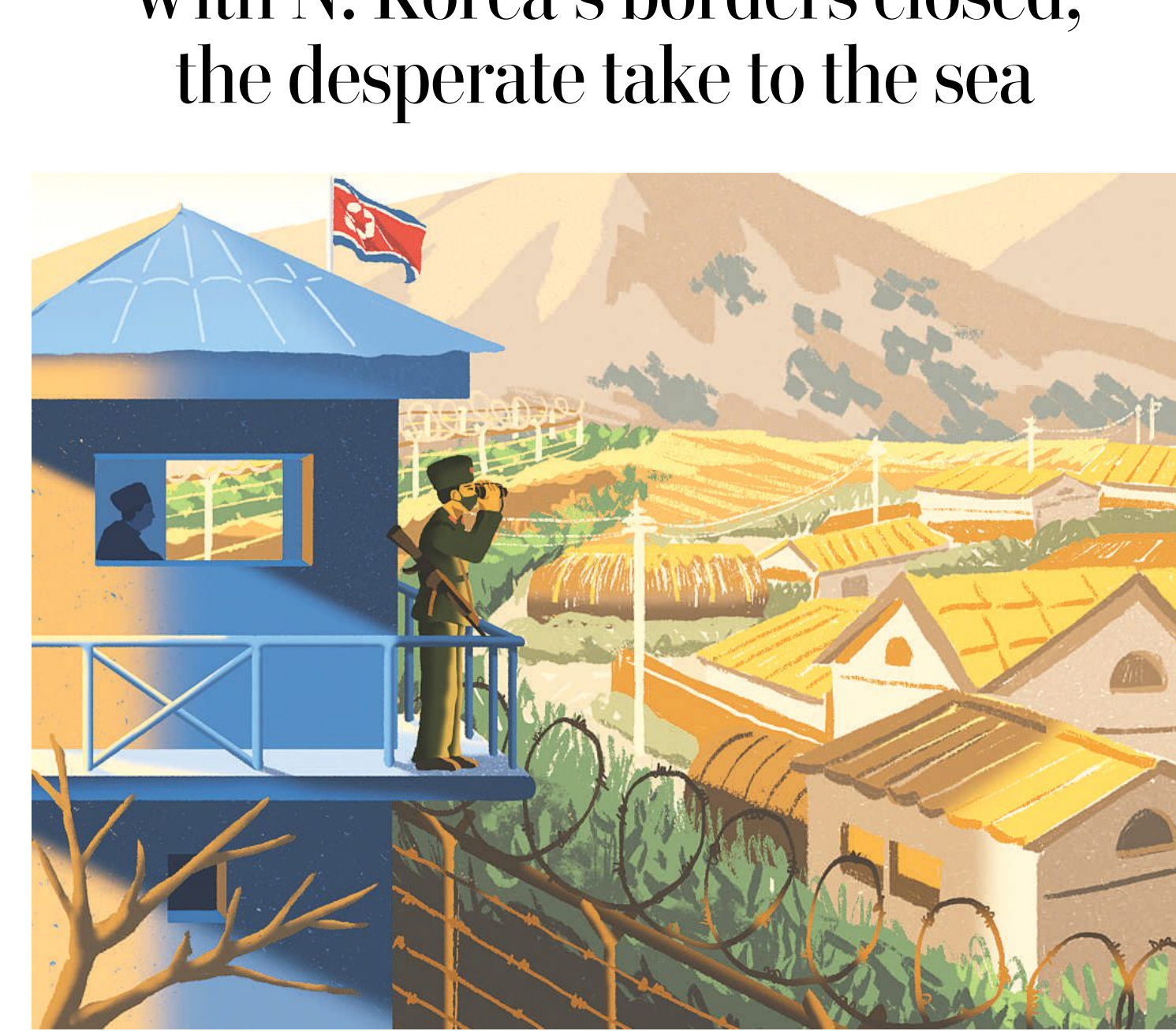
This is just one family’s story, but it is one that reflects just how difficult it has become for ordinary people to live in North Korea — and to escape it.

New, ‘suffocating’ pressures

Kang and Kim lived a middle-class life in South Hamgyong province on the east coast, although they were far from the border with China, where almost all trade happened. That didn’t matter much before the pandemic because the market economy had well and truly taken hold across North Korea.

But then came the border closures. Then crackdowns on food vendors and the markets that sustain the North Korean economy, they said. Their quality of life deteriorated sharply.

“We talk about how life felt hard in 2019 [before the pandemic], but now that we look back,



ILLUSTRATIONS BY MIKYUNG LEE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

“They just kept flashing, flashing, flashing their lights. They wouldn’t let up. I wondered, is it time for the pills? My heart was beating so much.”

Kang Gyu-rin, on contemplating suicide while being pursued by a North Korean patrol ship

those were the good years. It will be difficult to return to the way we lived then,” Kang said.

Items that used to trickle into the country from China became exponentially more expensive or disappeared, they said. The shortage of inventory showed Kang just how much her country depended on its northern neighbor, she said.

“Even sewing needles became 10 times more expensive. I wondered why, and of course, they turned out to be a Chinese product. I realized how little my country actually produces,” Kang said.

The Post cannot independently verify her claims, but South Korean officials and reporting from North Korea-monitoring websites have similarly reported on price hikes and cash shortages created by crackdowns.

“There needs to be a flow of products into the markets, either through production from North Korean companies or via China, but neither of those things were happening,” said Lee Sang-yong, director of research and analysis at Daily NK, a media outlet with informants in the North, including in Kang’s home province.

These pressures are “suffocating” residents who can no longer navigate the markets like they used to, said Kim, who is 54. She recalled the famine of the 1990s and the capitalist smarts it took for people to survive it — making, selling or buying items they could trade for food.

“Now, it feels unsustainable even for the savviest,” Kim said. “The government is taking over [the markets], but they’re not giving us anything else in return.”

Kang recalled the summer of 2022, when the North Korean regime first publicly admitted to a coronavirus outbreak. North Korea then claimed it eradicated the “fever” virus in just three months, and that just 74 “fever” patients — about 0.0003 percent of its population — died, which would make North Korea’s covid fatality rate the lowest in the world.

Experts believe it is an undercount of the true toll of the spread

of the virus, especially given North Korea’s lack of coronavirus testing kits and vaccines. Kang believes she and nearly everyone she knew caught the virus then. The mismatch between the regime’s version of events and the reality on the ground sowed another seed of distrust.

Kang’s recollections, together with accounts from some other recent escapees, are early indicators of potentially profound shifts that took place inside North Korea during the pandemic, said Sokeel Park of Liberty in North Korea.

The extreme restrictions on movement, coupled with acute

food shortages, have torn up the implicit social contract that enabled people to fend for themselves if the government can’t provide, Park said. This raises bigger questions about how North Korean people view their government, he said.

“Different escapees are telling us independently that North Korean people’s sentiment and mentality evolved significantly during the pandemic in a more disaffected and skeptical direction,” Park said.

A chase, then a welcome

After Kang dropped out of college during the pandemic to make money, she bought the boat with her mom’s help — her mother had \$4,000 in savings, a fortune in North Korea — to start a small fishing operation.

Business was brutal, she said. Diesel was expensive, the boat kept needing repairs, she had to pay workers even when there was no seafood to catch.

She kept track of inventory and revenue in bookkeeping notebooks, which she brought south and showed a Post reporter. They confronted her with a grim reality: The business was not sustainable.

She’d always known the boat could help her escape one day. But she started seriously planning her escape last spring, mapping out her steps and routes, and put her plan into motion the evening of Oct. 22, 2023.

Preparing for their journey, they packed water, dried noodles, bread, rice and sleeping pills — which they agreed to take if it became clear they would be caught by the North Korean coast guard. They preferred a peaceful death to execution or prison camps.

The waves that night were unexpectedly high, lifting their boat off the water at each crest and crashing it down at each trough, Kang and Kim said.

Still, they were making progress. They were about two hours from crossing the maritime border. Then they spotted a North Korean patrol ship heading toward them.

“They just kept flashing, flashing, flashing their lights. They wouldn’t let up,” Kang said. “I wondered, is it time for the pills? My heart was beating so much.”

Kim, who was comforting her seasick sister, said all she could do was pump out water and pray for survival: “I hoped that the heavens did not send us on this journey just to die.”

It’s unclear why the patrol vessel did not intercept them. The moment they reached the maritime border, the lights disappeared, the patrol boat heading back north, they said.

It was about 7 a.m. on Oct. 24 when blowfish catcher Lim Jaegil spotted Kang’s boat. He had heard warnings on the radio transmitter that North Korean law enforcement vessels were heading south, and immediately knew this was the boat they had been chasing.

He had never seen anything like Kang’s boat in more than a decade of fishing off South Korea’s east coast, about 35 miles away from the border. It looked like it should have been sent to the scrapyard long ago, Lim, 62, said in an interview.

Lim called the authorities while he steered toward it. When he got close, one of the North Koreans asked: “Where are we?”

“Sokcho, in Gangwon province,” Lim replied. “Are you from North Korea?”

The North Koreans nodded. “Well done,” Lim said.

The four boarded Lim’s boat and waited for the South Korean coast guard. Lim offered the arrivals cigarettes and water. The North Koreans had packed plenty of both, but Kang said they accepted because they wanted to experience the taste of South Korean cigarettes and water.

The man took one puff of the cigarette and flicked it into the sea. “It was so much weaker than the cigarettes we were used to,” Kang recalled.

As for the water: “It was the same. It’s water,” she said, laughing. “But everything felt so interesting at the time.”

A new life in the South

Like many North Koreans, Kang learned about life in the South through its television programs, which she started watching as a teen. It was illegal, but everyone did it.

Kang is among the cohort of North Koreans who grew up after the famine, learning to navigate capitalism and access products from China and South Korea — including TV shows and movies that opened their eyes to life in a rich and free society. They have become more exposed to the outside world and disillusioned with their own government, experts say.

“We don’t believe [the propaganda],” Kang said. “Maybe our parents did way back when, but I don’t know any of that myself. ... I’ve seen lots of dramas, and I knew life in North Korea was really awful.”

It’s because of this generation’s awareness of life outside North Korea — and the threat this knowledge poses to the long-term survival of the regime — that Kim Jong Un has cracked down on foreign influence, from fashion to slang. In December 2020, North Korea adopted a law “rejecting reactionary ideology and culture,” according to state media.

Tightening controls, down to her earring choices, made Kang feel like a “kindergartner,” she said.

Kang no longer has to worry about such demands. She wears gold-colored jewelry and colored contact lenses, and has dyed her hair reddish-brown. Her smartphone is constantly buzzing, and her drink of choice — like most every other South Korean Gen Zer’s — is iced coffee.

Now, Kang is preparing for college and hopes to one day study abroad. Her mother, who is looking for a job, worries about the long hours her daughter spends studying.

They brought little with them from North Korea. But Kang has her bookkeeping notebooks, their pages damaged from the waves, and looks at them to motivate herself through hardships. She also has a photo she took at a studio in the North. Its caption reads: “To a life that is always filled with exciting and happy times.”



Gaza’s last hospitals on verge of closure, officials warn

BY JENNIFER HASSAN,
CLAIRE PARKER,
SARAH DADOUCH
AND HEIDI LEVINE

Gaza’s remaining hospitals, health centers and oxygen stations will stop working within 48 hours as the fuel needed to operate generators runs out, Gaza’s Health Ministry said in a statement shared to Telegram at noon local time Sunday.

Israel’s closure of the vital Rafah border crossing in May severed key supply lines, limiting access to food, fuel and medical supplies inside the enclave, aid groups say. A U.N. report released last month said more than 1 million people in Gaza are expected to “face death and starvation” by mid-July.

Many of Gaza’s medical facilities have been damaged, raided or evacuated since Oct. 7. Israel has made hospitals a key target of its military campaign, alleging Hamas uses them for militant activity.

UNRWA, the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees, said last week that a “severe shortage of medicine & fuel” was delaying lifesaving operations by its teams inside the enclave. The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) warned Friday that the lack of medicine and fuel “has forced aid organizations to scale back their services.”

Fuel shortages in Gaza also mean water sanitation and hygiene services are “hanging by a thread,” OCHA added.

Rabih Torbay, CEO of the aid organization Project Hope, said his teams were “minimizing movements to conserve fuel.”

“Hospital generators are running out, and our team is desperately trying to get some so the surgeries don’t stop,” he said.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces continue to operate in the Shejaiya neighborhood of Gaza City, the Israel Defense Forces said Sunday. Last week, the IDF ordered residents to evacuate the densely packed area, citing the presence of militants, as strikes intensified. OCHA said Friday that between 60,000 and 80,000 people had been displaced as a result.

Israel’s military said it killed



PHOTOS BY HEIDI LEVINE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

ABOVE: Israeli troops exit the Gaza Strip on Sunday during a military operation in the Shejaiya neighborhood of Gaza City.

LEFT: Smoke rises above Shejaiya on Saturday during an Israeli military operation. Civilians were ordered to evacuate last week.



“dozens” of militants in “close-quarters combat and with aerial fire support,” and raided Hamas hideouts and weapons warehouses.

In Rafah, in the south, Israeli soldiers discovered “several sig-

nificant tunnel shafts” and destroyed a rocket launch site, the IDF said.

“This is a difficult fight that is being waged above ground, sometimes in hand-to-hand combat, and below ground as well,”

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said during a government meeting Sunday, vowing “absolute victory over Hamas.”

Here’s what else to know

- Thousands of ultra-Orthodox Jews gathered in Jerusalem on Sunday night to protest last week’s Israeli Supreme Court ruling that yeshiva students be conscripted into the Israeli military. Protesters lobbed rocks at police and held signs that read, “We will not sacrifice our children on the altar of Zionism.” Ultra-Orthodox parties have threatened to withdraw from Netanyahu’s government if he fails to find a work-around, which could lead to the collapse of his coalition.

- Lebanon’s Hezbollah militant group said Sunday it targeted a command headquarters in the Beit Hillel barracks in northern Israel. The Israeli military later said that sirens sounded in the area after a launch was “identified crossing into Israeli territory and falling in an open area.” No injuries or damage were reported, the IDF said.
- Six people, including children, were killed in an Israeli strike on a family home in the southern Gaza city of Rafah, according to Wafa, the official Palestinian news agency. The IDF did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the strike.
- Hamas official Osama Ham-

dan accused Israel of holding up cease-fire negotiations, adding in a news conference Saturday that the group’s officials “follow with regret the position of the American administration, which insists on holding Hamas responsible for obstructing reaching an agreement.” The White House has urged Hamas accept the proposal. Netanyahu on Sunday said Hamas “is the only obstacle to the release of our hostages,” though he said last week that he would only accept a partial deal that would free some hostages but allow Israel to continue the war.

- Far-right Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich on Sunday defended a government decision to expand Israel’s footprint in the West Bank. He said he intended to prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state, which he said would be “an immediate, existential danger to the state of Israel.” Israel’s security cabinet on Thursday approved the legalization of five West Bank outposts as well as sanctions against Palestinian Authority officials, Smotrich said in a statement. Most countries consider Israeli settlements in the West Bank to be illegal under international law.
- An Israeli airstrike Sunday targeted the home of relatives of the militant commander known as Abu Shujaa in the Nur al-Shams refugee camp, in the West Bank town of Tulkarm. Abu Shujaa is the top commander of the Islamic Jihad-affiliated Tulkarm battalion. One person was killed and five injured in the attack, according to Palestinian health authorities.
- At least 37,877 people have been killed and 86,969 injured in Gaza since the war started, according to the Gaza Health Ministry. It does not distinguish between civilians and combatants but says the majority of the dead are women and children. Israel estimates that about 1,200 people were killed in Hamas’s Oct. 7 attack, including more than 300 soldiers, and it says 316 soldiers have been killed since the start of its military operations in Gaza.

Alon Rom and Suzan Haidamouz contributed to this report.

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ECONOMY & BUSINESS

TECH FRIEND

Is that app sketchy? Here are three easy ways to check.

Companies have every reason to get personal info from your phone

BY SHIRA OVIDE

Downloading an unfamiliar app is like inviting a stranger into your home. It will *probably* be okay, but it's smart to do some checking first.

Companies have every incentive to gobble personal information from your phone or nag you to pay for a crummy app. It's unfair, but you're mostly on your own to preserve your privacy, security and safety from scams.

You don't need to be Sherlock Holmes to sleuth out potentially suspect apps. Just spend a few minutes doing these three spot checks to look for red flags:

Search for 'sell' in the privacy policy

No one reads privacy policies, but California law gives you a shortcut to just the juicy parts.

The state requires companies to give a clear explanation of what information they collect and what they do with it.

(To find the documents, I search the web for the app name and "privacy policy.") Then search for "sell" or "selling," suggested Jen Caltrider, a privacy researcher with the Mozilla Foundation. Or try "California" or "state."

Searching The Washington Post's privacy policy for "selling" jumps straight to a paragraph that says the company and its advertisers collect the approximate location of your phone or computer ("IP addresses") and the places you surf around the web ("cookies").

The Post says it shares that information with other companies or mixes it with other businesses' databases about you to target ads.

The California-mandated disclosures help you make an informed decision about whether you trust a company with this information.

The more data companies

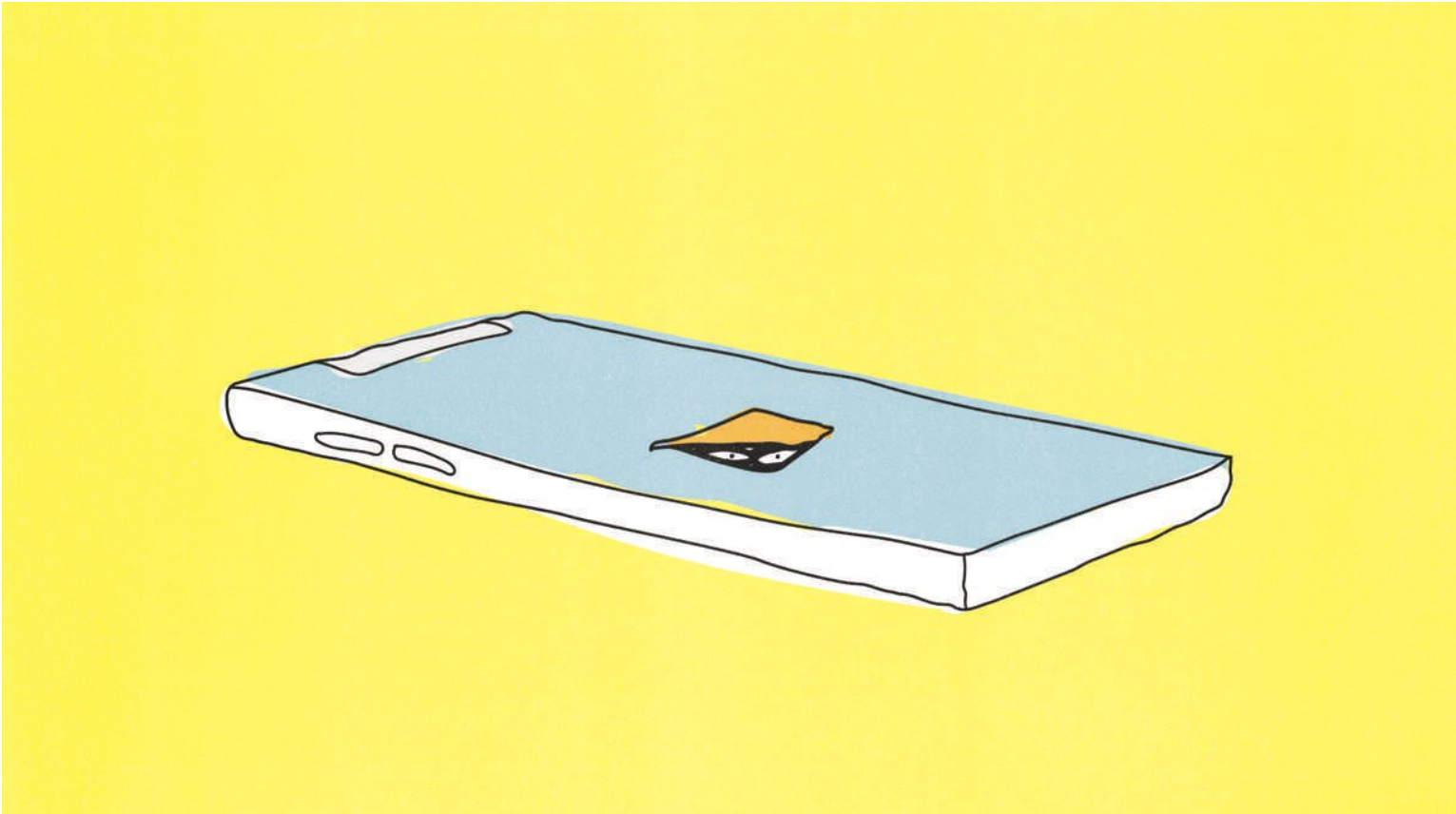


ILLUSTRATION BY ELENA LACEY/THE WASHINGTON POST



MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

You're mostly on your own to preserve your privacy, security and safety with apps. "Trust your gut," says Thorin Klosowski, security and privacy activist for the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

have about your whereabouts or your activities, the more risk that information could fall into the wrong hands or be used for unnerving advertising or to jack up your car insurance.

Not all privacy policies have California sections. When they do, it's a great gut check before you use an app.

Some companies put California data collection disclosures in a handy chart, as Intuit does.

The California-mandated information applies to everyone, though you may not have the privacy legal rights of California residents.

You can also get a vibe from skimming a privacy policy.

The policy from podcast app Pocket Casts is admirably clear. Or if a privacy policy is super vague like Wombo's, whose app generates AI images such as a pregnant Travis Kelce, Caltrider said, that's a potential red flag.

Check the popularity of one-star reviews

In smartphone app store rat-

ings, five-star ratings typically are the most common, said Adam Lynn, a researcher for Reset.Tech, an organization supporting democratic values in digital media.

If one-star ratings are the second-most common, Lynn said, that's abnormal and not a great sign of customer satisfaction.

The iPhone app store and Android's Google Play store show only bar images rather than the precise number of each star rating.

Eyeball it. If the numbers of one- and four-star ratings look close, it's worth digging into the reviews.

Check app permissions in the Google Play store

Anyone can go to play.google.com, search for an app and click its name.

To the right of "About this app," click the arrow. Scroll to the section with "Permissions" and click "View details." (Caltrider prefers the Google disclosures to those in Apple's app store.)

If you see that the permissions for a weather app include access to your phone contacts, that seems unnecessary and may show the app is overly invasive, said Thorin Klosowski, security and privacy activist for the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

Why does Chase's app need your location, contacts and your microphone to record audio? (Chase said location data helps find nearby bank branches, microphone permissions are for virtual meetings with financial advisers and contacts access is to send money with Zelle.)

Apps might not collect all the information listed in their permissions, and you can typically say no or turn off access. It's still not great when an app wants information it doesn't really need.

Klosowski said these spot checks don't need to be flawless. You're trying to feel if something seems off about an app.

"Trust your gut," he said. "We all have pretty good scam indicators, we just don't always have them on."

Her guacamole recipe tops Google's results. Now she fears AI will change that.

Tech Brief

WILL OREMUS

If you Google "guacamole," there's a good chance your top result will be Lisa Bryan's recipe. Titled "Best Ever Guacamole (Fresh, Easy & Authentic)," it calls for a classic mélange of avocados, Roma tomatoes, cilantro, garlic, onion, lime, jalapeño and sea salt.

That prime placement on a popular search query is Bryan's meal ticket. But she fears artificial intelligence will soon snatch it away.

A former health-care executive from Southern California, Bryan burned out in her career a decade ago and started posting recipes online for family and friends. Now she runs a food and lifestyle blog called Downshiftology, where she advocates "taking life down a notch" and savoring simple pleasures. She employs a full-time social media manager, has 2.5 million YouTube followers and says her website reaches 130 million people a year.

Hers is a success story made possible in large part by Google Search, which directs millions of people to her blog — with noticeable boosts ahead of the Super Bowl and Cinco de Mayo, when searches for guacamole peak. But as Google shifts from traditional search results toward answering users' questions directly with AI, independent web publishers like Bryan fear for their livelihoods.

Now the bloggers have taken their case to Congress.



LISA BRYAN

Guacamole made by Lisa Bryan using her recipe, which is high on Google's list of results for the dish.

Last week, they staged an "Independents' Day" lobbying push on Capitol Hill. The event was organized by a company called Raptive, which handles advertising and marketing for online publishers and helps them rank highly in search results — giving it a vested interest in beating back AI.

Bryan is among thousands who signed an open letter to Congress from Raptive CEO Michael Sanchez urging scrutiny of Google's "AI Overviews." Several of those creators also met

with staffers and lawmakers from their home states.

"This new product takes revenue and copyrighted content from publishers and creators without consent or compensation, competing directly with creators and giving nothing in return," the letter argues. It calls on Congress to push tech companies to pay content creators when their work is used to train AI tools, and to press Google to commit that its AI answers won't reduce traffic to third-party websites.

Raptive shared the open letter and an accompanying report — including survey results from its clients about the importance of Google's search engine to their business — with the Tech Brief.

The group isn't pushing specific legislation but asked lawmakers hold hearings and pressure the tech industry to do right by web creators.

While big media companies may be able to bring tech giants to the negotiating table, Sanchez said, Raptive's clients don't have that kind of clout. Among the

creators who were to meet with lawmakers were a crochet and craft designer from Michigan, a personal blogger from Minnesota, and two brothers from Tennessee who run the country music site Country Rebel.

Bryan did not make the trip to D.C. but said she has been urging her audience to trust and follow individual creators over AI answers. "All of my recipes are tasted and tested, and that is something a chatbot cannot do," she said.

Google contends that the fear of AI answers disrupting the web economy is misplaced.

The feature is intended to complement search results, not replace them, Google spokesperson Brianna Duff said. AI Overviews show up only on certain searches, when Google's systems predict that they can be especially helpful — such as when the user wants a summary of information from a range of sources.

The company has also said sources cited in an AI Overview get more traffic than those that appear in traditional search results. And CEO Sundar Pichai told the Verge in May that Google recognizes the value of the web ecosystem, which its AI answers depend on.

Still, the feature stumbled out of the gate, as users posted viral screenshots of Google's AI suggesting that people eat rocks or put glue in their pizza. In response, the company has temporarily pulled back on the number of searches that trigger AI responses while it tries to work

out the kinks. But some experts say the problem of low-quality answers may not be fully solved anytime soon.

Web creators are the latest group to join a growing backlash against tech firms' unauthorized use of their work to train chatbots, image generators and other generative AI tools.

Artists, authors and media organizations have sued OpenAI, the maker of ChatGPT, and other AI companies alleging copyright infringement. Others have struck licensing deals allowing the firms to use their work for a price. Last week, a group of record labels sued a pair of AI music companies that use software to generate songs on-demand based on a user's prompts.

How the lawsuits will play out remains an open question. Tech firms argue that training AI systems on others' published work without permission amounts to "fair use" under copyright law, because their software transforms the work into something new and original.

But they seem to be losing ground in the court of public opinion, and some tech executives' public statements aren't helping.

OpenAI's chief technology officer, Mira Murati, drew criticism last week for a recent talk in which she said that "some creative jobs maybe will go away" as AI tools replace them while assuring that those tools will help others be more creative. As for the jobs lost in the bargain, she added, "maybe they shouldn't have been there in the first place."

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The Washington Post



Oversight Board plans a second act

META FROM A1

Oversight Board administration director, will lead the new organization, which has applied to be an “Out-of-Court Dispute Settlement body” in Ireland.

Oversight Board co-chair Helle Thorning-Schmidt said in a statement that “the Oversight Board Trust is exploring such initiatives, which would have to be fully independent of the Board.”

Some employees and board members worry the focus on minor content moderation cases could jeopardize the group's original mission to hold accountable a social network used by billions. In the board's early days, reporters covered its decisions on hate speech, coronavirus misinformation and the ban of former president Donald Trump like Oval Office briefings. Some experts hailed the board — which could overrule even Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg — as a new model for social media governance.

Four years later, industry shifts have thrust the Oversight Board into limbo. Like many social media companies, Meta has weakened or cut many of the systems and staffers who once guarded the platform against potential harms, changing its focus to comply with the landmark European law. Some watchdogs criticize the board as a slow-moving organization with a hefty price tag, and question its relevance to the company, regulators and the general public.

The board, meanwhile, is trying to bolster its influence, appointing new leaders with a mandate to take on a bigger, more productive caseload with less money from Meta.

“In order for it to have power, Meta needs to believe that it is adding value,” said Evelyn Douek, an assistant professor of law at Stanford who has studied the board. “The board still has to prove its worth.”

A ‘major experiment’

Noah Feldman conceived of the Oversight Board while on a grueling 2018 bike ride through the hills of Old La Honda Road in the North Bay. His college classmate — Meta's then-COO Sheryl Sandberg — had booked the Harvard law professor meetings with

the company's policy officials to learn more about the problems facing social media companies.

In Feldman's opinion, many of the most contentious issues at the company fell outside its employees' expertise.

What Facebook needs is a Supreme Court, he thought — a group of people from different fields who could use their experience to make tough calls. Feldman typed up a 1,200-word memo and sent it to Sandberg out of courtesy. Sandberg, initially skeptical, passed it to Zuckerberg.

He latched on.

In the absence of regulation, private companies were forced to determine the bounds of acceptable speech, Zuckerberg reasoned.

“This is a major experiment in governance,” Zuckerberg said in 2019. “If it's successful, this board could become an important part of how online expression and communities work”

Meta put \$130 million into an independent trust in 2019 for the board to use for the next six years. Three years later, Meta added another \$150 million donation. It never specified how much funding it would provide in the future.

The Oversight Board's decisions on whether to remove pieces of content are binding — out-ranking even Zuckerberg. Its recommendations on overall policies and rules are considered, but not automatically enforced. Cases are decided and written by a five-board-member panel and then sent to the whole board for a vote — a process that is supposed to take 90 days or less.

The group was controversial from the start. Some Meta critics, including NAACP President Derrick Johnson and former Facebook investor Roger McNamee, questioned whether the board could be truly independent from a company that funds it. They formed their own coalition, cheekily called “The Real Facebook Oversight Board.”

Meanwhile, some Meta employees, especially those on the content policy team, were wary of a group of outsiders making binding decisions on the company's policies, some of the people said.

“Some people were very excited about it,” said one former Meta



ARTUR WIDAK/NURPHOTO/GETTY IMAGES

Meta's offices in Dublin. The company's Oversight Board, hailed as a model for internet governance, finds itself in limbo because of industry shifts. The board has also been criticized as slow-moving.

employee, who spoke on the condition of anonymity for fear of damaging business relationships. “Other people viewed it as more of an intrusion into the way we've always done business.”

Proponents have called the Oversight Board a model in internet governance, offering decisions that have changed how the company operates. After the Oversight Board criticized Meta's manipulated media policy in February, for example, the social media company followed the group's recommendations and expanded its AI-labeling strategy to a wider range of video, audio and images.

Board members pushed for transparency, urging the company to publish or share its highly secretive list of dangerous organizations and individuals, who users are banned from praising on the platform. Fearful of endangering its own employees, Meta didn't release the list, but eventually agreed to give the board periodic updates on its contents, according to two people familiar with the matter.

Yet the board has also faced criticism from some academics and tech policy analysts that it is slow-moving, issuing too few consequential decisions with broad impacts in the industry. The Oversight Board has acknowledged its decisions arrive after the 90-day deadline, attributing some missed deadlines in a 2023 transparency report to “staff taking leave during the December holiday period.”

Last year, the Oversight Board pledged to increase its speed, expediting some decisions and offering summary decisions, made by a five-member panel without a full vote. Thorning-Schmidt, the former prime minister of Denmark, said the board completed more than 50 cases in 2023, surpassing previous years, and is on track to exceed that number in 2024.

“For [the Oversight Board] to have power, Meta needs to believe that it is adding value. The board still has to prove its worth.”

Evelyn Douek,
an assistant professor of law at Stanford

“We've always made it clear that we were never a numbers game,” she added, conveying the board “increasingly prioritizes cases that can really show you something about how Meta is moderating content.”

‘Under the microscope’

Oversight Board leaders have long understood that its dependence on Meta's funding made it vulnerable.

By 2020, Oversight Board staffers started pitching internet platforms with similar free speech challenges to develop their own content guidelines with the board, people familiar with the matter said. The tech companies largely turned down the offer, saying “We don't need to be under the microscope,” according to one person familiar with the effort, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to reveal sensitive business negotiations about which they were not authorized to speak.

But Meta's own financial situation shifted in late 2022, when the collapse of digital advertising prompted the Menlo Park, Calif.-based company to start shedding thousands of jobs.

Meta signaled to the Oversight Board leaders that they, too, should streamline costs, implying that the company might not keep funding at its current level, according to four people familiar with the matter. There is an “adjustment to our budget that we believe comes from the adjustment that Meta has done in their own budget over the past year,” Thorning-Schmidt said.

Meta Director of Governance Jennifer Broxmeyer, who oversees the company's relationship with the board, said the tech giant is protective of the group's independence and didn't pressure it to cut jobs, adding that the company expects to continue funding the board in the future.

Meanwhile, the Oversight

Board's administration was already working on its second act: helping companies like Meta comply with the DSA, passed in 2022. The board could evaluate the dangers of online platforms — a risk assessment mandated by the law — or create the settlement bodies to allow users to dispute company decisions, people familiar with the matter said.

The appeals idea took off, with Hughes laying the groundwork with E.U. regulators who would need to approve the effort. A group of trustees was appointed to oversee the new appeals center, while former executive vice president Amy Studdart was tapped to become the interim director. The Oversight Board administration has been searching for a permanent director while also filling the gap left behind by workers who were laid off in recent months.

The DSA made the board's services more appealing to other tech companies. The Oversight Board administrators touted the group's experience in making impartial decisions about contentious content moderation challenges facing Meta, according to a slide-deck pitch, which was viewed by The Washington Post.

Participating platforms will benefit “from the Oversight Board's tried-and-tested knowledge and experience managing user appeals” the deck said.

Broxmeyer said in a statement that “Meta has said before that it is supportive of the Board exploring potential alignment with the Digital Services Act and a broader cross-section of industry in this way.”

Behind the scenes, the center is controversial. Some members worry it will shift the perception of the group from an organization that issues thoughtful policy opinions to one that makes pro forma content moderation decisions for European users. It's also not clear whether the new appeals center or any other DSA-focused initiatives will be enough to fund the organization.

For now, Oversight Board leaders are pleading with employees to have patience as the group works through some of the thorny questions that lie ahead.

“As we go through this change, everyone involved is aligned in ensuring that the Board is set up for long term impact as regulation, technology and the geopolitical landscape transforms the world around us,” Studdart wrote in a recent memo to staffers. “That requires forward thinking and skilled leadership, your dedication and expertise, and a long-term commitment from Meta.”

Supreme Court opioid case makes it harder to shield wealth in bankruptcy

BY DANIEL GILBERT
AND DAVID OVALLE

Companies seeking protection from lawsuits by filing for bankruptcy must now reckon with a Supreme Court ruling against the opioid company Purdue Pharma that substantially raised the bar for executives and owners trying to shield their wealth, legal analysts said.

Johnson & Johnson, Boy Scouts of America and Rite Aid are among the entities trying to handle a vast number of lawsuits in bankruptcy court, seeking to resolve all claims in a single settlement. These proceedings have echoes of the Purdue Pharma case decided by the Supreme Court on Thursday, in which the Sackler family, which owns the bankrupt opioid maker, offered plaintiffs about \$6 billion of the \$11 billion they extracted from the company. In exchange, family members would have received immunity from future lawsuits, without filing for bankruptcy themselves.

A 5-4 Supreme Court held that settlement was inadequate. Its ruling threw the massive bankruptcy case against Purdue Pharma into doubt after years of court battles over the company's role in the nation's opioid epidemic.

More broadly, legal experts said, the ruling will force companies to reconsider their strategies for dealing with a mountain of lawsuits when they want immunity from litigation for related parties, including owners and executives accused of receiving the spoils of improper activities.

“It could potentially impact whether bankruptcy is seen as the best option for a company facing mass tort liabilities,” said Sarah Foss, global head of legal for Debtwire, a financial-services firm.

The decision also adds a fresh



SETH WENIG/AP

Protesters, including activist Nan Goldin, center right, stage a die-in outside the courthouse where a Purdue Pharma bankruptcy hearing was taking place in White Plains, N.Y., on Aug. 9, 2021.

wrinkle to a controversial legal strategy, called the Texas two-step, in which companies use a Texas law to split into separate companies and shift a large volume of legal claims onto the newly created entity. Then, in the second step, the entity carrying the lawsuits files for bankruptcy and seeks to release its parent organization from all liability in exchange for a payout.

In perhaps the best-known case, Johnson & Johnson transferred some of its assets and all of the legal claims against it over asbestos-tainted talcum powder into a new legal entity that filed for Chapter 11. Judges have twice dismissed its bankruptcy filings, and the litigation is ongoing.

Notably, the Supreme Court's opinion on Purdue pointed to an

exception in federal law involving asbestos cases that allows bankruptcy courts to approve a settlement even if not all claimants agree to it. Erik Haas, Johnson & Johnson's worldwide vice president of litigation, said in a statement Thursday that the ruling “affirms the viability and validity” of the company's bankruptcy plan, citing the exception for asbestos cases.

But Melissa Jacoby, a bankruptcy law professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said the Purdue decision doesn't necessarily strengthen the position of Johnson & Johnson or others engaging in the Texas two-step. The asbestos exception, she said, was meant to protect parties like insurers of a debtor, not companies that face

direct allegations of wrongdoing.

Companies “will have to engage more intentionally and more proactively with those claimants that are most prone to wanting to opt out and try their cases against non-debtors,” said Patrick Hughes, a partner at Haynes Boone.

William Organek, a bankruptcy law professor at the City University of New York, said a key consideration will be how much money the healthy company, or non-debtor, agrees to extend to its lawsuit-laden subsidiary to pay a settlement.

“You need to have a really bulletproof funding agreement,” he said, adding that the outcome of the Purdue Pharma case might have been different if the Sacklers had offered “every dime” they

had.

Writing for the majority, Justice Neil M. Gorsuch wrote that the Sacklers “have not agreed to place anything approaching their full assets on the table for opioid victims” but still seek a release from claims without the consent of some plaintiffs. “The Sacklers seek to pay less than the [bankruptcy] code ordinarily requires and receive more than it normally permits,” he wrote.

The Sacklers have said almost half of the sum they extracted from Purdue Pharma went to paying taxes.

Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh, writing in dissent, warned that the decision “deprives the bankruptcy system of a longstanding and critical tool that has been used repeatedly to ensure fair and sizable recovery for victims — to repeat, recovery for *victims* —” in complex mass litigation.

The majority's ruling scrambled the usual conservative-liberal divide, with four of the court's conservative justices — Gorsuch, Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito and Amy Coney Barrett — taking a position that has been popular among liberal lawmakers. Democratic legislators proposed a bill in 2021 aiming to prohibit broad legal releases to non-debtors like the Sacklers unless those with claims against them consented. The legislation did not advance out of committee.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), one of the bill's sponsors, said in a statement last week that the Supreme Court “closed this bankruptcy loophole,” calling it a “first step toward accountability for the Sackler family.”

The Purdue precedent could affect some high-profile cases, such as that of the retail pharmacy chain Rite Aid, which filed for bankruptcy last year as it faced a barrage of opioid lawsuits and has asked for third-party immu-

nity, and Corizon, a correctional health-care company that filed for bankruptcy amid lawsuits from prisoners.

A spokesperson for YesCare, the company that emerged with most of Corizon's assets after splitting its liabilities into a separate company, declined to comment. Rite Aid didn't respond to a request for comment.

It could also affect the Boy Scouts of America, which agreed to pay \$2.5 billion to settle claims of sexual abuse in bankruptcy court, a deal that shields from future litigation insurance companies as well as schools, churches and community organizations involved with the nonprofit. A group of plaintiffs who didn't agree to the settlement is appealing it, arguing that they are in the same position as claimants who objected to the settlement with Purdue Pharma.

“The Purdue case made clear sex-abuse victims in the Boy Scouts case can't be forced to give up their claims,” said Gillion Dumas, an Oregon attorney representing 69 abuse victims who are appealing the settlement.

Scouting America said plaintiffs appealing the settlement make up 0.2 percent of those claiming abuse. The organization pointed to a passage in the Supreme Court's majority opinion declining to address whether its finding justifies unwinding bankruptcy settlements that have been “substantially consummated.”

Anthony Casey, a professor at the University of Chicago Law School, said that he doesn't see a likely effect on the Boy Scouts case but that similar cases — such as those involving abuse by Catholic churches — might find it harder to reach settlements.

“All of these church cases, if they haven't wrapped up deals, they are going to have to start over,” Casey said.

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OPINION

The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Thailand legalizes same-sex marriage. Will the rest of Asia follow?

IN MID-JUNE, with little debate or fanfare, Thailand’s Senate passed a bill to legalize same-sex marriage. Once the law takes effect later this year, the kingdom will become the first country in Southeast Asia, and only the second in Asia after Nepal, where same-sex marriages are recognized. Taiwan, the self-governing, democratically ruled island that China considers a renegade province, also legalized same-sex marriage in 2019.

EDITORIAL What Thailand did is remarkable only against the backdrop of the unfortunate global trend against LGBTQ+ rights and in favor of harsh and discriminatory anti-gay laws. That’s particularly true in Asia and Africa. Uganda last year led a surge of African countries passing stringent anti-gay laws and criminalizing consensual same-sex relationships.

Also troubling is the apparent backsliding in the United States, nine years after the Supreme Court struck down state bans against same-sex marriages. While more than two-thirds of Americans still support same-sex marriage, approval among Republicans has dipped to 46 percent. That downward trend in Republican support might be linked to conservative politicians, such as Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who have pushed discriminatory laws against teaching about sexual orientation in public schools and tried to curtail the rights of transgender people. Legal experts also speculate whether the Supreme Court’s

emboldened conservative majority might overturn the 2015 *Obergefell v. Hodges* decision legalizing same-sex marriage on the same grounds it used to overturn *Roe v. Wade* — though some justices have sought to discourage such predictions.

Thailand has always been something of a progressive outlier in Southeast Asia. While adhering to conservative and Buddhist traditions — for example, alcohol cannot be sold in shops between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. and on certain designated religious holidays — Thailand is also the only Asian country to have legalized cannabis; marijuana shops are now as ubiquitous as massage parlors. Thailand has long shown a tolerance for openly gay and transgender people, who now appear regularly on television shows and are a staple of popular culture.

The Thai government might be thinking about its own self-interest in legalizing same-sex marriage. Legalization is likely a way to gain favor among younger Thai voters still angry that the main opposition party they supported, called Move Forward, won last year’s election but was blocked from forming the government by the conservative and military elite who still dominate the political system. The Move Forward Party now faces a likely dissolution before Thailand’s highest court, and its top leaders could be barred from politics for years, because of the party’s campaign position calling for reform of a restrictive law making it a crime to criticize the monarchy. When

the party’s predecessor, Future Forward, was similarly dissolved after faring well in elections in 2019, angry young protesters took to the streets in widespread demonstrations, and more than 1,000 people, including children, were arrested in the ensuing crackdown.

A bright spot in a regrettable global trend against LGBTQ+ rights.

Thailand is also still trying to revive its lucrative tourism market after the coronavirus pandemic lockdowns. Legalizing same-sex marriage now makes this country the most gay-friendly travel destination in Southeast Asia.

Whatever the government’s motives, the same-sex marriage law establishes Thailand as a bastion of respect for marriage equality and LGBTQ+ rights in an otherwise inhospitable region. Singapore decriminalized sex between men in 2022, but at the same time it enshrined in its constitution the definition of marriage as between a man and a woman. Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei, the region’s three Muslim-ma-

jority countries, remain fiercely anti-gay.

A criminal code in Indonesia that passed in 2022 criminalized any consensual sex outside of marriage — and because same-sex marriage is not allowed, it effectively criminalizes all forms of gay and lesbian sex. In Malaysia’s conservative-run Johor state, officials late last year announced plans to build a “rehabilitation center” for gay people and others deemed “deviant” to “get them back on the right path.”

In India, the country’s Supreme Court last fall rejected a citizen petition to recognize same-sex marriage, saying the decision was up to the elected Parliament.

Asians in general might not be as intolerant as their governments. A recent Pew Research Center poll found support for same-sex marriage as high as 68 percent in Japan, 65 percent in Vietnam, 58 percent in Hong Kong, 57 percent in Cambodia and 53 percent in India. Singapore was more evenly divided.

Various reports have found that, worldwide, legalization of same-sex marriage and recognition of LGBTQ+ rights correlate closely with a country’s democratic development. Democracy works best when it is based on the principle of equality for every person and a guarantee of equal rights for every citizen. Rank discrimination conflicts with these ideals. Democracy and recognition of same-sex marriage go hand in hand. That’s why Southeast Asia still lags behind.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The questions Mr. Biden and Mr. Trump still have to answer

Post Opinions asked readers what they wanted to see and hear in the 2024 presidential debates. This is what they’d still like to hear President Biden and Donald Trump discuss.

Securing retirement

Many in the lower 90 percent of incomes cannot retire at age 65. Social Security is insufficient. 401(k)s are a joke. There are no pensions in the private, at-will employment world. Graduate school student loans from 30 or 40 years ago are too old for any of the limited forgiveness programs designed for the under-27 crowd in 2024. I’ll be done paying off my federal graduate student loan at age 82 or something like that. (I’m too annoyed to check.)

What has either of these candidates planned so that the 65-year-old “young people” unable to retire before they die can at least borrow millions of dollars to fund new entrepreneurial ventures or take over the existing firms of the lucky trust-fund babies who were able to build their own enterprises early in life?

Will we ever be able to get started as new business people at very affordable, non-usurious business loan interest rates, or are we just doomed to an insolvent end with creditors screaming at us daily before the inevitable, ignominious passing?

Will these old guys restore no-fault bankruptcies that were ended by George W. Bush while he wasted trillions of hard-saved federal dollars on the Iraq invasion?

Is either of these 2024 politicians willing to force banks to divest from owning ordinary homes so that prices can decline again to normal “human” levels suitable for all generations of Americans?

James Wells, Miramar, Fla.

Civic engagement

Listening to the presidential debate, I was hoping for pointed discussion of:

1. The national debt.
2. The consequences of the almost 40 percent of eligible U.S. citizens who do not vote in major elections. Far fewer vote in primaries.

Both candidates were vague about the national debt, and President Biden failed to drive the point that Donald Trump’s contribution to the debt was much greater than his. As for voting, to my great disappointment, neither candidate mentioned at all that no democracy can survive when citizens do not take their responsibilities seriously, starting as early as grammar, and high schools with active voting as soon as eligible. STEM has pushed aside civics and history. Technical skills are necessary, but good citizenship training is important, too, and neglected at our peril.

William Cline, Washington

Grapple with gun violence

It is with some degree of disappointment that I noted that The Post’s June 27 Opinion roundup, “21 questions for the next president that have no easy answers,” omitted a significant issue: the continuing threat of gun violence and the compelling need for gun safety regulations.

Gun violence is consistently rated among the top issues on the minds of voters, along with the economy, immigration, crime and the threat to democracy. The surgeon general, Vivek H. Murthy, recently promulgated an advisory highlighting the magnitude of this issue. In 2022, the most recent year for which we have data, more than 48,000 Americans died from firearms violence. Gun incidents have now become the No. 1 cause of death among children and adolescents. It is an issue that crosses over every level of our society. Parents are fearful of sending their children to schools where mass shootings remain a threat. Crime in the streets of the nation’s cities is propelled by the prevalence of guns.

The proliferation of guns manufactured in our country has a bearing on immigration and the

EDITH PRITCHETT

Which type of seasonal allergy sufferer are you?



HYPER-MEDICATED



SWAMP MONSTER



CONFINED



VENGEFUL

families fleeing from Central America for fear of violence from gangs and drug lords in their native countries. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives estimates that between 70 percent and 80 percent of the guns used to perpetrate such violence in Mexico, and half of the guns involved in such crimes elsewhere in Central America are a result of weapons smuggled into Mexico and Central America from the United States. The American gun industry is aware of the damage its automatic weapons do. Americans overwhelmingly want sensible gun safety laws.

Perhaps that issue was not included because it is well known what the candidates’ positions on gun violence are. But then again, that is true for many of the other issues covered by the piece.

Robert Leventhal, Silver Spring

A healthy vision

I am an elder single female Democrat and a liberal. I want to know which candidate has a plan to regain abortion and conceptive freedom for women, regardless of state residency. I am extremely concerned about the lack of Medicare oversight of nursing home staffing, conditions and costs. I want to see a plan for improved national health-care standards, and with special focus on rural areas.

I don’t want increased White House control of our independent judiciary or regulatory institutions. I would like to see the Environmental Protection Agency actually take control of carbon emissions or

be replaced by a Cabinet-level climate crisis department. There should not be a child going hungry in this nation. School and after-school feeding programs should be in place in every town and city.

Ellen F. Toomey, Harpswell, Maine

Safeguarding the court

I want to know where the candidates stand on the “Keep 9” amendment, and their stance on court-packing in general. Court-packing could be detrimental to the institutions we have created, as it sets a malicious precedent by Congress to overrule the decisions of the Supreme Court.

Anthony Mejia, Washington

How about the VPs?

After Thursday’s rehash of Donald Trump’s misinformation and President Biden’s performance, neither of which may move the polling needle much, I am most interested in:

1. A vice-presidential debate, considering the age of both presidential candidates and the likelihood that neither may survive four years.
2. A focus on the critical role of climate change on inflation, immigration, disaster recovery spending, energy and plans to reduce global warming.
3. A definition of the “again” in MAGA. Is it when the debate over states’ rights led to the Civil War? Is the plan to Make America Great (Britain) Again, when there was a national church that

discriminated against other religions, there was a king, people were disenfranchised, the rich exploited human and natural resources in America, etc.?

Mark Rains, Vienna, Maine

The search for peace

In The Post’s June 27 Opinion roundup of questions for President Biden and Donald Trump in their upcoming debates, one columnist proposed asking, “How would you end the Gaza war?” It startles me to think that anyone, much less a Post columnist, thinks that we have the power to end this war. We can advise, cajole, use diplomacy, state our beliefs and apply any other type of political pressure, but this is not our war to end. It is a horrific war and much needs to be done for the Palestinian and Israeli people, but actually ending the conflict is not in our power. A better question would be: What more would you, or could you, do to help end the war in Gaza?

Jeanne Beare, Fairfax

Hearing from RFK Jr.

While Robert F. Kennedy Jr. didn’t make the stage on June 27, he did have an event in parallel. I don’t see any coverage of his event. Do Post editors only find coverage of President Biden (too old to be running) and Donald Trump (too angry to be running) worth coverage? There is a viable candidate who should either replace Mr. Biden on the Democratic ticket or continue to run as a third option and be taken seriously by the press.

It is time for The Post to start covering him as a serious candidate so that voters can be informed. And he should be at the next debate so Americans can hear from him.

Andrew Sloane, Nashville

What debates can’t do

I am unspeakably saddened by our current emphasis on appearances, and on what historian Daniel J. Boorstin called “pseudo-events.” Those are events planned for the sake of appearances, for the sake of presentation in the media and for the purpose of being commented upon. (About 30 percent of broadcast news over the week has been speculation of what might be said. Weeks of coverage after the event will turn on what might have been or should have been said.)

God forbid that anyone might spend a few minutes in a real debate laying out a thoughtful policy position.

Boorstin’s example of the quintessential pseudo-event was the presidential “debate” in which people pop spontaneous questions to someone who must answer within two minutes without pausing to think or having the opportunity do so. The worst thing that could happen on TV is that there should be two minutes of silent airtime while a thoughtful person thinks before articulating meaningful thoughts for a few minutes.

So, no important issue is ever served in this format. Recall that past debates have been “decided” by policy-free snappy retorts: “There you go again” or “Senator, you are no Jack Kennedy.”

To take one example, an issue of current importance is the size of the national debt. On such an issue, thoughtful legislative debate leading to serious policy statements in the body holding the power of the purse is called for. Fat chance we’ll get it, though. If we relied on debates like these to select designers for the James Webb Space Telescope or CRISPR researchers, we’d be doomed.

I fear that we are tailgating in the parking lot of history, shouting slogans and wearing team regalia, while real events play out in the arena.

Charles Hamilton, Keswick, Va.

Letter submissions

Letters can be sent to **letters@washpost.com**. Submissions must be exclusive to The Post and should include the writer’s address and day and evening telephone numbers. Letters are subject to editing and abridgment. Please do not send letters as attachments. Because of the volume of material we receive, we are unable to acknowledge submissions; writers whose letters are under consideration for publication will be contacted.

OPINION

KATHLEEN PARKER

The abortion fight has pushed GOP women out of S.C.’s senate

COLUMBIA, S.C.

In South Carolina, what Republican men want, Republican men get. This month, primary voters ousted the only three GOP women in the state senate for bucking the party line and defeating a near-total ban on abortion.

Oh, would that men could get pregnant, as the inventors of the idiotic phrase “pregnant people” imply with their Orwellian wordplay. Allow me to digress for this important public announcement: Changing words and phrases doesn’t change Nature’s intentions. Nor do I intend to mangle the English language to affirm fashionable accommodations to nonsense.

This maxim might apply as well to the argument that human life begins at conception. Inarguably, this is true in the biological sense, but life is more complicated than mere biology. Sometimes, women — *never men* — are impregnated via rape or incest.

Where is our courage in objecting to such transgressions?

Never mind the verbiage that slipped the lips of President Biden during Thursday night’s debate when he attempted to answer a question about abortion access. In a discombobulated non-answer, he averred that “a lot of young women who are being raped by their — by their in-laws (!), by their spouse’s brothers and sisters . . . by . . . just . . . it’s just . . . it’s just ridiculous.” I’ll say.

No one had to wonder about the courage of the five women known as the “Sister Senators” — three Republicans, one Democrat and one independent — who worked together to block a near-total state ban on abortion without exceptions for rape or incest. “Near-total” means no abortions after six weeks, by which time some women allegedly don’t even know they’re pregnant. (Note to women: If you have unprotected sex and miss a period, you’re probably pregnant.)

For their considerable troubles, the five women were honored with a JFK Profile in Courage award last year in Boston. But you know what they say about good deeds. I’m late in congratulating them and would like to correct my oversight herewith. The Republican women are state Sens. Sandy Senn of Charleston, Katrina Shealy of Lexington and Penry Gustafson of Camden. State Sen. Mia McLeod is an independent from Columbia, and Democratic state Sen. Margie Bright Matthews is from Walterboro. Thank you for your service.

Elsewhere in America, people may not see these women’s efforts as revolutionary. But in the conservative South, where churches outnumber Chick-fil-As (and that’s saying something), “uppity women” don’t last long in Republican circles. Five women in a room who aren’t arranging flowers or funerals, or serving booze to the boys, are held in suspicion, if not contempt, by some of their male counterparts.

Republican men can be a funny lot. Ten or so years ago in D.C., GOP staffers were sent for training on how to talk to and about women. I’m not joking. Mainly, this was so they could help their bosses avoid saying inappropriate things to women candidates during elections, but the gist was that Republican men generally don’t “get” women. As if we didn’t know.

For the record, Joe Biden received similar coaching in 2008 when, as a candidate for vice president, he had to debate Sarah Palin. If South Carolina had had its way, Palin would have become vice president. After writing in September that year that she should leave the ticket, I was almost afraid to go home for about two years. Chancing a cocktail party early in the Obama administration, I was swarmed by a dozen or more men who demanded to know what was so wrong with Palin. They were smiling, but then they always are.

I’ll admit I had to stiffen my spine to say what most everyone else was thinking. And no doubt the GOP sisters had to summon courage to risk their political careers to stand up for what they believe is best for women. Their critics said the three women claimed to be pro-life and flipped after *Roe v. Wade* was reversed. This isn’t precisely so. One can be pro-life and believe that rape and incest victims shouldn’t be forced to carry a pregnancy to term. One can also be pro-life and disagree with the *Dobbs* decision. I’ve always advanced the proposition that the best way to make abortion rare was through education, not legislative fiat.

To be sure, as some argue, it isn’t a baby’s fault if he or she was conceived through violence. I’ve spoken to people whose mothers were raped, and some (not all) do argue against aborting an innocent fetus. But I can’t imagine being forced to endure a nine-month pregnancy and give birth under such circumstances. This is personal in the extreme — and it is the least that pro-life advocates can concede.

The men who defeated the sisters aren’t bad people, I should say. It’s possible that they won for reasons other than abortion — but I doubt it. Carlisle Kennedy, who defeated Shealy, said the election was a matter of trust. On abortion, he supports the state’s “heartbeat” law, which bans abortion once the baby’s heartbeat can be detected around six weeks. This law, which Gov. Henry McMaster signed in 2023, allows exceptions up to 12 weeks of pregnancy for cases of rape, incest or fetal anomaly, or to protect the mother’s life.

This became the operative law in South Carolina after the total ban that the women had opposed narrowly lost in 2023. The women filibustered and, after several failed cloture votes, the senate voted to “continue” the legislation. In 2025, those obstinate GOP women will be gone, and the near-total ban can be reintroduced. All three of the new senators support the ban.

Whatever the outcome, it will be Republican men making decisions for and about women. Ladies, it’s time to get organized.



President Lyndon Johnson on March 31, 1968, in the Oval Office.

DAVID VON DREHLE

For Biden, the LBJ lesson

The impulse to seek lessons from history is wise, but the lessons are only as good as the history.

President Biden’s alarming failures during his debate Thursday with former president Donald Trump confirmed what a majority of Americans already held to be true: At 81, the incumbent is too old for a second four-year term. But some overcautious commentators have drawn a lesson from 1968 to suggest that Biden would sow chaos were he to drop out now.

But that’s a misreading of that admittedly chaotic year. The late decision by an incumbent president to stand aside was actually the most popular, most unifying moment in an ugly series of divisive events.

Lyndon B. Johnson had won the 1964 election in one of the greatest landslides of American history. By 1968, however, the war in Vietnam — and the rising inflation that accompanied it — had eaten away much of Johnson’s popularity. Then, on Jan. 30, North Vietnam and its Viet Cong allies launched an offensive in the south to further escalate the war.

Historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, who as a young aide to Johnson had a front-row seat on 1968, follows the timeline in her recent memoir, “An Unfinished Love Story: A Personal History of the 1960s.” “By the end of March,” she writes, “the president’s approval; rating had dropped to 36 percent, the lowest of his career.” (Biden’s most recent rating, according to Gallup, was 38 percent.)

That’s when Johnson surprised the nation by taking himself out of the 1968 campaign, after his own embarrassing wake-up call in the form of a dismal showing in the New Hampshire primary. A lifelong politician — like Biden, LBJ had served in the

Senate, as vice president and in the Oval Office — Johnson lived for the competition and loved the stump. The public understood that quitting did not come naturally or comfortably to him.

Goodwin channels the response when she writes that “Johnson had done something extraordinary by putting the country above his own ambitions.” And she documents the overwhelmingly positive reaction. “Overnight, the national political landscape was turned upside-down. A Harris Poll the day after the president’s speech registered this reversal, flipping from 57 percent disapproval to 57 percent approval. . . .

“One editorial after another applauded the president’s renunciation,” the author continues. “The Washington Post pronounced that LBJ ‘has made a personal sacrifice in the name of national unity that entitles him to a very special place in the annals of American history.’”

Johnson’s decision to honor the public mood and take himself off the ballot was hugely popular. Far from sending the system into chaos, it gave Americans an event to applaud and a leader to approve of. Johnson bathed in the warmth, enjoying “the happiest week of his presidency and possibly of his public career,” Goodwin quotes his speechwriter Horace Busby observing.

How did this happy interlude come to be associated with chaos and upheaval? Days after Johnson’s announcement, on April 4, 1968, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis — a crime that had nothing to do with Johnson’s decision, but which whipsawed the national mood. Violent protests, leading to widespread looting and arson, erupted that night in D.C. and cities across the country.

The awful conjunction with King’s assassination obscures the proper lesson of 1968 for Biden and his supporters. Johnson’s decision to leave the race scrambled politics in his party’s favor. The president’s approval rating went immediately from low to high. And it jump-started a brisk race to pick up Johnson’s baton that appeared to be settling in favor of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (N.Y.) when, in early June, Kennedy, too, was assassinated.

The mayhem and bloodshed had nothing to do with Johnson’s abdication, but they curdled the mood of the briefly relieved electorate and allowed the “law and order” candidate Richard M. Nixon to eke out a win over LBJ’s vice president, Hubert Humphrey.

Fourteen presidential election cycles later, the world, and American politics, have changed in important ways. Yet Biden can still expect that his willingness to set aside his own ambitions for the good of the country, as Johnson did, would result in a similar outpouring of admiration and gratitude. His willingness to hear and heed the message of the public would turn his approval ratings upside down, and jumpstart a brisk and exciting race to choose one of many fresh faces in the Democratic Party ready to pick up his baton.

We can be thankful that 2024 is not a replay of 1968. Our leaders are not being murdered and our cities are not in flames. Because of these differences, Joe Biden can emulate LBJ without courting chaos. Biden can finish the noble work that was denied to Lyndon B. Johnson — healing the country and lifting his party to victory, through an admirable act of self-awareness and courage.

E.J. DIONNE JR.

What Biden owes his country if he stays in

President Biden’s lieutenants want to write off his dismal debate performance on Thursday as one bad night and are calling on Democrats to buck up and fight. But many in the party (and more in the world of commentary) think Biden should drop out and open the way for a new nominee, lest the president’s weakness open the door wide to the disastrous return of Donald Trump.

Neither view fully grasps the depth of the mess Democrats, and the country, are in. Biden defenders underestimate the potential long-term damage of the president’s debate performance, which was designed to show that the 81-year-old was up to the job and did just the opposite. But those who’d like to hurtle full speed ahead to an open convention vastly underestimate how hard it will be to pull off.

The voices most certain that Biden should leave the race include many who said long ago that Biden should not to run again. They feel vindication. Alas for Biden, they have reason to. The people most shocked by Thursday (and I’m one of them) were those who felt he was up for one more campaign and had proven his mettle in his State of the Union address and other outings.

It turned out that a debate is not like a prepared speech or the occasional interview. Biden had trouble landing even easy punches or executing well-prepared attack lines coherently. Heck, sometimes he struggled to finish sentences. This was not like the debate losses of former presidents Barack Obama or George W. Bush.

The cascade of demands on Biden to hang it up was thus inevitable, and his team would be foolish to resort to catcalls against hand wringers and nervous nellys. People cannot unsee what they have already seen. Biden needs to own just how damaging that perform-

ance was.

But romanticizing a magical solution to the problem the party faces is a mistake, too. If Biden withdrew, the party would face two core decisions: first, whether to nominate Vice President Harris, and if not, whom it should pick from a list of hopefuls who could easily run to a dozen alternatives.

Unless Harris decided to stay on as the vice-presidential candidate, the up-or-down decision on her future would be deeply divisive. And a free-for-all compressed into a short period would limit the amount of vetting a nominee would go through and could reopen ideological conflicts that Biden was largely able to pacify. (These are Democrats, after all.) Sure, it could be exciting. It could also be chaotic.

It also doesn’t help Democrats to say that it’s Republicans who should look at Trump’s debate performance — his cascade of blatant lies, his refusal to answer questions, his plain lack of patriotism — and demand that he withdraw. Of course they should. But they won’t. The point is to defeat Trump.

So what should be done? I’m with those saying Biden needs a painful reckoning with himself over whether his best contribution to history now is to soldier on, or to help a leader from the next generation see his fight for the soul of America through. Biden has a formidable legacy rooted in a presidency characterized by responsibility, decency and real accomplishment. If his staying in the race allows Trump back into power, Biden will destroy that legacy.

But with Biden apparently determined to tough it out — the campaign put out a list of politicians reaffirming their support Saturday afternoon — the president’s future will be settled by the polls. If they show the debate caused Biden real damage, pressure on him to drop out will move from private alarm

to public demands. If the numbers don’t change much, he’ll likely get through this.

A CBS poll released Sunday was not encouraging for Biden. It found that the proportion of registered voters saying Biden did not have the mental and cognitive health to serve as president rose from 65 percent in early June to 72 percent after the debate.

If he does, he owes those who support him a clear strategy for undoing Thursday’s damage. He needs to do a series of televised interviews, including many in less than friendly settings. He’ll have to step up his campaign appearances, offering more speeches along the lines of his energetic performance in North Carolina on Friday.

He should make a major commitment to doing all he can to strengthen the campaigns of Democratic House and Senate candidates, the most vulnerable of whom have more reason than anyone to worry about the electoral impact of a weakened Biden. He needs to use last week’s demonstration of the Supreme Court’s radical right-wing activism to underscore the long-term impact of the choices voters will be making this November. If Democrats lose both the Senate and the White House, the damage to the judiciary over a generation will be catastrophic.

Above all, Biden and those around him need to understand that this is not about them, their touchiness over who has underestimated the president in the past or who is loyal and disloyal. Every decision he makes from now on, including the most important over whether he remains in the contest, must prove he means what he says about the grave danger Trump poses to our democracy. His legacy depends upon it, and the country needs to be able to depend upon him.

FAREED ZAKARIA

Americans should be more confident in the future

Over the past two months, I have traveled around the United States and in parts of Europe, often talking about my new book, “Age of Revolutions,” which describes how we are living through a period of deep disruption — in society, politics, economics and international affairs. I got the sense that people, even those well off and educated, were unsettled by these disruptions and fearful that they were leading us into darker times. Many of the questions at my book talks went something like, “Is there anything to be hopeful about these days?” After Thursday night’s depressing debate, people are feeling more despair than ever. So I want to explain why, despite all the dangers, I remain an optimist.

In Europe, many are fearful that a Donald Trump victory in November could lead them into a new and dangerous world. They believe that the United States could turn its back on Europe, unraveling the continent’s security architecture. As one European statesman said to me, “We in the West have lived in a stable, peaceful, open world, and we take it for granted. But we now face all these challenges, external and internal, and it can all come apart.”

It can. The external challenges alone are immense. We are witnessing Russia, China, Iran and now North Korea form an axis in opposition both to Western power and Western values.

And yet the return of great power competition is having an interesting effect. Western values and practices are often treated as ideals to be criticized for their shortcomings and hypocrisies. But, increasingly, they have to be judged against the alternatives. If you don’t like a world dominated by Western power and ideas, would you prefer Russian or Chinese ones?

In a new poll commissioned by Ipsos and King’s College London (to coincide with my delivering this year’s Fulbright Distinguished Lecture at Oxford), the shifting global mood is evident. Surveying nearly 24,000 people in 31 countries, the study found that people were thinking more seriously and critically of the growing power and influence of the autocratic great powers. They saw Russia, China and Iran as three of the four countries mostly using their influence for bad, and this represented a souring of views on all three countries since the last time this survey was conducted in 2019. The number of people polled who see Russia as using its influence for bad has jumped by 22 percentage points, China by 10, and Iran by 5 points over the past five years. (The other country on that list of four is Israel — a sad state of affairs, and which should come as a wake-up call to Israelis.)

This survey is broadly consistent with another global one done by the Pew Research Center in 2023, when people in 24 countries were asked whether they viewed China or the United States more favorably. A median of 59 percent of those polled had a positive view of the United States, compared with just 28 percent for China.

The rise of China and the return of Russia have unsettled international affairs. But they have also reminded the world of the choice between two sets of values — Western liberal ones and autocratic illiberal ones. You can see the difference starkly in the two contests at play in Europe and Asia over Ukraine and Taiwan. In each case, the West is trying to allow people (in Ukraine and Taiwan) to choose freely as to how they want to live. Russia and China, by contrast, are acting to snuff out that freedom. That is a telling difference, and people around the world can see it.

In the Ipsos-KCL poll, people in most countries viewed U.S. influence on the world stage more favorably than they did in 2019 — with one notable exception: in the United States itself. The loss of confidence among Americans in their own country’s vitality, strength and virtue is profoundly worrying.

If you look at the facts, the United States is more powerful on many measures than it has been for years. But that is not how many Americans feel. In my book talks, so many were troubled by the deep polarization and divisions within the country. Many wonder whether it is possible to come out of this, to arrive at some compromise, some settlement that moves the country forward.

Even here, I remain hopeful. We are going through whirlwinds of change. In the United States these problems are constantly aired and highlighted. We wash our dirty laundry in full public view. The talk of our failings convulses our political system. We will have to work through these problems. But surely that is better than repressing them, coercing people to conform and presenting a North Korea-style facade of unity to the world. And these surveys suggest that people around the world can tell what is real and what is fake. When confronted with a choice, most prefer the West and its values, warts and all.



The Google AI Opportunity Fund is helping ensure more Americans can access AI training

As the demand for AI-related professional skills rises, Google.org has launched a \$75 million AI Opportunity Fund to help ensure AI's benefits are widely shared.

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8 a.m.

68°



Noon

76°



4 p.m.

80°



8 p.m.

77°

High today at approx. 5 p.m.

82°

Precip: 0%

Wind: NNW 10-20 mph

RETROPOLIS
Black voters' alignment with the Democratic Party has roots in the first three decades of the 1900s. **B2**



THE DISTRICT
Two people are dead after a spate of violence that included six shootings and a stabbing. **B4**



OBITUARIES
Scholar Nathan Hare, 91, helped shape movements to empower Black Americans in the '60s. **B5**

CAPITAL LETTERS



SARAH L. VOISIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

The Benjamin family, from left: Kenny, Brad, Joyce and James. In 2014, Joyce and James launched the nonprofit program AutismFYI to help police officers, caregivers and others better handle encounters with people with autism, like their sons. They've trained over 15,000 people through online and in-person courses.

Putting a face on autism

The New Carrollton police officers carefully eyed the two husky men, each weighing about 300 pounds, as the pair walked through the police training session.

For the previous hour, the officers had been in a mandatory class about autism, armed only with trays of doughnuts and a box of coffee. They sat with arms crossed and blank stares. Only a few asked questions.

Then the two burly men, both in their mid-30s, spoke. Their voices sounded high and reedy, like those of preteen boys. The conversation turned to professional wrestling and superhero movies, until a veteran sergeant leaned forward and asked them a crucial question: "What's your favorite Pokémon character?"

Eyes softened.

Arms uncrossed.

Curiosity increased.

The Benjamin brothers had done it again.

For the past decade, Kenny Benjamin, 34, and his brother Brad, 35, have helped to put a face on autism for their family-run organization, AutismFYI.

The curriculum is the centerpiece of the nonprofit's mission: training area law enforcement officers and educating family caregivers or others who may encounter a person with autism. They've trained

In 2014, a Maryland family launched a nonprofit program to teach police how to interact with people with autism. Ten years later, its future is at risk.

BY CLARENCE WILLIAMS

more than 15,000 people through online and in-person courses.

Kenny and Brad Benjamin liken their work to a comic book legend and head of the X-Men.

"Just like Professor Charles Xavier is trying to get people to understand about mutants ... not to be a threat to mankind but a part of it," Kenny Benjamin said.

What the brothers don't realize is that as their parents approach retirement, time may be running out for their superhero vision of making Maryland safer for people like them.

Retired plastic surgeon James Benjamin and his wife, Joyce, launched the nonprofit in 2014 after reading about a case in Richmond in which an African American autistic man was convicted of hurting a police officer during an emergency call and faced a prison sentence.

Immediately, James and Joyce Benjamin recognized that police officers might view their sons — two biracial, bulky men who are as immature as middle-schoolers — as a threat in an emergency.

"They are kids in men's bodies," James Benjamin said.

So, the couple immersed their family — and

SEE AUTISM ON B3

New laws set to take effect

METRO FARES RISE BY 12.5 PERCENT

D.C. workers will see minimum wage increase

BY JORDAN D. BROWN, MICHAEL BRICE-SADDLER AND GREGORY S. SCHNEIDER

Liquor delivery, increased prices for transportation, and college admissions changes are among some of the new laws and policies taking effect on Monday in the region.

Here are a few of the laws going into effect.

The region

Metro fares increasing by 12.5 percent. After months of concern related to Metro's financial challenges, the transit agency's board recently passed a budget that will maintain service levels but raise fares by 12.5 percent, starting Monday. The maximum rail fare will increase from \$6 to \$6.75. Base rail and base bus fares will increase from \$2 to \$2.25. Late-night and weekend charges will increase from a flat \$2 charge to \$2.25 or \$2.50, depending on trip distance. Maximum fees for MetroAccess — the paratransit service for people who cannot use bus and rail systems — will increase from \$4 to \$4.50.

Maryland

Liquor delivery. The delivery of beer, wine or liquor to Maryland consumers launches with

SEE LAWS ON B3

CEOs fight military corruption indictment

Two tech firm executives are charged alongside retired four-star admiral

BY SPENCER S. HSU

Two top executives of a New York-based technology services firm charged alongside the highest-ranking U.S. Navy admiral ever to face criminal indictment for bribery are fighting the charges, challenging federal prosecutors' decision to bring what one of their lawyers called a "politically motivated" military corruption case.

Charlie Kim, 50, and Meghan Messenger, 47, are set to plead not guilty Monday in D.C. with retired four-star admiral Robert P. Burke, 62, formerly the Navy's second-highest-ranking officer and top commander in Europe and Africa. The three were charged several weeks ago with bribery and conspiracy to commit bribery for Burke's alleged agreement to award a sole-source contract to Next Jump and to help it win future Navy business, in exchange for the promise of a \$500,000-a-year job and stock options after he retired.

In their first public statements about the case, lawyers for the company and its charged co-CEOs criticized the Justice Department's handling of the investigation, suggesting prosecutors were fixated on landing a trophy target.

"For 30 years, Next Jump

SEE BRIBERY ON B4

Monitoring of riot defendant's computer activity to resume

BY PAUL DUGGAN

A federal judge last week told probation officials to resume monitoring the computer activity of a Capitol riot defendant accused of spreading political misinformation, after an appeals court in February ordered the monitoring to be halted.

The defendant, Daniel Goodwyn, a web designer from San Francisco, is "a self-proclaimed member of the Proud Boys" right-wing extremist group, the FBI said in a 2021 criminal complaint. After pleading guilty to entering and remaining in a restricted building during the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the U.S. Capitol, Goodwyn, now 34, was sentenced in 2023 to 60 days in jail and a year of supervised probation, which is set to end in August.

"I don't want to chill anyone's First Amendment rights," Judge Reggie B. Walton said at a hearing Thursday. But with the 2024 presidential election approaching, he said, Goodwyn is still engaging "in the same type of rhetoric" that fomented the Jan. 6 violence, based on prosecutors' accounts of his digital activity. Probation officials will be required to report such rhetoric to the court.

In sentencing Goodwyn in U.S. District Court in Washington in June 2023, Walton ordered probation officials to monitor his computer use during his supervised release to make sure Goodwyn was not instigating further violence. In February, however, the U.S. Court of Appeals in D.C. ruled that Walton had "erred in imposing the computer-monitor-

ing condition" because the judge had failed to consider whether it was "reasonably" necessary.

The appeals court said Walton should hold a new hearing to "develop the record in support" of his decision. After listening to arguments via video Thursday from a defense lawyer and a prosecutor, Walton sided with the government and ordered the monitoring to resume for the remainder of Goodwyn's probation.

"It's ridiculous," Goodwyn's attorney, Carolyn A. Stewart, said by phone from Florida after the hearing. She said she will ask the appeals court to again halt the monitoring.

Stewart described Goodwyn as a self-employed "investigator and journalist." She said that the

SEE RIOTER ON B3



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Fencing near the U.S. Capitol in July 2021. A judge said last week that a Capitol riot defendant now on probation is still engaging "in the same type of rhetoric" that fomented violence on Jan. 6, 2021.

RETROPOLIS

When did Black voters begin aligning with Democrats?

BY BLAKE WILSON

In what’s shaping up to be a close presidential election, analysts are keeping an eye on the “Black vote,” which some polls suggest could be starting to slip away from Democrats after decades of dominance. But when exactly did African American voters first shift their allegiance from the Republican to the Democratic Party?

Some historians focus on the 1960s and the civil rights movement. Others trace the change back to the 1930s, with the New Deal policies that addressed the widespread poverty of the Great Depression. But the roots of Black Americans’ move toward the Democratic Party go back further — to the first three decades of the 20th century.

The turn of the century initiated an era of great change. Booker T. Washington published his famous autobiography “Up From Slavery” in 1901, the same year Rep. George H. White (R-N.C.) departed office, leaving the House of Representatives without a Black member for nearly three decades — and ending a post-Civil War era that always had a Black Republican presence in Congress.

In his survey of African American lawmakers in that era, Eric Foner notes that of the roughly 2,000 Black officeholders, from U.S. senator to county sheriff, “only fifteen were elected as Democrats or supported the Democratic Party once in office.” One of those officials was a former Republican Midwesterner named George E. Taylor. Taylor is best remembered for his historic 1904 run for president representing the all-Black National Liberty Party. After the party dissolved, Taylor realigned himself not with the Republican Party of Theodore Roosevelt but with a Democratic Party in flux.

The year 1906 fundamentally reshaped the country. Upton Sinclair published his fictionalized exposé of the meatpacking industry, “The Jungle.” Gary, Ind., was established as a company town



PHOTOS FROM LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

W.E.B. Du Bois, seen circa 1919, anticipated a future in which African Americans abandoned the Republican Party in an op-ed in the Nation ahead of the 1920 presidential election.

for the burgeoning steel industry. San Francisco was rocked by a catastrophic earthquake. The Antiquities Act enshrined Roosevelt as a conservationist president. And at Ellis Island, European immigration was headed toward its 1907 peak of 1.25 million people.

That year also represented a turning point for African Americans and the party of Lincoln. In Brownsville, Tex., on Aug. 13, a White bartender was shot and killed, with blame quickly placed on Black soldiers from nearby Fort Brown. Although White army officers maintained that the soldiers were in their barracks, Roosevelt dismissed the entire regiment.

At the end of the year, Roosevelt won the Nobel Peace Prize for helping end the Russo-Japanese War. That same December, he would also give an address to Congress addressing the racial terror directed at African Americans. In a year that would end with more than 60 African Americans dead by lynching, Roosevelt stated, “The greatest existing cause of lynching is the perpetration, especially by Black men, of the hideous crime of rape — the most abominable in all the category of crimes, even worse than murder.”

It was in this context that a group of prominent Black men formed the Niagara Movement in 1905. Meeting at Storer College in Harpers Ferry, W.Va., the group offered a forceful assessment of the condition of African Americans, written by founding member W.E.B. Du Bois.

The “Address to the Country” argued that the Republican Party was “guilty of obtaining votes under false pretenses.” Du Bois noted the erosion of voting rights under a Republican administration. Black criticism of Republicans had been leveled at different times from across the political spectrum since Reconstruction, but Du Bois was different: a Northerner born after the Civil War, a new voice for a new century.

While the Niagara Movement would soon dissolve and Roosevelt would have his own separation from the Republican Party, the chasm between African Americans and the GOP would continue to widen. As groups such as the re-created Ku Klux Klan further blocked Black political participation and gains made during Reconstruction faded, the migration of large numbers of Black people out of the South and rural areas would remake the country and the political

landscape.

Enter the ‘New Negro’

Following the East St. Louis, Ill., massacre of 1917 and the Red Summer of 1919, which saw dozens of racist attacks across the country, disparate groups of Black people again voiced displeasure with the status quo, and Du Bois continued to question the viability of African Americans within the Republican Party. After he became a founding member of the NAACP, Du Bois moved to New York and established the Crisis, a monthly magazine he edited that quickly became a staple in African American communities.

Du Bois turned to a more established publication, the Nation, to write an op-ed ahead of the 1920 presidential election. Titled “The Republicans and the Black Voter,” the piece anticipated a future in which African Americans abandoned the party.

W.E.B. Du Bois’s 1905 “Address to the Country” argued that the Republican Party was “guilty of obtaining votes under false pretenses.”

In the midst of the Great Migration, Du Bois wrote, “the Negroes as a mass have done more thinking in the last four years than ever before. Second, they have long-standing grievances against the Republican Party, and it cannot therefore count on the absolute necessity of a black man voting Republican.”

In her 2020 book “The Great Migration and the Democratic Party,” Howard University political scientist Keneshia N. Grant argues that politically excluded African Americans from the



When Rep. George H. White (R-N.C.) departed office in 1901, the House was left without any Black members.

South arrived in the North without attachments to the Republican Party. “Therefore,” she writes, “what looks like a wholesale defection from the Republican Party by the Black electorate can also be understood as the Democratic Party’s mobilization of newly arrived Black migrants.”

The stark realities of industrial centers primed new arrivals for new politics. While Du Bois sought to shock Republicans to act, a competing faction in Harlem preached more radical politics.

In August 1920, the Socialist magazine the Messenger declared that the emergent “New Negro” would “repudiate and discard both of the old parties — Republican and Democratic.” The editors’ vision for the New Negro was fearless yet progressive — one that endorsed the recently ratified 19th Amendment and “stands for universal suffrage.” With Black women gaining the right to vote, the political parties would be appealing to a completely different Black vote in the 1920s.

In November 1924, the month Republican Calvin Coolidge won the presidential election in a landslide, African American leaders offered a rebuke of the GOP in the magazine Opportu-

nity. William Henry Lewis, a Harvard Law School graduate and former assistant attorney general under Republican President William Howard Taft, referred to the Republican Party as the “Ku Klux Klan party.” The journalist, poet and educator Alice Dunbar Nelson railed against the GOP in her home state of Delaware, highlighting the absence of African American jurors and the inability of Black people to practice law in a state where the majority of African Americans had supported a party that “has been in power for twenty-five years.”

Four years later, Grace Campbell — who in 1919 became the first woman to run for statewide office in New York when she mounted a losing campaign for a state assembly seat on the Socialist ticket — wrote a column under a pseudonym in the Chicago-based Daily Worker in which she linked both Democrats and Republicans to “Jim Crowism, mobbing, segregation, lynching, southern disfranchisement” and other ills. In that same election cycle of 1928, the Democrats tapped a Black former Republican, Julian Rainey, to lead African American outreach nationwide.

A month after Campbell’s article appeared, Oscar Stanton De Priest became the first African American elected to Congress in the 20th century, representing Chicago’s South Side — but also, effectively, Black people across the country. He was a Republican, but six years later, he would be out of office — losing reelection to another African American migrant from the South, a former Republican named Arthur W. Mitchell, who became the first Black Democrat elected to Congress.

It would take more than another decade for a clear majority of Black voters to identify as Democrats. But the seeds were sown nearly half a century earlier, when Du Bois and others laid out a different future from the one that had been imagined for them.

Ed Helms’s podcast explores a Post scoop on the FBI that rocked America

BY OMARI DANIELS

When Ed Helms received a book from his aunt as a Christmas gift in 2014, it didn’t just sit on his shelf. The actor, writer and comedian was captivated by the book, “The Burglary: The Discovery of J. Edgar Hoover’s Secret FBI,” by former Washington Post reporter Betty Medsger, who was friends with Helms’s aunt.

“It was a heart-stopping thriller of this beautifully executed, high-stakes heist, and these citizens who realized that the only way to hold this government institution accountable was to break the law and put themselves at great risk,” Helms said in an interview. “There’s enormous passion and sacrifice in their actions, and it was deeply moving the more you know about this moment in American history.”

That moment, a heist in Media, Pa., on the night of March 8, 1971, was executed by eight members of the Citizens Commission to Investigate the FBI — a group of antiwar activists who stole documents from an FBI building. The documents revealed the extent of the FBI’s surveillance on citizens and exposed COINTELPRO (Counterintelligence Program) to Americans.

Tangled in this web was Medsger, who was 29 when she broke the story in The Post.

Helms, known for his roles on TV shows such as “The Daily Show With Jon Stewart” and “The Office,” and in films such as “The Hangover” trilogy, covers the story on the second season on his iHeartPodcast, “SNAFU,” a “show about history’s greatest screw-ups.”

More than half a century after the heist, the revelations of the FBI’s surveillance of Americans remain relevant, Helms said. In April, Congress reauthorized the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), which grants U.S. spy agencies the ability to collect, without a warrant, the communications of noncitizens abroad

who are suspected of threatening national security. Helms also cited the rise of artificial intelligence and how Big Tech sites collect data to market to users, regardless of whether they want their information sold.

“We wouldn’t know about COINTELPRO if not for this burglary,” Helms said. “To the extent that there is oversight of our surveillance institutions, a lot of it can be traced back to this moment.”

Helms said that years after he read Medsger’s book, the burglary came up as a potential podcast topic. He and the podcast’s team met with Medsger in February 2023, and she joined as an executive producer.

“This story had its talons in me,” Helms said. “With Betty on the team, this is when we realized that this is going to be wonderful.”

In an interview, Medsger said she found it “very gratifying” to see the team research the story and solicit her feedback.

“It was a fully collaborative effort from the beginning, and I felt deeply engaged with it,” said Medsger, 82.

The first season of the podcast — a production of iHeartPodcasts, FilmNation Entertainment and Pacific Electric Picture Co., in association with Gilded Audio — premiered in September 2022 and covered the story of Able Archer 83, the NATO military exercise that almost caused a nuclear war in 1983. The second season, about the media heist, premieres July 10; a trailer for it was released Wednesday.

‘An FBI agent behind every mailbox’

The new season, which will have eight episodes and two bonus episodes, begins with the 1971 “Fight of the Century” in Madison Square Garden between Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier.

As the match unfolded, the commission orchestrated a plan months in the making: Break



COURTESY OF THE DAVIDON FAMILY

Bill Davidson, center, one of the Media, Pa., burglars, with his family and a cutout of J. Edgar Hoover in Philadelphia in 1971.

into the building at 1 Veterans Square. The activists opposed the Vietnam War and were wary of FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, but they had no proof that the United States was acting as a police state.

To get the real story, the team had hoped to target the FBI office in Philadelphia, but it was downtown near City Hall, so they picked the FBI office in Media, which housed fewer than five agents. The team spent months canvassing the area.

The documents they stole in Media included a memo instructing agents to interview antiwar activists to “enhance the paranoia endemic in these circles and further serve to get the point across that there is an FBI agent behind every mailbox.”

Helms said the heist and the revelations in Medsger’s story astounded him.

“It seemed like there was no end to the petty retribution or harassment of political enemies,” Helms said. “Every time we would learn about how much the FBI was phone-tapping people and orchestrating an effort to intimidate law-abiding citizens,

that kept surprising me.”

In talking to the six surviving burglars, Helms said, he grew to respect their “deeply moving stories of personal sacrifice.” Included in several episodes are interviews with one of the burglars, Sara Shumer, who is being identified by her real name for the first time.

“I was blown away by their courage,” Helms said.

The commission sent two copies of the documents to members of Congress, and three to reporters. Four of the five forwarded the contents to the FBI.

Betty Medsger did not.

‘The danger involved’

Two weeks after the break-in, Medsger arrived at The Post’s headquarters and received an envelope with a return address of Liberty Publications in Media, Pa. In the envelope was a letter that read: “Dear friend: enclosed you will find copies of certain files from the Media, Pa. office of the FBI which were removed by our commission for public scrutiny.”

Medsger said she was “shocked” when she read the

documents.

“Every agent in the country was supposed to hire an informer that would work full time on creating files on Black people without regard to suspicion of crime,” Medsger said in an interview. “This was like a Black Stasi, and that was one of the biggest shocks.”

Post Publisher Katharine Graham was “very frightened by the situation,” Medsger said, and Attorney General John Mitchell called Graham and Executive Editor Ben Bradlee to demand that The Post not publish Medsger’s story on the grounds that the documents could damage national security.

Medsger said she did not have second thoughts about writing the story, but Post leadership was in uncharted territory. Helms explains in one episode that, until this point, no American newspaper had published government documents stolen by sources outside the government.

“I started to confront, within myself, the significance and the danger involved,” Medsger said.

Medsger turned in her story at 6 p.m. that day. The next morning, she said, the published piece gave Americans a new perception of the FBI.

“We learned that J. Edgar Hoover had a secret FBI within the FBI that was engaged in unlawful activity,” Medsger said. “It was extremely important that it become known, and shocking that it could go on without the public knowing.”

‘Surveillance is becoming so prevalent’

Medsger said she believes she was surveilled for a year and a half to two years after her story came out. The morning it appeared, when she picked up the phone to call a friend, she heard a harsh voice asking, “What are you doing?” Medsger never figured out who it was but assumed it was an FBI agent.

“I didn’t realize surveillance

could be that direct, and it must have been designed to make me paranoid,” Medsger said.

The revelations from the documents and subsequent congressional hearings had an impact. On May 8, 1976, the new FBI director, Clarence Kelley, publicly apologized for past FBI misconduct.

But Ronald Reagan campaigned in 1980 to undo new guidelines on surveillance, and as president, he removed many of the restrictions on national security inquiries, notably revoking an executive order by President Jimmy Carter that banned CIA surveillance in the United States. The passage of the Patriot Act after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks led to more surveillance from intelligence agencies.

“I think that fear makes it possible for people to not care whether they’re under surveillance or their basic rights are being trampled,” Medsger says in one episode of “SNAFU.”

Helms said government agencies need transparency to keep from infringing on civil liberties.

“Where is the line in protecting civil liberties versus allowing a government to operate in secrecy when it needs to keep a country running and protect national security?” Helms said. “It boils down to the public holding its institutions accountable and staying vigilant against overreach.”

Medsger said recent debates about the extension of warrantless government surveillance through FISA have kept the story relevant. “Intelligence agencies will always push for having an easier ability to conduct mass surveillance of Americans,” she said.

“Surveillance is becoming so prevalent, whether it’s the cameras on the street corner or in the grocery store,” Helms said. “The reality is that surveillance is something we should all be paying more attention to, and I hope people start think about that.”



The Guide to Offers

The Washington Post

Enter for the chance to win a pair of tickets to the Totally Tubular Festival on July 14 at The Anthem

In an electrifying nod to the 1980s music scene, legendary bands and performers including Thomas Dolby, Thompson Twins' Tom Bailey, Men Without Hats, Tommy Tutone, Bow Wow Wow and Modern English have joined forces to announce the “Totally Tubular Festival.” This extraordinary lineup will take fans on a journey through some of the decade’s most iconic hits like “She Blinded Me With Science,” “Hold Me Now,” “The Safety Dance,” “867-5309/Jenny,” “I Want Candy” and “I Melt With You.”

See details at [washingtonpost.com/entertainment/events/lists/388](https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/events/lists/388)



New laws take effect Monday in Virginia, Maryland, D.C.

LAWS FROM B1

new direct-to-consumer alcoholic beverages delivery permits. Individuals must meet certain requirements to qualify for a delivery permit. There will be a maximum amount of alcoholic beverage deliveries that a recipient may get each year.

Ban on legacy admissions. Maryland universities that receive state funds will not be able to consider whether an applicant's family member either attended or donated to the institution as a criterion for admission. As of Monday, institutions will be allowed to ask applicants about whether they're related to alumni for data collection purposes.

Correctional ombudsman role created. The state will establish an office for a correctional ombudsman to conduct investigations, reviews and assessments of administrative acts taken by the department of public safety and correctional services, the department of juvenile services, or in relation to individuals confined by either department. The ombudsman will serve as a mediator in situations of misconduct or alleged prison abuses. The Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board will recommend a distribution of money from the performance incentive grant fund to finance this new office.

Indoor vaping ban. Vaping will now be prohibited in certain indoor areas, places of employment and certain mass transportation.

Alterations to previous bill on compensation for erroneously convicted individuals. This bill adjusts the benefits a person who was incorrectly convicted of a crime is entitled to. The state is required to notify the person in writing when the state plans to reduce or prevent compensation.

Stop sign monitoring systems in Prince George's County. Prince George's County will be authorized to place automated enforcement systems, such as stop sign cameras, in school zones. Owners or drivers of a motor vehicle that are recorded failing to stop at a stop sign will be subject to a citation and further civil penalties under certain



KATHERINE FREY/THE WASHINGTON POST; MARK MILLER/THE WASHINGTON POST; JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

New laws set to take effect on Monday include a Maryland measure that will prohibit vaping in some indoor areas, left; a 12.5 percent fare increase on Metro, center; and Maryland and Virginia laws prohibiting legacy admissions in public colleges and universities.

circumstances.

Noise abatement monitoring systems in Prince George's and Montgomery counties. Both counties are establishing a pilot program to use noise abatement monitoring systems to enforce motor vehicle noise requirements. This will require the counties to publish the systems' locations on its website before activating a monitoring system.

New fees, taxes and fines. These fees came about as a result of the General Assembly's latest budget that raises approximately \$340 million and increases funding for the state's shock trauma system. Drivers who register a vehicle in Maryland will pay a \$23 surcharge each year when their registration is due. The fine for drivers who speed in work zones is increasing from the current \$40, to a range of \$60 to \$500 depending on how much the driver went above the speed

limit. The sales tax on a pack of cigarettes will increase by \$1.25, to \$5, and the sales tax on electronic cigarettes and vapes will rise from 12 percent to 20 percent.

D.C.

Minimum wage increase. The minimum wage will increase from \$17 per hour to \$17.50 per hour, according to the city's Department of Employment Services. And thanks to a ballot initiative passed by District voters in 2022, the base minimum wage for tipped workers will also increase, from \$8 to \$10 per hour. If an employee's hourly tip earnings added to the base minimum wage do not equal the city's full minimum wage, the employer must pay the difference. Under Initiative 82, the tipped minimum wage will be phased out gradually by 2027 and replaced with one universal minimum

wage. Initiative 82 will gradually increase D.C.'s tipped minimum wage until it aligns with the city's standard minimum wage.

Pay rates on job listings. On Sunday, a law will go into effect requiring employers in the city to disclose pay rates and salary ranges in job listings. This law will prohibit District employers from screening prospective employees by their wage history. Similarly, the law bars employers from probing the wage history of prospective employees. Employers are also required to disclose whether a job offers health-care benefits before an applicant's first interview.

Increase to tax for paid family leave fund. Under the D.C. Council's recently passed budget, businesses that contribute to the city's paid family leave fund will be taxed at a higher rate starting Monday, increasing from 0.26 percent to 0.75 percent. This

quarterly payroll tax will be collected under the new rate beginning in October.

Virginia

Gun control, possession regulations. The Democratic-controlled General Assembly passed a host of gun-control bills this year, knowing that Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin was likely to veto most of them. However, Youngkin signed two sets of those bills into law, and both go into effect Monday. One pair of identical bills bans the manufacture, sale and possession of devices called auto sears, which make semiautomatic weapons fire continuously like a fully automatic machine gun. The other pair of bills make it a felony for a parent or guardian to enable a child to get possession of a firearm if the adult knows that the child has been deemed a threat or has been charged with a violent crime.

Protection of menstrual data. Authorities will be prohibited from issuing search warrants, subpoenas or court orders to obtain menstrual health data, including electronic data stored on digital devices. Such searches have been used in other states to control access to abortions.

Legacy admissions. Like the state of Maryland, public colleges and universities in Virginia will be prohibited from giving preferential admissions treatment on the basis of whether a student's family member attended the institution or is a donor.

Marriage age requirement raised to 18. A person will have to be at least 18 years of age to get married; previously, someone at least 16 could marry if they won emancipation from their parents. Another new law mandates that no one can be denied a marriage license on the basis of sex, gender or race, and requires that the state recognize all lawful marriages. The law gives religious organizations or clergy members the right to refuse to perform any marriage.

Employees on cannabis oil lawfully cannot face discrimination. Employers now must not discriminate against an employee if they lawfully use medical cannabis oil. The law also applies to employees of the state and other public bodies, except for law enforcement officers.

Ombudsman created in prisons. The state will create an ombudsman for the department of corrections that will be selected by the state inspector general. The ombudsman will take complaints, raise issues about conditions in the state's corrections system and report to a new corrections oversight committee made up of four lawmakers and nine citizens appointed by the governor.

Definition of hate crimes expanded. Virginia's definition of hate crimes will be expanded to include discrimination in employment or accommodation on the basis of ethnic origin, as well as assault, trespass or property damage directed at someone's ethnic origin. The change is intended, in part, to combat antisemitism.

AutismFYI has trained more than 15,000 people, but its future is uncertain

AUTISM FROM B1

\$250,000 of their savings — into trying to make a difference.

The nonprofit's headquarters overtake their split-level home in Bowie, which once served as a home office where the Benjamins would prepare patients for tummy tucks and other procedures.

Now, shelves lining their basement walls are filled with merchandise such as backpacks; T-shirts; and identification cards, bracelets and USB cards that download personal info to help authorities reunite lost family members.

Brad and Kenny sit at computers and help Joyce Benjamin fulfill requests from clients and brand merchandise with logos via a heat-press machine.

Kenny Benjamin is resolute: "We're going to do this as long as we want until the whole world learns about autism and Asperger's," he said.

But AutismFYI is threatened by the passage of time.

Years of performing operations led to crippling back problems for James Benjamin, 78. His wife,

who is 68, just wants to relax.

"I did my best," Joyce Benjamin said. "We put training out online for free ... but at that point you can't do everything for the world."

"I don't see it ending. I see it as too necessary in every state, every country."

Joyce Benjamin,
co-founder of AutismFYI

Hopefully someone else would just take up the cause."

The couple give themselves two more years for their curriculum to be absorbed by a larger autism group or to find the money to hire their replacement.

"I don't see it ending. I see it as too necessary in every state, every country," Joyce Benjamin said. "But it takes a lot of people. Can't just be me."

AutismFYI lecturer and retired Prince George's County police Sgt.

Michelle Grimes translated medical jargon during the training session.

She clicked through PowerPoint slides:

"Autism is a neuro-development disorder that may or may not present obvious symptoms."

Some people "may become non verbal when stressed."

Officers were warned that unwanted touching could easily trigger some people. Avoidance of eye contact is typical.

The Benjamin brothers' presence loosened up the room as the questions flowed:

Would the lights and sirens trigger them?

Can a person with autism follow commands?

"Time, patience and distance are the three things," Grimes said.

How well do you take direction?

Give one directive at a time, Joyce Benjamin suggested.

"Yeah, one step at a time," Kenny said.

Before his sons even arrived, James Benjamin made a personal plea:

"We're asking a lot of you, and I want you take care of my kid."



SARAH L. VOISIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Brad, left, and Kenny Benjamin live at home and help their parents run autism trainings. "We're going to do this as long as we want until the whole world learns about autism and Asperger's," Kenny said.

Probation officials to resume monitoring riot defendant's computer activity

RIOTER FROM B1

crime to which he pleaded guilty did not involve a computer and that the monitoring inhibits his work, especially his digital communications with people who give him information. She said Walton's decision sets "a bad precedent" that could lead other judges to impose similar probation conditions for Jan. 6 defendants, trampling their First Amendment rights.

Prosecutor Brian Brady said probation officials can monitor

Goodwyn's computer activity by using software and artificial intelligence that identifies potentially incendiary rhetoric without interfering with his legitimate exercise of free speech. He said Walton has the authority to encroach on Goodwyn in that way because Goodwyn remains under court supervision as part of his sentence.

"Throughout the pendency of Goodwyn's case, he has made untruthful statements regarding his conduct and the events of the day, he has used websites and

"[H]e has used websites and social media to place targets on police officers who defended the Capitol."

Prosecutor Brian Brady,
writing in a court filing

social media to place targets on police officers who defended the Capitol, and he has used these platforms to publish and view extremist media," Brady wrote in a court filing.

"Imposing the requested [monitoring] conditions would protect the public from further dissemination of misinformation" and "provide specific deterrence from him committing similar crimes," Brady added.

Goodwyn attended the hearing via video but did not participate.

In the 2021 criminal complaint, the FBI cited video evidence from Jan. 6 that shows Goodwyn entering the Capitol from the Upper West Terrace with a mob of supporters of President Donald Trump. Hundreds of rioters breached the building that day, spurred by Trump's false assertion that he had been denied reelection because of voter fraud. The attack temporarily disrupted the formal counting of electoral votes in favor of President Biden.

"Outside the door, Goodwyn

used a bullhorn to incite others to go into the Capitol," an FBI agent said in the complaint. "He yelled several inflammatory statements through the bullhorn to other rioters, including, '[b]ehind me, the door is open,' 'we need you to push forward, forward,' 'we need critical mass for this to work,' and 'go behind me and go in.'"

Goodwyn then joined the crowd in entering the Capitol and stayed inside for several minutes, despite being ordered to leave by police, the complaint says.

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MARYLAND

Baltimore to consider raising tipped minimum wage

BY AMANDA YEAGER

BALTIMORE — Baltimore’s City Council will consider whether to raise the minimum wage employers pay tipped workers such as bartenders and servers, following an unsuccessful state-wide push earlier this year.

A bill introduced last week by council member John Bullock would raise base pay for tipped workers in increments over the next five years.

Under existing law, a “tip credit” allows employers to pay \$3.63 an hour — half of the federal minimum wage — to workers who earn tips on the job, as long as those tips bring their pay up to at least \$15 an

hour, the minimum wage in Maryland.

Bullock’s proposal would bring the tipped minimum in the city up to \$6 an hour beginning July 1, 2025. The rate would then increase by \$2 a year until 2029, when the tip credit would be banned and base pay would rise to be on par with the minimum for other Maryland workers.

Supporters of raising the tipped minimum wage argue that the measure will create more consistency for workers and cut down on instances of wage theft. They also point to the history of tipping, which started after the Civil War as a way to hire formerly enslaved people without having to pay them a

base wage.

Those opposed to the change counter that eliminating the tip credit will push restaurants to raise prices or impose service charges to account for higher payroll costs. They also argue that it will hurt workers, who are often able to earn more than minimum wage when tips are accounted for.

“I think it’s just the right thing to do,” Bullock said of his proposal. With a higher tipped minimum wage, workers “are not at the whims of which way the wind is blowing in a particular day in terms of taking care of themselves and their families. Essentially, it provides more predictability.”

“We’ve been fighting for wages in Baltimore for a number of years. Even before the state moved on the minimum wage.”

John Bullock,
Baltimore City Council member

His bill has the backing of One Fair Wage, a national organization pushing to eliminate the tip credit across the country. The group was behind a successful effort to phase in a higher minimum wage for tipped workers in D.C., where voters backed a ballot initiative to raise the tipped minimum to \$16.10 by 2027.

Similar measures have passed in other cities and states, including California, Nevada and Minnesota. The tip credit was hotly debated in Montgomery County, before a County Council bill to raise the tipped minimum there was withdrawn earlier this year.

In Maryland, the General Assembly took up a tip credit bill in

this year’s legislative session, but the proposal didn’t make it to the floor for a vote. A 2022 push also failed to gain momentum.

Bullock said he thinks Baltimore should lead the charge.

“We’ve been fighting for wages in Baltimore for a number of years,” he said. “Even before the state moved on the minimum wage ... we tried to as a council, and it’s still something I think we should be leading in terms of both.”

The council member said that some colleagues have expressed initial support for the initiative and that “we’re hopeful that we’ll get some additional supporters, as well.”

— *Baltimore Sun*

THE DISTRICT

In a 12-hour spate of violence, six shootings and a stabbing leave two dead

BY EMMA UBER

D.C. police said they responded to six shootings and one stabbing in a roughly 12-hour period from Saturday afternoon to early Sunday, an outbreak of violence that left two men dead.

On Saturday, police received a call reporting a shooting at 1:30 p.m. Officers arrived at the 1800 block of Providence Street NE to find a man suffering from a gunshot wound, police said. He was pronounced dead at the

scene. A similar call came less than three hours later, at 4:10 p.m., reporting a shooting in the 2700 block of Shipley Terrace SE. Again, officers found a man who had been killed.

Four of the shootings and the stabbing occurred in a three-hour period starting at 11 p.m. Saturday. After an 11:18 p.m. report of a shooting, police responded to the 2800 block of Pomeroy Road SE to find a man injured but alive. Police said he was taken to a hospital.

Despite the weekend’s cluster of shootings, violence in D.C. has been trending down.

Less than 30 minutes later, a caller reported a shooting at the intersection of 28th and R streets

SE. One man was taken to a hospital, police said.

Then, at 12:54 a.m. Sunday, a man walked into a fire station in the 2800 block of Pennsylvania Avenue SE to seek treatment for gunshot wounds. He too was taken to a hospital.

Five minutes later, at 12:59 a.m., officers responded to a shooting in the 6100 block of Banks Place NE that left three women wounded. Police said the injuries were not life-threatening.

The final violent crime of the

eventful 12-hour period was reported at 1:42 a.m., when a woman was stabbed in the 4000 block of Minnesota Avenue NE. Police said her injuries also were not life-threatening.

Police did not identify any of the victims or any suspects.

The spate of violence came just five days before the Fourth of July — a holiday that has earned a deadly reputation in the country’s capital and nationwide. Last year in D.C., five people were fatally shot in separate incidents on

July 4 and 5, while another shooting during an Independence Day celebration left nine injured.

Despite the weekend’s cluster of shootings, violence in D.C. has been trending down. While 2023 marked the deadliest year in the District since 1997, 2024 has seen less violent crime. So far this year, violent crime in D.C. has dropped 29 percent from last year, including a 24 percent decrease in both homicides and assaults with a dangerous weapon, according to police data.

Tech firm CEOs charged alongside retired admiral fight bribery allegations

BRIBERY FROM B1

Co-CEOs built an impeccable reputation for having developed some of the most well-respected leadership programs utilized by the U.S. Government, and it appears they are now unjustly caught up in a bureaucratic, politically motivated, governmental crossfire,” Rocco F. D’Agostino, an attorney for Messenger, said in a written statement.

Next Jump attorney Reed Brodsky, a former federal prosecutor in Manhattan who co-chairs the litigation practice at the Gibson Dunn & Crutcher law firm, said it was “very disappointed” in how the government proceeded in the months preceding the indictment.

“We tried on multiple occasions to present evidence and witnesses to the government after one presentation, but surprisingly the government refused to hear anything we had to say, declining to meet with Next Jump’s counsel or even question Next Jump about the additional evidence we said we had in our possession,” Brodsky said.

William A. Burck, co-managing partner of one of Washington’s premier white-collar law firms, Quinn Emanuel, has also joined the case as an attorney for Kim. A former lawyer in the George W. Bush White House, Burck has represented a roster of high-profile Republican clients including former Trump White House counsel Donald McGahn and political strategist Stephen K. Bannon in the Justice Department’s Russia investigation. He also represented Robert K. Hur, the special counsel who investigated President Biden’s possession of classified documents after he left the vice presidency; and former Virginia first lady Mau-

reen McDonnell, whose federal corruption convictions with her husband, former governor Bob McDonnell, were overturned on appeal.

“Charlie Kim would never put at risk — for any reason — everything he’s built and his standing in the global business community, much less for a contract that was at most inconsequential to his business,” Burck said in a statement. “To be clear, Mr. Kim vehemently denies any involvement in the alleged conspiracy or bribery scheme and has no intention of backing down. We are confident he will get a fair shake from the Court and the jury and that he will ultimately be exonerated.”

“The Department of Justice hopefully ... has a prosecution that would withstand scrutiny, because these cases are very difficult to prove.”

Scott Amey, general counsel of the Project on Government Oversight

A spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney’s office in D.C. and the Justice Department’s public integrity section declined to comment, saying, “We cannot comment on an ongoing prosecution.”

Legal experts said Kim and Messenger’s combative defense is striking because prosecutors almost always seek to “flip” lower-profile co-defendants in conspiracy cases and leverage their

cooperation against top targets like Burke. The defense claims also raise the stakes for the Pentagon and the Justice Department, which would be expected to have an airtight case given Burke’s senior rank and recent setbacks in public corruption cases, legal experts said.

“The Department of Justice hopefully has put its ducks in a row and has a prosecution that would withstand scrutiny, because these cases are very difficult to prove,” said Scott Amey, general counsel of the Project on Government Oversight watchdog group. “It’s very important for the Justice Department and the Defense Department to protect our contracting system, and to ensure the people we have at the senior-most levels aren’t thinking about lining their pockets or their future employer’s pockets.”

The Justice Department is still dealing with the fallout from its handling of the worst corruption scandal in Navy history, involving disgraced defense contractor Leonard “Fat Leonard” Francis. Those proceedings were tarnished after defense attorneys alleged that prosecutors relied on flawed evidence and withheld information favorable to the defense. U.S. prosecutors in May moved to drop felony charges against five convicted defendants and said as many as two dozen more cases could be affected by an ongoing review of 34 prosecutions that included 29 guilty pleas.

Meanwhile, the Navy has faced criticism that junior officers were arrested and prosecuted while top brass have dodged accountability, as discipline for the most senior leaders is almost always handled internally. Burke has said he was introduced to Next Jump in 2016 around the time the



Robert P. Burke, a retired admiral, is facing bribery and conspiracy charges related to an alleged scheme involving a military contract.

Navy was seeking to overhaul its leadership training programs in the wake of the Fat Leonard scandal. He has said that as chief of naval personnel the following year, he reached out to the company when the Navy faced another crisis over leadership and readiness breakdowns exposed by two deadly collisions in June and August 2017 involving the USS Fitzgerald and the USS John McCain, in which 17 sailors were killed.

Burke’s case “is critically important to the Justice Department to rebound from the utter disaster of the Fat Leonard investigations,” said Michael R. Sherwin, a former federal prosecutor who served as acting U.S. attorney for D.C. in 2020 and 2021. Sherwin recently represented a defendant in another recent federal Navy bribery case in which prosecutors abandoned claims of a \$50 million fraud.

Virtually all federal corruption cases “are built on cooperators” to get to a top target, such as

Burke, Sherwin added. The fact that Kim and Messenger are fighting the charges “tells me either the government made a run at them, and they refused; or prosecutors think the evidence against them is so strong — such as emails, text messages or recordings — that they don’t need them,” Sherwin said.

According to charging papers, Burke supported a Next Jump workforce training pilot program for a small Navy component from August 2018 through July 2019 before the Navy terminated a contract with the company in November 2019. That same month, an aide to Burke directed the firm not to contact him further because of “upcoming contracting actions” and because of his recent promotion to vice chief of naval operations. Burke served about a year as the service’s No. 2-ranking officer, from June 2019 to June 2020, after his predecessor unexpectedly retired before taking over as the Navy’s top officer in August 2019.

Despite the admonition, a 16-page indictment alleges, Kim, Messenger and Burke agreed in a July 2021 meeting that he would use his position — then as one of nine four-star Navy admirals — to award a sole-source contract to Next Jump in exchange for a future job, and to influence other officers to award a larger training contract valued at or more than \$100 million.

Senior government officials generally are required to notify ethics offices about the initiation of job talks and to recuse themselves from matters involving a potential future employer, but Burke misled and concealed his conflict of interest from the Navy, prosecutors charged.

Burke’s lawyer, Tim Parlatore, has said his client never accepted a job at the initial meeting and that he left the firm within months of joining it in October 2022. Parlatore questioned the logic of the government’s allegation that Next Jump offered a \$500,000-a-year job to get a \$355,000 award.

Kim and Messenger’s defenders inside the company agree. In documents posted in company social media accounts and internal communications, employees say Burke misled Next Jump executives about what he and the Navy were doing with the company, while telling them his actions were permitted.

Burke attorney Parlatore rejected that characterization, saying Burke “never misled anybody.” At the time Burke had serious employment conversations with Next Jump, he had authorization from the Navy, Parlatore said, adding, “Admiral Burke has done nothing wrong here, he’s been above board at all stages. There was no bribery, and we expect to go to trial and win.”



She had a loud, nonstop crunching noise in her head...

Read “Medical Mysteries,” Tuesdays in **Health & Science**.

wapo.st/medicalmysteries

The Washington Post

50137-6x5

OBITUARIES

NATHAN HARE, 91

Scholar and writer who led fight for Black studies

BY BRIAN MURPHY

Nathan Hare, a scholar and writer who helped shape Black empowerment movements in the 1960s, including a five-month strike by students and faculty members at San Francisco State College that led to the creation of the nation's first extensive Black studies program, died June 10 at a hospital in San Francisco. He was 91.

The death was announced by the Black Scholar, a journal Dr. Hare co-founded in 1969. No other details were noted.

Dr. Hare was among a wave of Black professors in the 1960s challenging higher-education curriculums they saw as undervaluing the Black experience in America and giving too much weight to European traditions and perspectives.

A 1965 treatise by Dr. Hare, "Black Anglo-Saxons," asserted that African Americans have lost their way and identity by trying to assimilate with White culture. He expanded his influence by pushing the academic and literary debates into protest action.

His public statements grew more provocative — intentionally so, he said, to get attention — and reflected the growing power of black-nationalist ideology from activists such as Malcolm X on the wider civil rights movement. Dr. Hare proclaimed that a race war in the United States was likely and once, during a 1967 showdown while teaching sociology at Howard University, called for the historically Black institution in Washington to effectively be seized in a coup.

"People will have to take over Howard and run it themselves to a decent administration," he told U.S. News and World Report. "The university might have to be brought to a halt, closed, wiped out, eliminated."

Dr. Hare was locked in a feud with Howard's president, James M. Nabrit Jr., over university plans to significantly boost enrollment by White students. Dr. Hare bitterly mocked Nabrit — who was widely admired for his legal battles against segregation — in a September 1966 letter to the editor in Howard's student newspaper, the Hilltop.

The tensions deepened in March 1967. Antiwar demonstrators at Howard forced the abrupt cancellation of a campus speech by Gen. Lewis Hershey, who led the Selective Service System in charge of the military draft. Dr. Hare was among five faculty members suspended for links to the protest.

In defiance, Dr. Hare arranged to bring Muhammad Ali to Howard for a black-power rally after the boxer refused to serve in Vietnam. "We have been using the wrong tactics in the past," said Dr. Hare. "Assimilation has not worked. We've been signing when we should be swinging, maybe."

That summer, Dr. Hare was dismissed by Howard. "Dehired," Dr. Hare called it. He joined the



Nathan Hare, left, confronts San Francisco State's interim president, S.I. Hayakawa, right, on Feb. 14, 1969, during a strike to demand the creation of a Black studies program and other changes.

faculty of San Francisco State (now San Francisco State University) to start the next semester in September 1967.

At the time, the college had courses in what it called "minority studies" — a term Dr. Hare rejected. He pushed San Francisco State to create a new concentration of classes exploring Black history and contemporary affairs. The administration did not agree.

"We must build a new sense of struggle, a willingness to sacrifice for our own freedom."

Dr. Hare, in a Black Scholar column in December 1969

In early November 1968, Dr. Hare was at the center of a strike that gained widespread support among students and faculty members, including an influential member of the English department, George Murray, who was part of the Black Panther Party. Among the strike demands was a Black studies department and increasing Dr. Hare's title and pay to that of a full professor.

The college's interim president, S.I. Hayakawa, denounced the strikers. He once climbed onto a protester's van during the strike and ripped the wires from a loudspeaker. He then allowed police onto the campus in a blitz-style raid in January 1969 that touched off clashes and led to more than 400 arrests, including that of Dr. Hare. An account by United Press International described police swinging batons and students responding with "rocks, bottles, bricks and sharpened clubs."

By March, a shaky truce was

hammered out. Hayakawa stuck to his earlier promise to create a School of Ethnic and Black Studies led by Dr. Hare. But he also announced that Dr. Hare's contract would not be renewed when the semester ended in June. "I have full authority to hire and fire any person," said Hayakawa, who later served as a Republican U.S. senator from California from 1977 to 1983.

Dr. Hare turned his back on academia. In late 1969, he founded the Black Scholar with poet Robert Chrisman and activist Allan Ross. The journal quickly established itself as one of the leading Black-run outlets for essays and analysis.

In the journal's first issue in December 1969, Dr. Hare's "From the Publisher" column called on readers to think about their place in history.

"Frederick Douglass said a century ago that he who would be free must strike the first blow and we are just now getting around to raising our fists in a ritual of symbolism," he wrote. "We must build a new sense of struggle, a willingness to sacrifice for our own freedom."

Boxing dreams

Nathaniel Hare was born in Slick, Okla., on April 9, 1933. He spent a few years as a child with an aunt in Oklahoma City and then returned to Slick, where his father was a sharecropper.

After his parents separated when he was 9, Nathan moved with his mother and siblings to San Diego. She found custodial work at a Navy base.

Nathan took an interest in boxing — expressing his delight at knocking around an older bully. The family returned to Oklahoma, where his mother purchased a farm with savings from her job. Nathan considered training to become a professional box-

er but decided to pursue sociology at Langston University, a historically Black college in Oklahoma. He worked as a janitor to pay his tuition.

After he received a bachelor's degree in 1955, he continued sociology studies at the University of Chicago with a master's degree in 1957 and a doctorate in 1962.

At Howard as an associate professor, he quickly became immersed in civil rights causes and the politics of Washington. Among his students were future activist Stokely Carmichael (later known as Kwame Ture) and the writer Claude Brown.

Dr. Hare resigned in 1975 from the Black Scholar, believing that the staff was abandoning black nationalism in favor of "Black Marxist" political views. "I soon found my contribution sabotaged and almost liquidated," he told the New York Times.

He opened a private practice as a psychologist and received a second doctorate from the California School of Professional Psychology in 1975. He and his wife — a former Langston student, Julia Reed, whom he married in 1956 — founded the Black Think Tank, which published books that included the couple's "The Endangered Black Family" (1984), examining how slavery, racism and other factors have eroded Black communities.

Dr. Hare's wife died in 2019. They did not have children, and he had no other survivors.

During his first years at Howard, Dr. Hare had a secret. He was boxing under the name Nat Harris in attempts to keep Howard colleagues from finding out.

In one bout in 1963, two Howard faculty members were in the crowd and noticed Dr. Hare in the ring. He later received an ultimatum from the university: "Fight or teach," he recalled being told, "you can't do both."

DEATH NOTICE

PERKO

MARILYN J. PERKO
Mrs. Marilyn J. Perko, 91 of Potomac, MD passed away on Thursday, June 20, 2024. She was the beloved wife of Edward C. Perko. Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents, Michael and Helen Jakubie. Friends may call at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, 9200 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, MD on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. with Mass of Christian Burial offered at 11 a.m. Entombment will follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Silver Spring, MD. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made in her name to Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church or the Wilmer Eye Institute Development Office, 600 N. Wolfe St., Wilmer 112, Baltimore, MD 21287. Please sign the family guest-book at: www.DeVofFuneralHome.com



DEATH NOTICE

WEINTRAUB

JONATHAN WILLIAM WEINTRAUB
On Saturday, June 29, 2024, Jonathan William Weintraub, of Bethesda, MD, Beloved husband of Judith Heimlich, devoted father of Lisa Weintraub and Schifferle (Carl and David Weintraub (Maria Guadalupe Hernandez Cota); cherished grandfather of Kayla Schifferle, Sarah Schifferle and Ricardo Weintraub Hernandez. Jon is also survived by many loving family members and friends. A service will be held on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, 11 a.m. at Tifereth Israel Congregation, 7701 16th Street NW, Washington, DC. Private interment to follow. Family will be observing Shiva at the Heimlich-Weintraub residence on Tuesday and Wednesday beginning at 6:30 p.m. in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson Foundation of the National Capital Area (parkinsonfoundation.org) or the US Holocaust Memorial Museum (ushmm.org)

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The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICE

IN MEMORIAM

CAMPBELL

CLAYBORN EUGENE CAMPBELL "Gene"
March 25, 1949 - July 1, 2019

You are someone I still talk to, Someone no one can replace. Gone, and forever in my heart. Missing you much, my other part.
Love always,
-- Carol Campbell

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4" - \$575
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3" - \$580
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5" - \$885

SUNDAY
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\$268 each additional inch Mon - Sat
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The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICE

LEVACA

ELIZABETH BELL LEVACA
Elizabeth Bell LeVaca, born February 23, 1944, in New York, NY, died peacefully at Martha Jefferson Hospital in Charlottesville, VA with her family surrounding her on June 26, 2024. Elizabeth graduated from the Epiphany School and Holy Cross Academy in New York City. She worked at the Ellsworth Studios in Bethesda, MD as a bookkeeper until she graduated from the Catholic University of America with a BS in nursing in 1979. She first worked at the Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, DC, then worked with several private doctors in DC, and volunteered with hospice until she retired in 1997. She married Joseph LeVaca in 1991, whom she first met in elementary school. They reconnected 30 years later. After living together in Washington, DC, they retired in Charlottesville, VA. With retirement, she devoted much of her time towards volunteering and supporting AIDS/HIV Services Group of Charlottesville. She also was an active board member of the Martha Jefferson Hospital Foundation, the College of New Rochelle, and the Paramount Theater of Charlottesville. Her love for her grandchildren was endless, as Elizabeth's favorite memories always included them. From their first sleepovers, recitals, sports events, to their graduations, she never wanted to miss a moment. She was a devoted and generous friend, a musical and live theater enthusiast, and the keeper of birthdays for all. Her constant kindness will be missed. Elizabeth was predeceased by her parents, Ralph H. Bell and Mary Fischer Bell, and her stepson, Kevin LeVaca. She is survived by her sisters, Kate Bell (brothers-in-law Tom Blackburn and Jack Wallace) and Roberta Bell Williamson; her son, Christopher Fuhrman (Jean), her daughter, Jennifer LaPlume (Daniel), daughter-in-law, Manuela LeVaca (Troy), and Terrence Williams (Tina); grandchildren: Tyler, Emma, Peyton, Terrence Christopher, William, Matthew, Amanda, Natalie; nieces, Erin and Sally, nephews Carl, John, and Michael. Her family and friends will have a memorial service and celebration of her life which will be announced later. Donations in her memory can be sent to: The Shelter for Help in Emergency, 1415 Schem PI, Charlottesville VA 22901, or St. Jude's Hospital for Children, 501 St. Jude's Pl., Memphis, TN 38105. **TEAGUE FUNERAL SERVICES** 2260 Ivy Rd, Charlottesville, VA 22903

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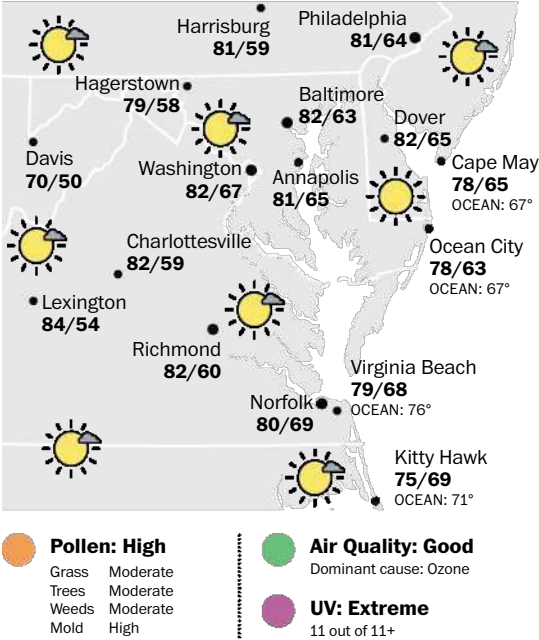
THE WEATHER

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A comfortable start to July

 It will be a stellar start to the workweek and our hottest month of the year. Skies will be sunny, refreshing breezes from the north will gust near 20 mph at times, and comfortable air (thanks to dew points in the 50s) will accompany temperatures in the upper 70s to the low 80s. The pleasantness will continue overnight, with lows in the upper 50s to the mid-60s and mostly clear skies.

REGION



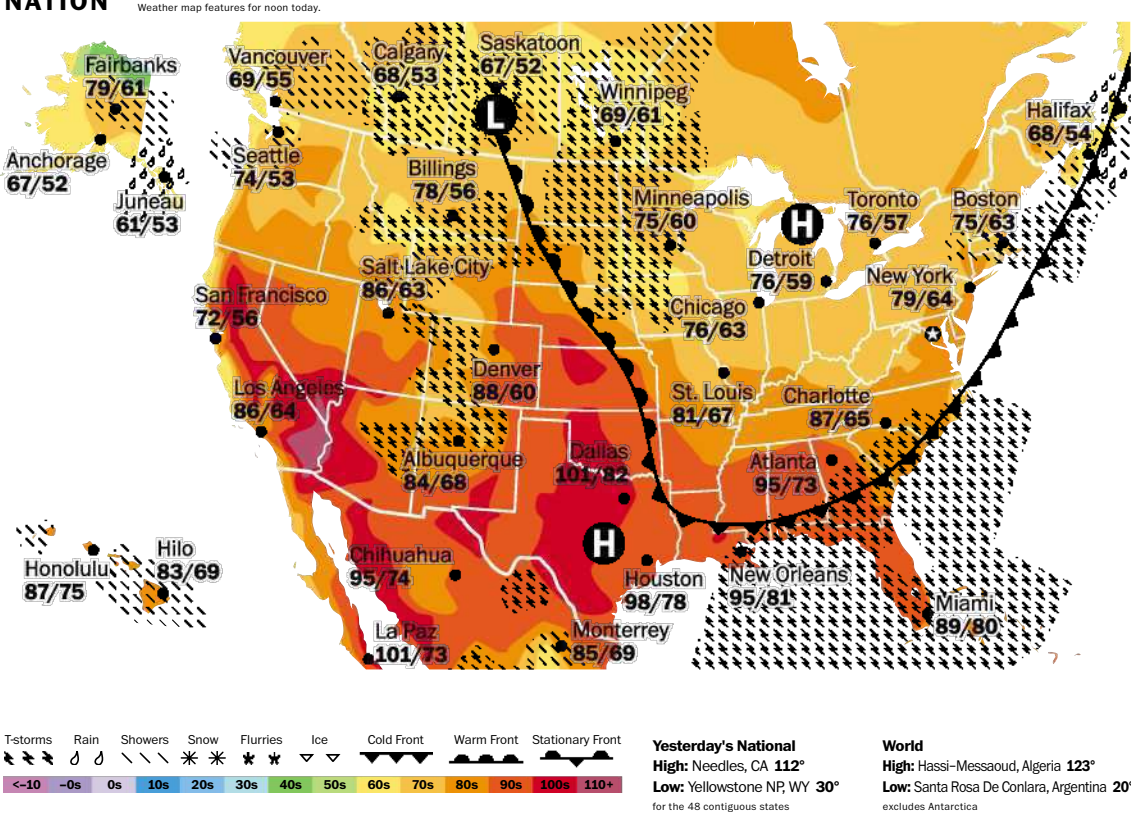
Blue Ridge: Today, sunshine. Cooler; less humid. High 63 to 74. Winds north 7–14 mph. Tonight, clear. Low 53 to 57. Winds northeast 4–8 mph. Tuesday, partly sunny. High 65 to 74. Winds east–southeast 6–12 mph. Wednesday, mostly sunny. High 70 to 78.

Atlantic beaches: Today, mostly sunny, less humid; cooler in the south. A nice day for outdoor activities. High 77 to 81. Winds north–northwest 10–20 mph. Tonight, clear. Low 63 to 69. Winds north–northeast 6–12 mph. Tuesday, mostly sunny. High 76 to 81.

Waterways: *Upper Potomac River:* Today, mostly sunny. Wind north–northwest 8–16 knots. Waves 1–3 feet. Visibility generally clear. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay:* Today, mostly sunny. Wind north 10–20 knots. Waves 1–2 feet on the Lower Potomac; 2–4 feet on the Chesapeake Bay. • *River Stages:* The stage at Little Falls will be around 2.70 feet today, rising to 2.90 Tuesday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

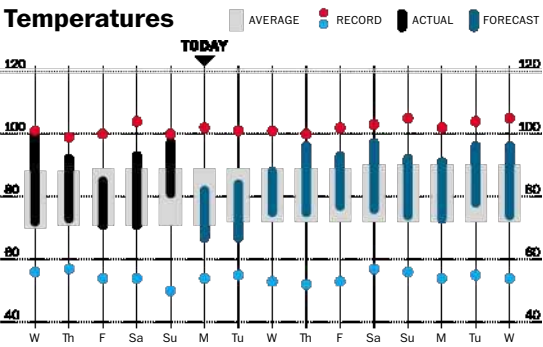
Today's tides (High tides in Bold)				
Washington	4:29 a.m.	11:52 a.m.	5:06 p.m.	11:45 p.m.
Annapolis	2:16 a.m.	8:40 a.m.	1:35 p.m.	7:58 p.m.
Ocean City	3:56 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	4:39 p.m.	11:12 p.m.
Norfolk	12:15 a.m.	6:01 a.m.	12:03 p.m.	6:41 p.m.
Point Lookout	5:02 a.m.	9:44 a.m.	3:47 p.m.	10:52 p.m.

NATION



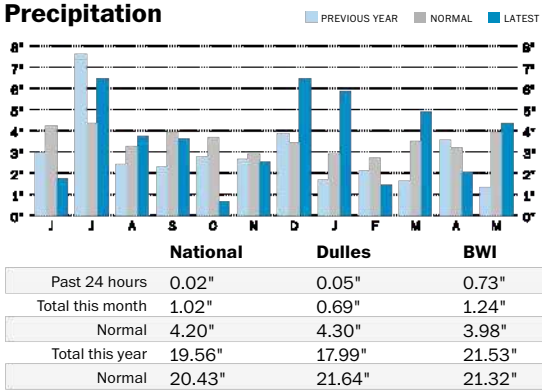
NATIONAL		Today	Tomorrow	Des Moines		72/66/t	87/65/t	Oklahoma City		99/77/p	101/79/s
Albany, NY		79/54/p	85/63/s	Detroit		76/59/s	79/68/p	Omaha		76/73/t	83/65/t
Albuquerque		84/68/t	86/68/p	El Paso		100/81/s	102/82/s	Orlando		93/77/sh	95/75/t
Anchorage		67/52/c	63/53/c	Fairbanks, AK		79/61/c	81/62/p	Philadelphia		81/64/s	85/64/s
Atlanta		95/73/s	87/75/p	Fargo, ND		76/65/t	83/60/p	Phoenix		107/91/c	111/92/p
Austin		99/75/s	100/74/p	Hartford, CT		81/59/p	87/60/s	Pittsburgh		75/56/p	84/64/s
Baltimore		82/63/s	84/64/s	Honolulu		87/75/p	88/75/sh	Portland, ME		78/58/p	81/57/s
Billings, MT		78/56/t	78/54/p	Houston		98/78/s	97/79/c	Portland, OR		78/54/p	74/53/p
Birmingham		94/73/s	91/78/t	Indianapolis		76/58/s	88/73/p	Providence, RI		75/60/t	82/58/s
Bismarck, ND		78/57/t	79/56/c	Jackson, MS		96/68/p	98/77/p	Raleigh, NC		84/62/s	87/66/s
Boise		86/56/s	88/58/s	Jacksonville, FL		93/76/t	90/75/t	Reno, NV		94/61/s	97/65/s
Boston		75/63/t	78/63/s	Kansas City, MO		83/75/t	97/72/p	Richmond		82/60/s	85/62/p
Buffalo		74/54/s	81/69/s	Las Vegas		108/83/s	111/85/s	Sacramento		103/74/s	107/72/s
Burlington, VT		77/55/s	84/64/s	Little Rock		89/68/c	96/76/s	St. Louis		81/67/p	94/76/s
Charleston, SC		88/72/t	84/75/sh	Los Angeles		86/64/p	85/65/p	St. Thomas, VI		92/81/p	90/82/t
Charleston, WV		78/56/s	89/66/s	Louisville		80/61/s	92/77/s	Salt Lake City		86/63/s	87/65/s
Charlotte		87/65/s	86/68/p	Memphis		87/66/s	94/77/s	San Diego		75/65/p	73/64/p
Cheyenne, WY		83/56/t	82/51/s	Miami		89/80/t	91/80/t	San Francisco		72/56/p	82/58/s
Chicago		76/63/s	87/71/p	Milwaukee		69/64/p	80/70/t	San Juan, PR		91/80/t	89/81/t
Cincinnati		77/58/s	89/72/s	Minneapolis		75/60/t	83/64/t	Seattle		74/53/p	71/51/p
Cleveland		72/56/s	88/69/s	Nashville		83/61/s	93/78/s	Spokane, WA		81/55/p	79/54/s
Dallas		101/82/s	101/83/s	New Orleans		95/81/t	93/80/t	Syracuse		74/53/p	82/67/s
Denver		88/60/p	86/58/p	New York City		79/64/s	83/65/s	Tampa		91/78/t	92/80/sh
				Norfolk		80/69/s	81/70/s	Wichita		97/77/c	103/75/p

OFFICIAL RECORD



National		Dulles		BWI	
High		97° 3:37 p.m.	96° 3:24 p.m.	97° 3:53 p.m.	
Low		81° 3:21 a.m.	76° 6:00 a.m.	76° 1:41 a.m.	
Normal		89°/71°	87°/66°	88°/66°	
Record high		100° 1959	98° 1964	100° 1959	
Record low		50° 1919	51° 1989	52° 1988	

Difference from 30-yr. avg. (National): this month: +3.4° yr. to date: +3.1°



Moon Phases		Solar system	
July 5 New		Sun Rise 5:47 a.m. Set 8:37 p.m.	
July 13 First Quarter		Moon 2:00 a.m. 4:37 p.m.	
July 21 Full		Venus 6:20 a.m. 9:09 p.m.	
July 27 Last Quarter		Mars 2:28 a.m. 4:20 p.m.	
		Jupiter 3:39 a.m. 6:10 p.m.	
		Saturn 12:09 a.m. 11:36 a.m.	

National		Dulles		BWI	
Past 24 hours		0.02"	0.05"	0.73"	
Total this month		1.02"	0.69"	1.24"	
Normal		4.20"	4.30"	3.98"	
Total this year		19.56"	17.99"	21.53"	
Normal		20.43"	21.64"	21.32"	

Key: s=sunny, p=partly cloudy, c=cloudy, r=rain, sh=showers, t=thunderstorms, sf=snow flurries, sn=snow, fice=fog, Sources: AccuWeather.com, US Army Centralized Aileron Extract Lab (pollen data), airmaw.gov (air quality data), National Weather Service

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The deluge of bonkers AI art is literally surreal

‘Slop’ is everywhere — too weird to be legitimate, but real enough to stir feelings

ALL IMAGES IN THIS STORY ARE AI-GENERATED



BY MAURA JUDKIS

The stuff of Salvador Dali’s wildest dreams is no match for Facebook these days: Amputee kittens using crutches. Strawberries in the shape of lifelike frogs. Bosomy conjoined twins, structurally impossible sand sculptures, snakes swallowing fully-grown lions, airplanes with human hands. An underwater Jesus covered in shrimp. ¶ These unsettling images appear in our social media feeds, sometimes as a jump scare, and sometimes as a Trojan horse. They might be accompanied by a manipulative caption — “99% of people will scroll past without clicking like” — or hashtag gobbledegook that often includes, for some reason, a combination of the words “Scarlett Johansson beautiful cabin crew.” The replies, a medley of gullible users and likely bots, are usually full of compliments for the insane image. ¶ Khan Schoolcraft, 33, moderates a Facebook group called “AI Boomertrap,” which collects examples of the genre (the cheeky name refers to the demographic that seems to get duped into thinking the images are real — though anyone can fall for it). Schoolcraft has seen it all. “Tiger Jesus saving his beautiful cabin crew from a plane that’s slowly sinking in the mud,” he says, by way of example. “You’ll see, like, a half-human, half-baby monkey hybrid getting eaten alive by fire ants, and people are commenting, ‘Oh so beautiful, I love it. Amen. God bless.’ ”

SEE AI ART ON C2

Media maven blames bad info for rise of polarization

BY LAURA WAGNER

A couple dozen people gathered recently in an elegant Kalorama backyard to fête “The Death of Truth,” Steven Brill’s new book about how bad information on the internet is polarizing the world.

Truth was not dead in this backyard, here among the servers filling wine glasses and restocking the platter of mini lobster rolls. “I trust institutions,” the veteran journalist told the typical Washington book party crowd of journalists, political staffers, communications consultants. “This isn’t a problem for the people who are assembled here.”

The issue was other people. Brill had in mind people like Dustin Thompson, a Columbus, Ohio, man who grew up middle class, graduated from Ohio State, and worked in the pest control industry until he lost his job during the pandemic, at which point he spent a lot of time at home, online.

“Long story short,” Brill told his book party guests, “by January 6, he was in the Capitol wearing a bulletproof vest and wielding a coatrack as a weapon.”

Brill, 73, entered the journalism industry in its energized post-Watergate years and emerged as a serial entrepreneur. He founded the American Lawyer magazine in 1979 and Court TV a decade later, which treated law not merely as a profession but as a business and as entertainment. In the late 1990s, Brill made media itself the focus for his next start-up, founding Brill’s Content, a glossy monthly devoted to media analysis and criticism, its debut issue attempting to unmask the secret sources behind Washington coverage of the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal.

The magazine folded after a couple years — Brill said it was hard to find advertisers — and his next few start-ups, which aimed to capitalize on the digital publishing revolution, were less successful. In 2018, he co-founded NewsGuard, a company that assigns credibility ratings to websites to help brands decide where to spend their online advertising dollars.

How’s everyone doing? Using what the company touts as proudly apolitical criteria, NewsGuard scored Fox News at 69.5, Breitbart scored 49.5, the New Republic 92.5, Mother Jones scored 69.5, The Washington Post received a 100. NewsGuard recently downgraded the New York Times’s credibility score from a perfect 100 to 87.5 — not because its explosive reporting on sexual violence during Hamas’s attack on Israel came

SEE BRILL ON C3

Q&A

Can Congress break our addiction to fast fashion?

BY RACHEL TASHJIAN

It may sound histrionic, but Americans’ relationship to fast fashion is nothing short of an addiction.

A House report on fast fashion released last year estimated that 30 percent of packages shipped to the United States under the de minimis provision — meaning they are worth less than \$800 and therefore not subject to import tariffs — probably come from Shein and Temu, two megastores whose bread-and-butter are cheap, disposable clothes meant to be ordered up in enormous batches.

Amid the shrinking middle of shopping, where everything seems to be \$10 or \$1,000, clothes from these online retailers and mall stalwarts such as Forever 21, Brandy Melville and Zara have become reliable cheap thrills. But just as with any other addiction, the bevy of information about the environmental, health and human rights hazards of these clothes seems to do little to thwart consumers.

In the European Union, especially France, leaders have introduced legislation to encourage fashion brands to adopt more sustainable practices and consumers to do the same. But such regulatory measures have seemed like distant fantasies in the United States. The closest we have come is a bipartisan effort to exempt China from de minimis trade, which would make Shein much more expensive — part of a larger push to scrutinize Chinese-owned businesses that operate in America, such as TikTok, and which some critics decry as Sino-phobic.

Now, it seems, Congress is hoping to inspire action. Enter the Slow Fashion

SEE Q&A ON C4



DEBATE CARTOONS

Thursday’s presidential debate gave six cartoonists plenty to work with. **C8**

JILL BIDEN

In aftermath of husband’s debate performance, the first lady remains resolute. **C8**

CAROLYN HAX

In-laws scoff at request that they not fight in front of toddler grandchild. **C2**

ASKING ERIC

A new advice column by R. Eric Thomas that replaces “Ask Amy” debuts today. **C5**

APPRECIATION

Mull’s subversive genius was pitch-perfect

BY GEOFF EDGERS

We throw around the term “Renaissance man” like it’s a Nerf football at a Memorial Day picnic, yet it’s hard to describe the actor and comedian Martin Mull, who died Thursday at 80, in any other way.

On camera, how he’s best known, Mull was instantly recognizable. His sarcastic and smug half-chuckle told you he knew his character’s superiority complex was ridiculous and, given the reality he poked fun at, not-so-sweetly subversive. He could be lovable on-screen — like when he and Fred Willard got married on “Roseanne” during the sitcom’s glorious 1990s run — but I most appreciated the bite as he played with and poked at the norms of entertainment culture.

In the 1970s and ’80s, at a time when comedy was dominated by White men with just a few exceptions (Richard Pryor, Eddie Murphy), Mull mocked Wonder Bread middle-of-the-road America as much as any social critic, yet you didn’t realize it until you noticed you were laughing at your own neigh-



PAUL NATKIN/GETTY IMAGES

Martin Mull plays guitar as he performs onstage in Chicago in 1980.

borhood.

Watch that mustachioed wink as he comes upon a stack of wild geese drink coasters on a coffee table while touring a

suburban home as the sweater-vested host of the mockumentary “The History of White People in America”

SEE APPRECIATION ON C3

In-laws say I'm a 'snowflake' for asking them not to fight in front of grandchild


Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

Dear Carolyn: I've always been uncomfortable with the way my husband's parents fight and argue in public. They raise

their voices and curse at each other, with nasty insults going back and forth between them. I've never said anything about it to them, but I did ask my husband to, and he shrugged it off. He says they don't mean anything by it and it's just their way. I always try to remove myself from the room when they start in on each other, though it isn't always possible — like when we're at a restaurant.

Now that our daughter is almost 1 and can understand what they're saying, I asked my husband to talk to his parents and ask them not to fight in front of our her. He made the request, and they're really mad at me. They called me a snowflake and said it didn't hurt their kids and it won't hurt our

daughter.

I can tell it upsets her, and it will get worse as she grows up. My plan now, when they start, is to take our daughter and leave whatever situation we're in, even if it means calling an Uber. My husband thinks I'm making too big a deal out of this. Am I being unreasonable?

— Anonymous

Anonymous: Oh, no, you're not. But as always, an in-law problem is to a large degree a spouse problem. That's because the biggest part of an in-law problem goes away when you have your spouse's support in addressing it.

Your spouse problem here is significant. You asked him to talk to his parents about not fighting around your baby because it upsets her — and he *turned you in*. He could easily have taken responsibility and said, "Hey, it upsets my kid when you yell at each other, please stop." Instead he told them *you* didn't like it. He made *you* the bad guy knowing he was siccing them on you.

Even if he didn't — even if they jumped to that conclusion themselves — he had an easy pathway to do the right thing: "Nope: You do not blame this conversation on anyone but me. I am the one asking you to watch your mouths around our child."

But he didn't. He sold you out. And that is exactly the type of marital alienation you would expect him to learn from the two connoisseurs of profane public bickering who raised him. His example of family values is a couple who defend their right to yell-fight in front of a child, pollute the atmosphere for fellow diners wherever they go and throw around "snowflake" when it isn't snowing because nothing can ever be their fault.

Get your girl as far as you reasonably can from their befouling influence. The leave-when-the-yelling-starts strategy has you off to a solid start, good for you. Now be ready to scale up as needed — like not being in any room, Zip code or area code, respectively, that they happen to occupy. And pack your husband off to couples counseling with



ILLUSTRATION BY NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

you. Please.

I say this knowing their son may have absorbed too much of their ethos to agree to that, but do try. Go solo if he refuses. If money and access stand in the way, then try Open Path Collective (openpathcollective.org).

And humor me: Keep your own financial feet planted. If your husband decides it's "just his way," too, to yell and swear at you in public, then you'll thank yourself for every step you took to prepare yourself to leave the marriage and stand on your own.

Write to Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com. Get her column delivered to your inbox each morning at wapo.st/gethax.

Join the discussion live at noon Fridays at washingtonpost.com/live-chats.

In the AI of the beholder: A closer look at 'slop' art

AI ART FROM C1

Even the more prosaic images have a certain aesthetic — like the trend of AI-generated human quadruplets or centenarians asking for birthday wishes with their supposedly handmade cakes, whose designs defy the contours of reality. People somehow don't see, or look past, the obvious signs of software-generated fakery and surrealism.

The craziness of the content is balanced by "this incredibly banal, realistic style" that's "very easy to process," says Jonathan Gilmore, a professor of philosophy at the City University of New York, and co-editor of the Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism.

These pictures are "slop," the tech world's term for the image equivalent of spam. But they're also a new category of surrealism. From a certain perspective — if your interpretation is broad enough — they may even be art. Not *good* art, by any definition, but they raise interesting philosophical questions about how we think about and classify images generated by AI.

Maybe these images — designed to attract attention to scam pages or click-bait sites full of ads — are a sign of the rise of the "zombie internet," populated by AI and bots. But that's not what we're going to talk about.

We're going to talk about why they look the way they do: flat, mawkish, uncanny. There's a good reason one of the AI image generation programs is named DALL-E (a fusion of Dali and the title character of the Pixar movie "WALL-E"). Everything feels surreal these days. Can these surreal images somehow bring us to a clear truth?

The French writer André Breton wrote, in his 1924 "Manifesto of Surrealism," that the genre elevates the "superior or reality" of the subconscious mind — that dreams and reality can combine to create a reality that is somehow *more* real. But what happens when the entity creating a surreal image isn't human? What if the creator itself is surreal?

"These are serious questions in philosophy of art right now," says Gilmore. The questions "cut to the core of our concept of art, and what we mean by art, and what we think art should do for us."

Art should make us feel something. On that metric, Facebook slop actually succeeds, but in the most obvious, lowbrow way. Because the images are designed to get people to interact with certain Facebook pages, they tug at the heartstrings with subject matter that's sympathetic or titillating: puppies, babies, patriotism, religion, elderly people, attractive people. This is the well-trod territory of cringe and kitsch.

"Because it is so kitschy, it's essentially conservative, which might sound counterintuitive because it's so bizarre and uncanny," says Gilmore. Each image is its own melodrama, manipulating the viewer's emotions.

He means conservative with a lowercase "c," though the AI slop is usually politically conservative, too: Schoolcraft's Facebook group is full of examples of troop-saluting, anti-LGBTQ+, pro-Trump schlock. A recent example: an elderly man in an American flag shirt and MAGA-esque red hat, reading the Bible to a dozen attentive drag queens. At a quick glance, the image might seem like

a photo-illustration — but the letters on his hat are garbled, and he only has three fingers on each hand.

Robert Hopkins, a professor of philosophy at New York University who studies aesthetics, offers some other questions to evaluate whether an AI-generated work is Art with a capital A.

"Does it have real expressive power?" asks Hopkins, "Does it articulate feelings and moods and thoughts, and make them clear to you in a way that is distinctly artistic? ... Is it interacting interestingly with preceding art?"

Humans *do* make AI art, in one sense: They must string together a description, or prompt, to tell the AI what image to make. In this sense, AI is a tool, like a sort of magic, automated paintbrush.

Art history is full of suspicious reactions to new technology. "Machines have come, art has fled," said the painter Paul Gauguin, of photography. In its early days, critics thought artists could "never create great art out of photography, because all the photographer had to do was to set up the camera and ... hit the shutter," says Gilmore. "That was obviously untrue."

Using any artistic tool requires skill. What separates "real" AI art and social media slop is refinery and context.

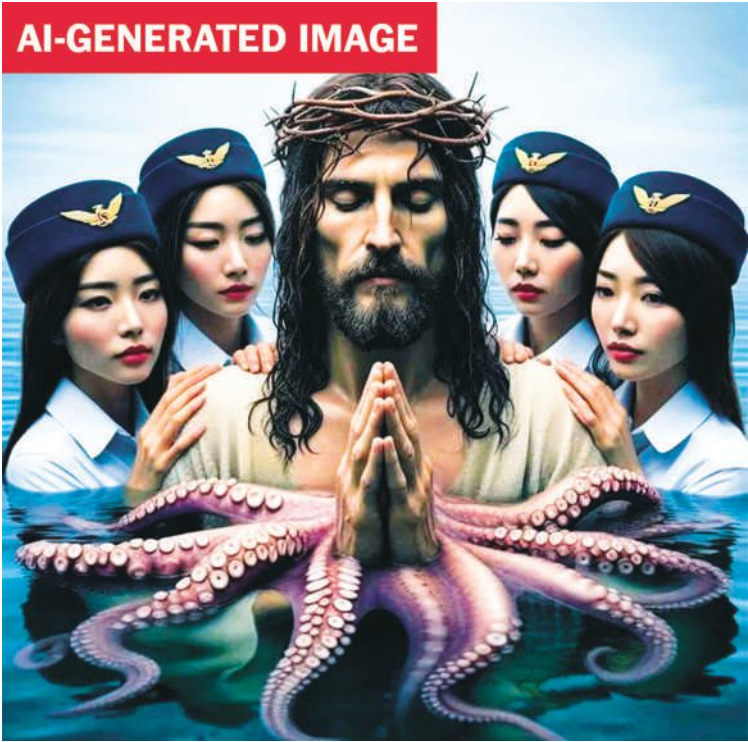
Polina Kostanda, a 45-year-old Ukraine-based AI artist who posts her work as Polly in Wonderland, also makes surreal, uncanny and dreamy images: grandmothers with mermaid tails, frogs smoking cigarettes, pepperoni pizzas growing like wildflowers. These descriptions might fit with the weird crap reposted on "AI Boomertrap," except Kostanda sells prints and NFTs of her work, and is represented by a photo agency in Milan. Her objective is for viewers of her work to confront the boundaries of reality and "inspire them to go beyond their usual perceptions," she says via email.

Kostanda's work — for which she uses AI image-generating software called Midjourney — is free of the flat affect that plagues much of the social media art you see on Facebook, because she knows how to create a skilled prompt that evokes real photographic quality. In addition to prescribing the subject matter, she will also specify a film and camera as part of the prompt. "For example, Kodak Portra 800," Kostanda says. "And the camera this photo was taken with, for example: Hasselblad 503CW."

What pushes an AI-generated image into the realm of art, she says, is whether it conveys a message, and whether it "catches the soul."

"There are a lot of 'dead' physical paintings and photographs, without an idea or message," says Kostanda. "And there are 'live' AI images" — images imbued with rich depth and meaning — "that can confidently be called art."

If some images are live, and some are dead, here's the case of Schrödinger's Cat of AI: This month photographer Miles Astray won — and then was disqualified from — an AI photography contest. He submitted a real photograph of a flamingo whose head is tucked so far into its wing that it appears to be a ball of feathers with legs — like a comically askew AI misinterpretation of what a bird is. On his website, Astray said he entered his photograph "to prove that human-made content has not lost its relevance, that Mother Nature and her human interpreters can still beat the ma-



AI-GENERATED IMAGE OBTAINED BY THE WASHINGTON POST

Many AI images found online are made as form of clickbait, but Polina Kostanda, a 45-year-old Ukraine-based AI artist, creates works such as the one above right to "inspire [viewers] to go beyond their usual perceptions."

chine, and that creativity and emotion are more than just a string of digits."

The flip side could also become true: These schlocky, kitschy Facebook images could, in the proper context, become Real Art. Think of them as the digital equivalent to Readymades, artist Marcel Duchamp's word for works he made with commercially manufactured objects like bicycle wheels or urinals. A savvy artist could emulate or exploit the style of these images to create a commentary on social media, consumerism, patriotism or religion. (Or — like the members of AI Boomertrap — for memes.)

Could AI Facebook slop even be *beautiful*? Vadim Meyl thinks so. Meyl, a researcher with the Central European University, published a paper in February asserting that "artificial intelligence stands as a defining beauty of our era." The beauty of the system itself — not just its outputs but also its code and its algorithms



AI-GENERATED IMAGE OBTAINED BY THE WASHINGTON POST

that enable machine learning — "is of a new kind, one that may only be wholly grasped in future centuries," Meyl writes in his paper.

Facebook slop, Meyl writes in an email, is more a problem of intent than aesthetics.

Dreamy, strange, thought provoking surrealism "which once

seemed exclusive to the geniuses of their generation is now accessible through AI," he says. But if those qualities become more associated with anonymous scammers on phishing pages than artistic geniuses in galleries, it may give us surrealism fatigue. Writes Meyl: "We will expect [the] 'unexpected' and lose [the] wow-effect of AI

art."

As an artistic tool, AI is still in its infancy. We're still not sure how to appraise it, says Hopkins. Will it be judged along with the various forms of handmade art it emulates, or will it be in a category of its own?

One argument for the latter is that we judge works of art not only by how we experience them, but also by our understanding of how they were made.

"We value works of art sometimes when they are the product of great struggle, or a virtuoso ability," says Gilmore. The perception of AI art is that it's "undermined by the fact that it was just too easy to produce."

Meyl believes that art created by human-made algorithms should be judged no differently than art created by human hands. He sees AI as a tool, like a pottery wheel. "It operates within the parameters set by the human creator," he says.

So AI slop is art, in Meyl's eyes. It's just really amateurish, really corny, really bad art — kind of like most amateur art that humans have created across media throughout history.

Set aside the AI generator's tendency to add or subtract fingers, and its ability to deceive. The question, then, is: Why are so many AI creators — from scammers to professional artists — stuck on this flat, kitschy, sometimes hackneyed form of surrealism?

"With this absolutely massive, seemingly infinite capacity to create a visual image, the work ends up looking so conventional," says Gilmore. Unsettling and uncanny, yes, but somehow "so boring, so familiar."

For example: several recent posts from a Facebook page simply called "Fascination," which appears to be run from Armenia. The posts depict the same subject — a little boy who has purportedly painted, with skills beyond his years, a beach landscape — with the same caption: "My new artwork, please appreciate it." The children look real enough, but the details of the images are giveaways. One of the lighthouses protrudes off the canvas; the ground shown under the easel is also rendered in brushstroke.

The image isn't real. The boy isn't real. The fake boy's painting isn't real. The posts are the modern rendition of the famous René Magritte work "La Condition Humaine," a painting of a painting that blends into its background so seamlessly that you can't tell what part of the scene is real.

"You are so talented," a commenter named Daphne (is *she* real?) replied to one of the posts. "That's what I call a work of art."



AI-GENERATED IMAGE OBTAINED BY THE WASHINGTON POST

These AI images mimic the famous René Magritte work "La Condition Humaine."

‘The Death of Truth’ blames bad media diets for the current state of the world

BRILL FROM C1

under sharp scrutiny and prompted questions about editorial process and ideological bias — but because it doesn’t handle “the difference between news and opinion responsibly.”

In a statement, a spokesperson for the Times said “our news and opinion coverage are now, and have always been, clearly presented as distinct.” Brill remains concerned.

“The thing they’re not grasping,” he said in a phone call after the book party, “is that so much of their opinion, like the 1619 Project, is not labeled as opinion.”

News and opinion, facts and truth, are simple matters for Brill, scorable, living comfortably outside of political processes. He recalled being on a panel with the managing editor of a now-defunct local news website in D.C. dedicated to the intersection of politics and the Black community, who he said repeatedly referred to “her” truth.

“It started to really p--- me off,” he said. “I finally asked, ‘What are you talking about *your* truth? It’s not your truth, it’s not my truth, it’s the truth.’”

Brill’s book attributes the death of this singular truth to the rise of misinformation on the internet. Speaking at the book event, Brill explained that someone like Thompson was “susceptible” to it because of his circumstances and then “really honestly believed” that the election had been stolen. “These mass broadcasters of

misinformation and disinformation ... are clearly what pushed Thompson to leave Columbus and storm the Capitol,” Brill writes. “Why else would he have not believed the election results?”

But did Thompson pick up the coatrack because of a bad media diet? Or did he have a bad media diet because it was embedded in a set of political commitments that he was willing to defend with a coatrack?

That’s how Olufemi Taiwo, an associate professor of philosophy at Georgetown who has written critically about identity politics, frames the discussion. Professing to believe certain things, like the Earth is flat, he said, is a way to identify as a certain kind of person.

“What people are doing when they contest the truth and falsity of narratives coming from their political or cultural opponents is opposing those people,” he said in an interview. “They’re not really taking truth stances in a conventional way.”

Taiwo agrees that the loss of trust in institutions is a problem, but questions what it means to say someone is “susceptible” to misinformation.

“Here’s misinformation: Pop-Tarts are filled with nacho cheese,” he said. “Does losing your job make you susceptible to *that* particular falsity? No, losing your job makes you susceptible to particular kinds of false narratives — ones that offer you an explanation, and maybe a politically convenient set of cathartic emotional



CRAIG HUDSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Steven Brill in June, just before a Washington party to celebrate his book “The Death of Truth.”

targets.”

These narratives, Taiwo notes, are often rooted in class antagonism and racism. But in his book, Brill addresses this at a run — noting that the largely White Jan. 6 participants were “most likely to come from counties where the non-White population had grown and the percentages of Whites living there had declined” — before returning to examinations of the “media diets” that influenced them.

The book, published in June, picks up a narrative that’s become something akin to liberal gospel since 2016: Bad information online is eroding trust in institutions and polarizing the world. It’s an argument that has birthed cottage industries of think tanks, non-profits, and media fact-checking operations that seek to counter disinformation — all in hopes of cleaning up the internet and bringing truth back to life.

Brill offers what he calls “prac-

tical solutions” — making it easier to sue tech companies for the false content posted on their platforms, waging legal campaigns against social media companies for violating their own terms of service, banning anonymous posting online and funding media literacy programs.

Taiwo is all in favor of making reliable information more available to people, especially in news deserts. But he doubts that “we’re a few true news articles away from

ameliorating” the information crisis.

“When there are deep political divides, people will gravitate toward — will demand, in an economic sense — the kinds of narratives that cohere with their preexisting worldview,” he said. “I think the solutions would have to address the underlying resentments.”

Brill acknowledged that many factors contribute to the information crisis, not just the scourge of Bad Media. “That’s why the last section of my book is about ending partisan primaries,” he said.

As a lifelong journalist and media entrepreneur, Brill possesses the rationalism of the former and the certainty of the latter that facts are what move the world. Sure, maybe we need to tweak the political system to encourage moderation and compromise and “restore the center,” as he puts it in his book. But maybe after a career spent thinking about media, analyzing and profiting from media, you’d be inclined to think the problem had to be media as well.

That perspective seemed to be shared in the Kalorama backyard. An event planner pondered buying a copy of Brill’s book for her Trump-supporting family member. A Politico reporter declared her faith in institutions. An executive from Semafor — a media start-up with an aim of overcoming polarization — handed out business cards. They were all in agreement with the information they had just heard. Maybe they were susceptible to it.

Mull delivered his most cutting critiques of America with a guitar in hand

APPRECIATION FROM C1

and acts as if he’s found the Dead Sea Scrolls. These coasters, he says as he holds one up as a visual aid, are “here to protect any natural woods. Should they occur.”

Later, Mull stole scenes on “Veep” and “Arrested Development.” But for me, his best acting came as smarmy TV host Barth Gimble on “Fernwood 2 Night,” a satirical late-night talk show created by Norman Lear that aired in the summer of 1977. Gimble, emerging during the Johnny Carson era, served as a precursor to both Garry Shandling’s Larry Sanders and Zach Galifianakis’s “Two Ferns” persona. And again, he had Willard, also sadly gone, as his foil in crime.

I could write another appreciation about Mull’s painting, his time at the Rhode Island School of Design and how, as the years passed, Mull settled into a career that found his hyperrealist works shown in galleries and museums and even featured on book and album covers.

But as we mourn Mull, I want to focus on his music. Because during the 1970s, Mull managed to turn out some of the best song parodies pressed in wax. No half-stepping here. He could play his Gibson archtop guitar well enough to trade licks with Glen Campbell, though he wasn’t afraid to pick up a tuba — or sousaphone — if that’s what the performance called for. During his musical career, Mull even opened for Bruce Springsteen, Frank Zappa and Billy Joel.

Those records and performances served as a bridge between the MIT prof-turned-parodist Tom Lehrer and the MTV-era emergence of “Weird Al” Yankovic.

What Mull understood is that to poke fun at a form, you had to commit to the form. So on “Do the Nothing,” he gets the audience clapping as he’s ostensibly launching into what promises to be a catchy song about a popular new dance move except that the dance is, as the title hints at, absolutely nothing. He even stops playing at the chorus to prove his point, and yet the clapping continues, awkwardly, because a crowd told to clap by a star performer is going to whether there’s something clap-able going on or not. Mull starts to spread out praise to individual

members of the band even though we hear they’re not playing a note.

On another song, “Jesus Christ Football Star,” he dips into gospel as Satan delivers an onside kick and Matthew, “thinkin’ quick,” recovers to make it Christians, first and 10: “Let’s give Jesus Christ the football/ let him even up the score/let him run it through the crossbars/ and be on the cross no more.”

When I get the chance to play one Mull song to an unsuspecting friend or family member, it is always “Ukulele Blues,” recorded in 1973. Here, he manages to perfectly mock the tradition of White cultural appropriation at a time when countless Black blues artists were watching Eric Clapton, Led Zeppelin and even Ram Jam cash in on original songs.

Which makes “Ukulele Blues” sound almost dutiful, a kind of smarty-pants lecture. It’s anything but.

The blues, as Mull reminds us in a lengthy introduction, is about getting back to your roots. In this case, he says without breaking character, he’s thinking about his grandfather, who was a real estate man doing “very very well,” residing in the heart of the delta. Cleveland’s Lake Erie delta.

“A lot of you may feel you have to be poor to play the blues,” he says, with a dismissive chuckle. “Don’t make me laugh.”

Then Mull, who often performed wearing a yellow tux and bow tie, begins picking at the open-tuned ukulele in his lap. Mississippi Fred McDowell sawed down the neck of a Gor-

don’s gin bottle for his slide. Mull? He uses a baby bottle — and still pulls off a credible accompaniment to his tale of suburban woe.

*I woke up this afternoon,
HOOOOO/ I saw both
cars were gone
I woke up this afternoon,
lord mommy/ I saw both
cars were gone
I felt so low down deep
inside/ I threw my drink
across the lawn*

By the end of the ’70s, Mull would stop recording his music, but he wouldn’t abandon the tools that made those records so special: knowledge, technical skill and commitment to the role. Those would help him on-screen as he continued to crack at cultural norms, a true original who can never be replaced.

MUSIC REVIEW

NSO’s ‘Blackstar Symphony’ relays the brilliance of David Bowie’s final album

BY MICHAEL ANDOR BRODEUR

Upon entering the Kennedy Center Concert Hall on Friday, it was clear the place had undergone some slight ch-ch-ch-changes. (Sorry.)

The air was misty with artificial fog. The walls behind the tiers were subtly striped with long gray drapes. The stage was bathed in pinks, purples and blues (what the kids call bisexual lighting). And the audience demographics were all over the place, an intergenerational mix that eluded easy categorization — i.e., Bowie fans.

The occasion was the “Blackstar Symphony,” an orchestral treatment of David Bowie’s final album, released two days before his death in 2016. The project is the brainchild of saxophonist Donny McCaslin — who led the quartet that lent the album “Blackstar” its surreal noir core — and conductor/composer Jules Buckley, who led the National Symphony Orchestra through a full account of Bowie’s 26th and final album, plus a handful of his best-loved hits.

Orchestral tributes to pop stars are not normally what I’d consider my bag. Often times, these pop-enhancement scenarios reduce the orchestra to a thickening agent. And the staging on Friday — with the orchestra clad in black, cloaked in darkness, and cordoned off by panels of Plexiglas — honestly had me worried.

But, for one thing, my resistance to tributes will never overpower my attraction to all things Bowie. The NSO could have announced that we were all going to hang out and watch “Labyrinth” and I’d have shown up with extra eyeliner and popcorn.

And the concert, which repeated Saturday night, cast new light on an album that deserves (and rewards) closer listening, expanding its sonic palette with thoughtfully arranged orchestrations by Buckley, Michael R. Dudley Jr., Vince Mendoza, Maria



Above left, John Cameron Mitchell, left, and David Poe sing during the National Symphony Orchestra’s “Blackstar Symphony” program, an orchestral treatment of David Bowie’s final album. Above right, vocalist Gail Ann Dorsey and conductor Jules Buckley. At right, performers take a bow.

Schneider, Jamshied Sharifi and longtime Bowie collaborator Tony Visconti.

The bracing recasting of several old favorites by Buckley, Sharifi and Tim Davies expertly captured Bowie’s uncannily alchemy of grief and hope. Unexpectedly, this seemingly simple tribute show dealt an unexpected emotional gut-punch. Turns out that in the year 2024, revisiting Bowie’s legacy — and, by extension, his death — is not for the faint of heart.

Most of the quartet Bowie put together to record “Blackstar” was reassembled on stage: McCaslin on saxophone along with keyboardist Jason Lindner and bassist Tim Lefebvre. (Drummer Nate Wood made a fine stand-in for “Blackstar” drummer Mark Guiliana.)

Vocal duties (talk about under pressure!) were split between the trio of Bowie’s longtime bandmate Gail Ann Dorsey (relentless-



PHOTOS BY MAURICIO CASTRO

ly dazzling), vocalist David Poe (whose emulations of Bowie were more formal than functional), and actor, director and lifelong Bowieophile John Cameron Mitchell (whose channeling of Bowie’s meticulously unbuttoned charm was as flawless as the pleats of his Thom Browne skirt).

Mendoza’s arrangement of the

shape-shifting opening title track — a 10-minute journey that boldly announced the album’s aberrant vibe — made use of the orchestra’s timbral dimensions, with twinkling harps and lush strings wrapping around the incantations of Dorsey and Poe. Dudley’s arrangement of “Tis a Pity She Was a Whore” was driven by

motorik rhythms from Lefebvre and Guiliana and wild solos from McCaslin, but felt restrained by Poe’s tentative energy and somewhat avoidant presence on stage. Here’s hoping he embraces a bit more of Bowie’s no-fudges-given swagger for the repeat.

McCaslin’s solos — equal parts mournful and fitful — earned

their own applause after a stunning version of “Lazarus,” sung with stirring gravitas by Dorsey. Poe made a stronger showing in Schneider’s orchestration of “Sue (Or in a Season of Crime),” his voice effectively threading the needle between Bowie’s yearning and cynicism: “In a season of crime, none need atone ...”

Mitchell made his grand entrance for an orchestration of “Girl Loves Me” by Sharifi that swung between deadpan humor and sublime camp, his long vibrato soft but stern — innocence and experience. He brought the same affable glam to Visconti’s sparkling orchestration of “Dollar Days,” and gave the most vibrant verse out of the trio of singers for the thrilling “Blackstar” closer “I Can’t Give Everything Away” (another beautifully rich Sharifi production).

The album set was followed by an airy arrangement of “Life on Mars” by Tim Davies, gorgeously sung by Dorsey in a performance that could have sufficed as a finale. Instead, we heard Sharifi’s “Where Are We Now?” from the 2013 album “The Next Day,” and Buckley’s own orchestrations of 1969’s “Space Oddity” (for which Dorsey grabbed a guitar) and 1977’s “Heroes,” which ended with the quartet erupting like a volcano.

The NSO vamoosed before a pair of pared-down encores by McCaslin’s quartet: a “Let’s Dance” that still inspired enough dancing to test the upper tiers, and a delightfully sloppy “Rebel, Rebel” that found a flailing Mitchell descending into the aisles and through the front row, scandalizing a few folks right out of their seats.

One hazard of big tribute shows like these is the nature of the endeavor itself: honoring a dear and departed artist with an attempt to restore their presence. “Blackstar” admirably leaves room for us to feel Bowie’s absence and imagine how to fill the void. It felt a bit like gazing into the stars.

Mom wants her son to start dating again after a horrible breakup last year

Asking Eric

R. ERIC THOMAS

Welcome to “Asking Eric,” a new daily advice column by R. Eric Thomas, which replaces Amy Dickinson’s “Ask Amy.”

Dear Eric: My youngest son (my baby!) had a horrible breakup last year. I still hate her and sob-yelled during an Alanis Morissette concert to “You Oughta Know.” Yes, I sob-yelled in public. Cue shame. And righteousness. Hate is powerful. Said son is adorable, nice, has a great job that he loves, etc. Yet, he won’t date.

Let’s be clear. I need grandchildren from this boy. He’s the best one of the bunch (don’t tell the others). How do I encourage him to get out there without actually saying those words? Or do I just adopt more cats as my grandchildren? — *Morose Mom*

Mom: Cats. As I vividly recall from the Morissette-fueled sob-yell periods of my youth, the chorus of “You Oughta Know” includes the line “I’m here to remind you of the mess you left when you went away.” Alanis would no doubt remind us that getting over any breakup, particularly a horrible one, can be a long, grueling experience.

There’s a rule of thumb that posits it takes half the length of a relationship to get over the end of said relationship. But don’t go running to your calendar to circle some due date in your son’s future. His mileage will vary. This process is his own to create and he is currently taking the time he needs to heal. You know how hard it was for you to get over the breakup — indeed, it seems as if you’re still working through it — so imagine what a mess he’s left cleaning up in his own heart and psyche. The last thing you want is for him to

jump into a rebound relationship and start having babies.

You clearly have a lot of compassion for your son, which is wonderful. But be careful not to slide into codependent tendencies. The breakup may hurt you but it’s still his breakup. Tread carefully and keep your comments in the supportive, rather than prescriptive, range. No mom wants to see their child go through heartbreak, but you’re not going to help him gain the emotional strength needed to jump back into the dating pool by pressuring him.

Dear Eric: I am 67 and have kept a daily diary since I was 15. I grew up in the ’70s and things were, shall we say, a little crazy (sex, drugs and rock-and-roll, as experienced by a woman who went to a parochial school and wasn’t exactly a model of obedience). Times were

different.

Now, I wonder what to do with all of these volumes of my life. I’m married, but we have no children and no relatives that I would even remotely consider entrusting the good, bad and ugly of my/our lives to. I feel as though they have historical meaning, perhaps significant to some entity, but finding that entity has been problematic. Any suggestions?

It has become such an ingrained part of my life to write every day that I would find it difficult to just stop, but if all of them are destined to end up in a landfill somewhere, I might have to make some hard choices. Incidentally, I’m seriously optimistic that I have at least a couple more decades of diaries left to write, if I do continue.

— *Daily Diarist*

Diarist: What a beautiful gift you’ve given yourself. Please,

don’t stop even if you haven’t found a historian or museum that might want your diaries, yet. Years back, I worked with an organization called SAGE, which collects oral histories from LGBTQ+ elders relating to their experiences in housing. Our goal was to find anecdotal evidence of housing discrimination to help inform policymaking, but the best way to do that was to simply ask people to reflect on their past and tell stories. It was one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life and helped me to see my own future much differently. None of us know the impact that our stories will have.

In the future, you may want to redact the spicier parts of the diaries and talk to a community organization, historian, or even a local theater company about making a donation they can use to create something new.

Consider reaching out to local history departments to see if they have any grad students focusing on times you have an insight into. Talk about your diary practice with friends, relatives, and acquaintances. Tell them what this practice has meant to you and what you’ve learned. By sharing this part of your life and letting people know the diaries exist, you may spark ideas in others. At the very least, you will likely inspire others to think about their own lives and the value of recording them. Your diaries can start doing good in the world even before they leave your grasp.

Send questions to R. Eric Thomas at eric@askingeric.com or P.O. Box 22474, Philadelphia, PA 19110. Follow him on Instagram and sign up for his weekly newsletter at rerictomas.com.

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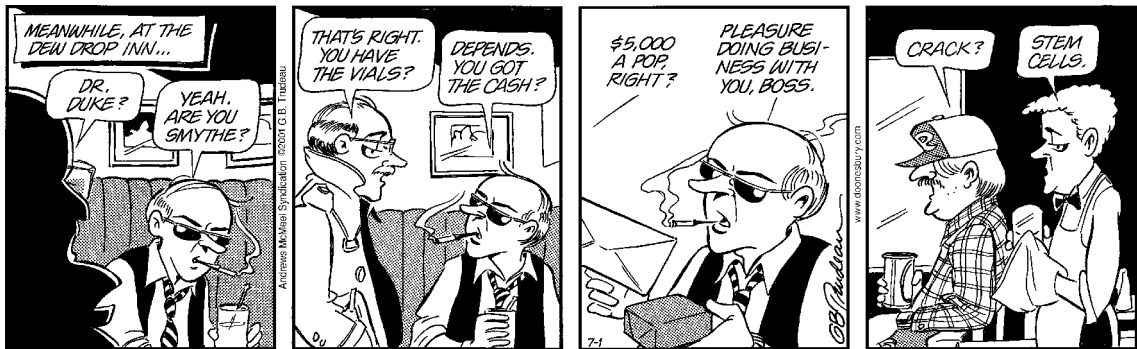
MOVIE DIRECTORY

Monday, July 1, 2024

www.washingtonpost.com/movies

DISTRICT	MARYLAND	Bad Boys Ride or Die (R) CC: 11:15-2:00 4:00-5:00 7:00-8:00-10:00 Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga (R) CC: 11:00-10:45 A Quiet Place: Day One (PG-13) CC: 5:15-8:00-10:45 The Exorcism (R) CC: 10:40 If (PG) CC: 10:45-1:30-4:10-6:45-9:30 The Garfield Movie (PG) CC: 12:15 Inside Out 2 (PG) CC: 12:00-2:30 Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) CC: 4:05-7:20 Kalki 2898 AD (Telugu) 2:25-9:45 The Bikeriders (R) CC: 11:40-2:30 5:30-8:30-10:30 Daddio (R) CC: 11:30-2:15-5:10-9:00 Janet Planet (PG-13) CC: 10:50-1:15 Horizon: An American Saga Chapter 1 (R) CC: 11:30-3:30-6:00-10:00 AMC Screen Unseen CC: 7:15 A Quiet Place: Day One: The IMAX Experience (PG-13) CC: 10:45-1:30 4:15-7:00-9:45 Thelma (PG-13) CC: 10:45-1:35-4:05-6:45-9:30 Kinds of Kindness (R) CC: 10:45-1:30 4:00-5:00-7:00-8:00-10:00 AMC Annapolis Mall 11 1020 Annapolis Mall Road Dr. Seuss’ The Lorax (PG) CC: 11:00-2:00 Bad Boys Ride or Die (R) CC: 11:10-1:25-4:15-7:10-10:00 A Quiet Place: Day One (PG-13) CC: 10:00-1:20 3:00-5:30-8:00-10:30 The Exorcism (R) CC: 10:45 If (PG) CC: 1:10-3:45-6:20 The Garfield Movie (PG) CC: 5:15 Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) CC: 6:50-10:10 The Bikeriders (R) CC: 11:40-2:20 4:00-7:15-10:20 Janet Planet (PG-13) CC: 10:20-10:40 Horizon: An American Saga Chapter 1 (R) CC: 10:30-2:40-6:30-9:10 Kinds of Kindness (R) CC: 11:50-3:25-7:00-10:35 Inside Out 2 3D (PG) CC: 11:45-4:50 A Quiet Place: Day One (PG-13) CC: 11:30-2:00 4:30-7:00-9:30 Inside Out 2 (PG) CC: 10:15-11:00-12:40-2:20 3:15-4:10-5:45-6:40-7:20 8:10-9:00-9:45 AMC Center Park 8 4001 Powder Mill Rd. 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Cinema 555 11th Street Northwest Inside Out 2 (PG) 7:30 The Bikeriders (R) 7:30-7:15 Daddio (R) 8:15 Janet Planet (PG-13) 7:25 Thelma (PG-13) 6:30 Kinds of Kindness (R) 3:00-4:00-5:00-7:00-8:00 Inside Out 2 (PG) 3:15 Daddio (R) 3:45 Janet Planet (PG-13) 4:30 Thelma (PG-13) 4:15 Regal Gallery Place 701 Seventh Street Northwest Inside Out 2 3D (PG) 11:50AM Surprise Film 7:00 Bad Boys Ride or Die (R) 1:30-4:15-7:10-10:30 A Quiet Place: Day One (PG-13) 1:00-4:00-7:05-9:40 The Exorcism (R) 9:10 Inside Out 2 (PG) 10:10-11:20-12:20-12:50-1:20-1:50-2:20-2:50-3:20-4:20-4:50-5:20-5:50-6:20-6:50-7:20-7:50-8:20-9:50-10:20-10:40-10:50 Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) 10:55-2:30-9:30 The Bikeriders (R) 11:10-3:25-6:05-10:10 Horizon: An American Saga Chapter 1 (R) 2:10-6:10-8:50 Blue Lock The Movie -Episode Nagi- (PG-13) 4:55 A Quiet Place: Day One (PG-13) 11:00-12:00-2:00-3:00-5:00-6:00-8:00-9:00 Inside Out 2 (PG) 3:50 Horizon: An American Saga Chapter 1 (R) 11:25AM Blue Lock The Movie -Episode Nagi- (PG-13) 11:55-2:25-7:25-10:00	Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) CC: 10:15 Kalki 2898 AD (Telugu) 12:15-2:30-6:00-9:30 The Bikeriders (R) CC: 12:30-3:15-6:15-9:00 Horizon: An American Saga Chapter 1 (R) CC: 12:15-3:30-6:00-9:30 Inside Out 2 3D (PG) CC: 2:45-5:15-7:45 Alamo Drafthouse Cinema -One Loudoun 20575 East Hampton Plaza An American Tail: Fievel Goes West (G) 11:30AM Born on the Fourth of July (NR) 7:00 Bad Boys Ride or Die (R) CC: 10:40-1:3
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CLASSIC DOONESBURY



PICKLES



BRIDGE

N-S VULNERABLE

NORTH (D)			
♠	A K 6		
♥	Q 9 7		
♦	7 5 2		
♣	A 7 6 3		
EAST			
♠	Q 10 8 5 2		
♥	3		
♦	A J 4		
♣	Q 10 4		
WEST			
♠	None		
♥	A K J 10 8 6 4		
♦	K Q 10		
♣	8 5 2		

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠
1 NT	Pass	6 ♥	All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ Q

Another message on a sign standing guard beside a church in my town: "Adultery is a sin. You can't have your Kate and Edith too."

A good declarer doesn't put his faith in a single chance for the contract if two or more are available. At today's slam, South discarded a club on dummy's king of spades and led a diamond to his king. West did well to play low smoothly.

South then drew trumps with the ace and queen, threw another club on the ace of spades, and led a second diamond from dummy. He lost two diamonds to West's A-J and went down. South's play was poor. He gets an extra chance by pitching two clubs on the A-K of spades, taking the ace of clubs and ruffing a club. He returns a trump to dummy and ruffs a club.

When East-West follow, South draws the last trump in dummy and discards the 10 of diamonds on the good 13th club. He loses one diamond. If the clubs didn't break 3-3, South could reach dummy with trumps to lead twice toward his K-Q-10 of diamonds.

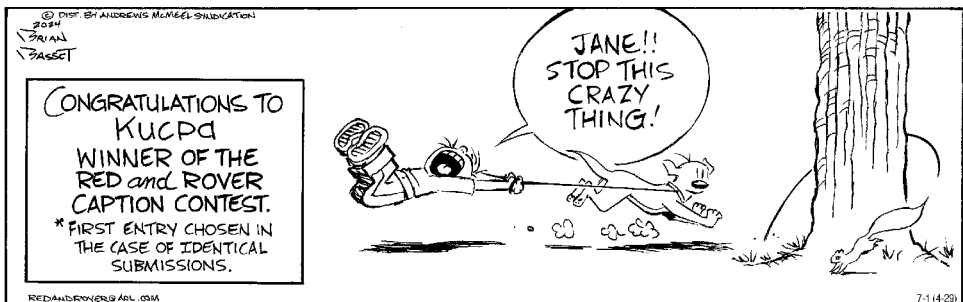
DAILY QUESTION
You hold:
♠ Q J 10 8 5 2 ♥ 3
♦ A J 4 ♣ Q 10 4
Your partner opens 1NT. The next player passes. What do you say?

ANSWER: Almost every practiced partnership uses "transfers" in many situations. Bid four hearts, asking partner to bid four spades, which you will pass. It will often be better for the opening lead to come up to, not through, his strength. With a better hand, transfer at the two level, then bid game — a sequence that invites slam.

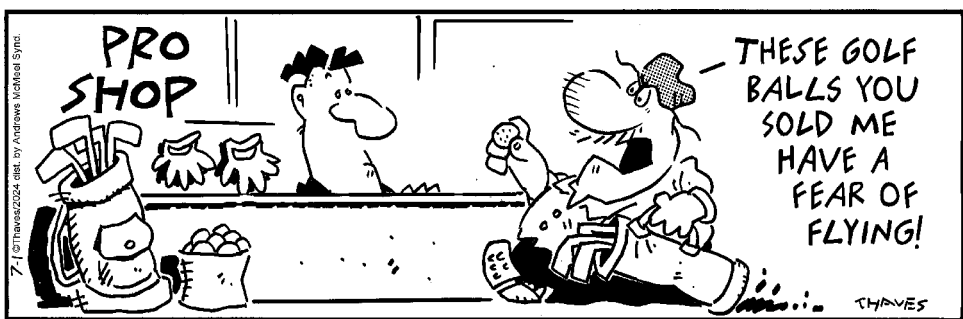
— Frank Stewart

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RED AND ROVER



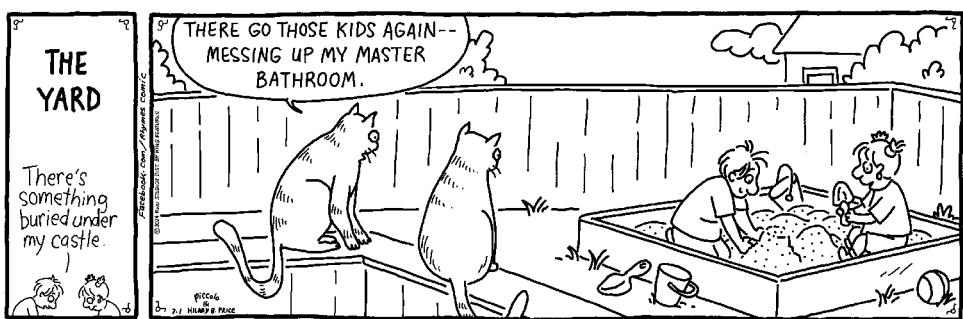
FRANK AND ERNEST



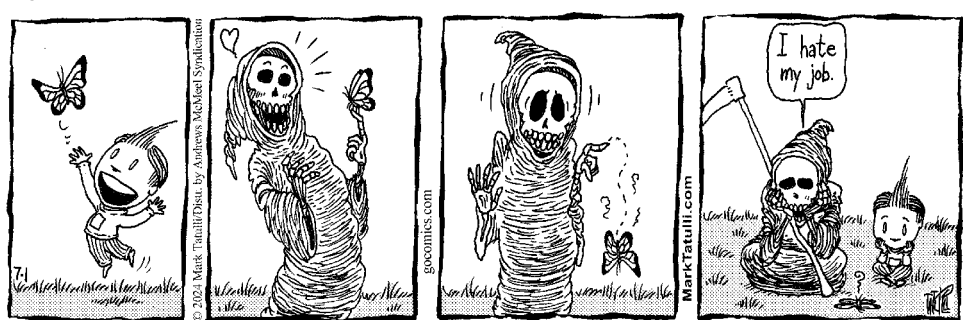
CLASSIC PEANUTS



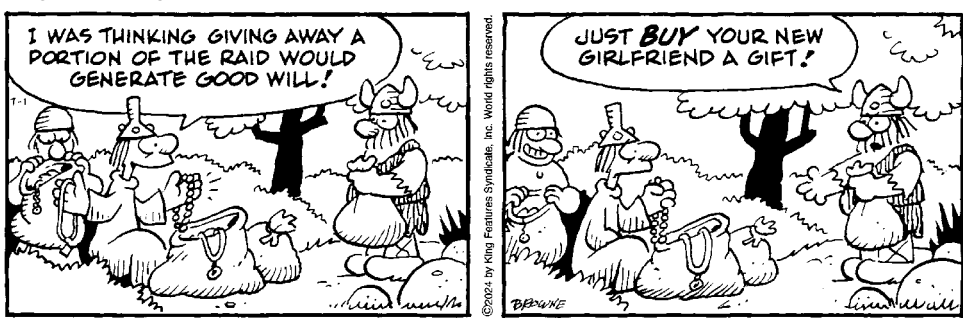
RHYMES WITH ORANGE



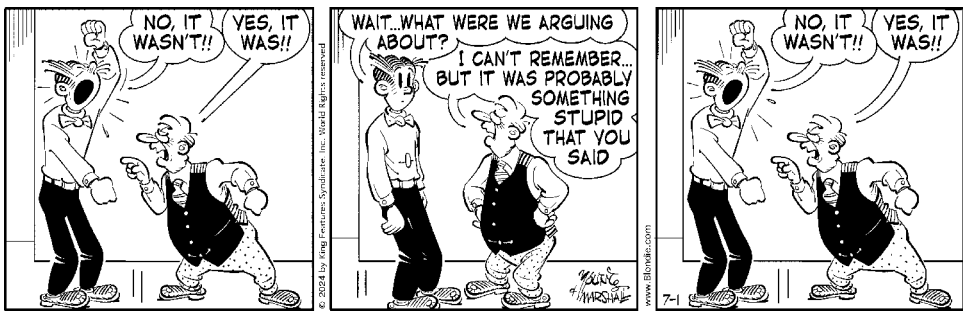
LIO



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



BLONDIE



SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

	4	8		3				5
		6	7					
5	3	2		9	6	4	7	1
		3	9	7		6		4
			3		1			
9		4		2	8	5		
3	6	7	2	8		1	4	5
					7	8		
	8			1		2	6	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



SCRABBLE G R A M S

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.

PAR SCORE 160-170
BEST SCORE 236

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Dictionary, 5th Edition. SOLUTION TOMORROW

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgams@gmail.com

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS by David L. Hoyt

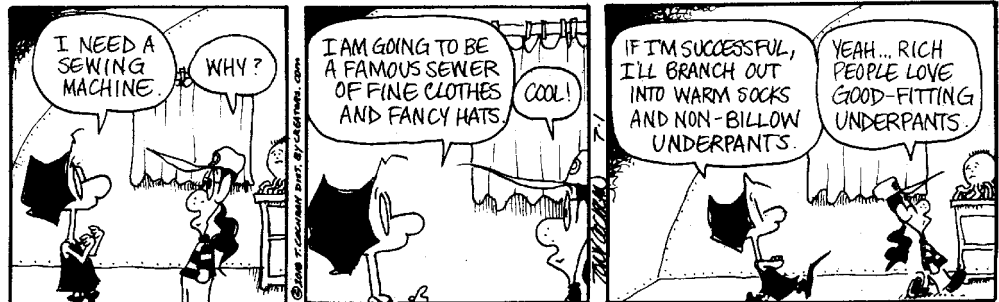
How to play: Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

ANSWER: HIAIAW
ANSWER: EJAAB
ANSWER: LDABOR

ANSWER: BSLEOB
ANSWER: RHODIWN
ANSWER: LTOIAE
ANSWER: PLAAEP

BONUS
CLUE: The official language of _____ is English.

AGNES



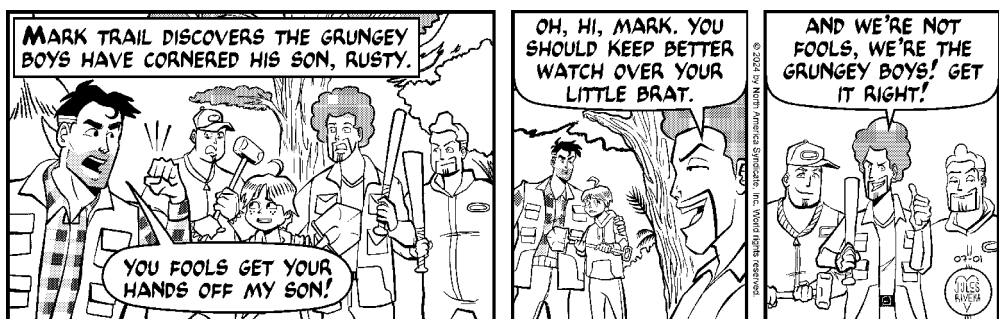
WUMO



MIKE DU JOUR



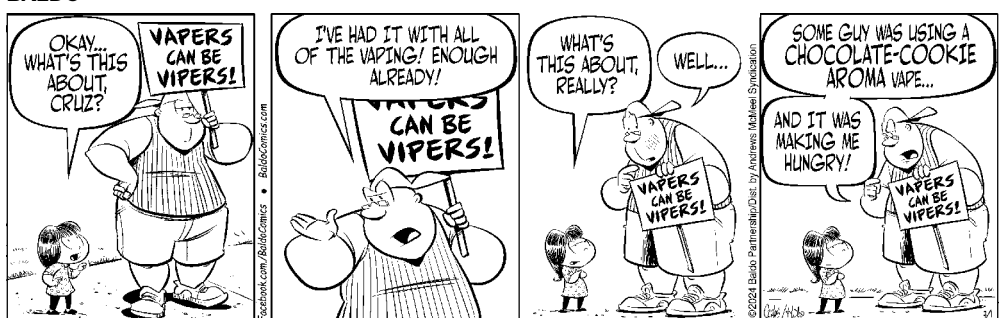
MARK TRAIL



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



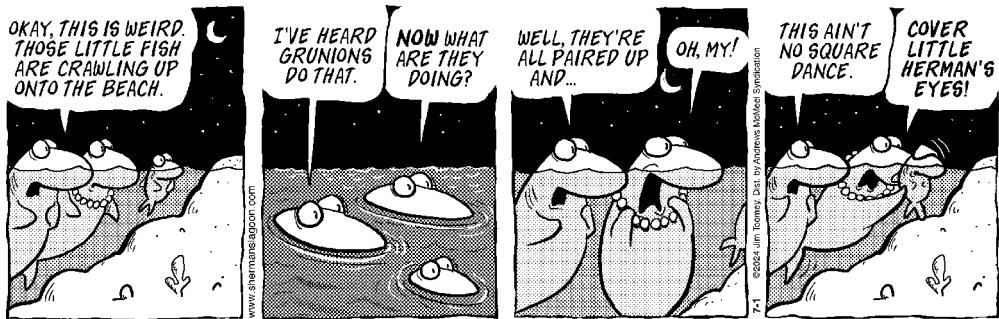
BALDO



SALLY FORTH



SHERMAN'S LAGOON



CURTIS



BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!



MUTTS



HEART OF THE CITY



FRAZZ



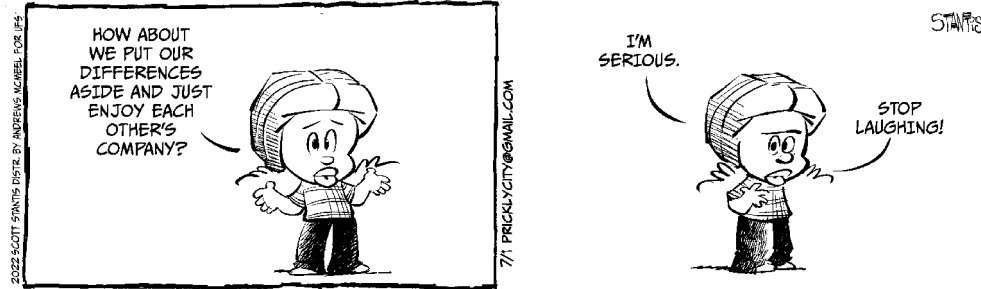
GARFIELD



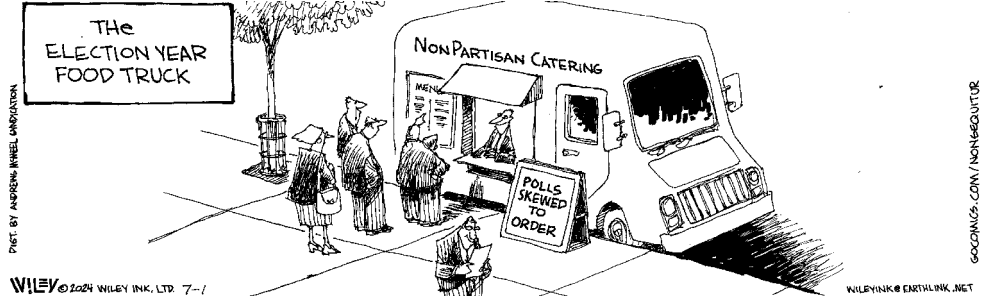
DUSTIN



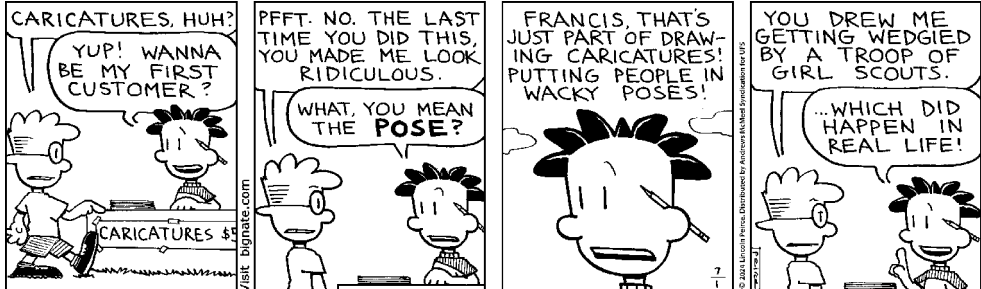
PRICKLY CITY



NON SEQUITUR



BIG NATE



BEETLE BAILEY



PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

5	6	3	9	7	1	8	2	4
7	1	8	3	2	4	6	9	5
9	2	4	5	6	8	3	7	1
8	9	1	4	5	7	2	6	3
6	3	7	1	8	2	5	4	9
4	5	2	6	3	9	1	8	7
1	4	6	2	9	5	7	3	8
2	7	5	8	4	3	9	1	6
3	8	9	7	1	6	4	5	2

PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

S	H	O	W	B	I	Z	1	98
P	I	C	A	N	T	E	2	67
K	L	E	P	T	O	1	12	
A	P	R	R	O	V	E	64	
PAR SCORE	155-165	TOTAL	241					

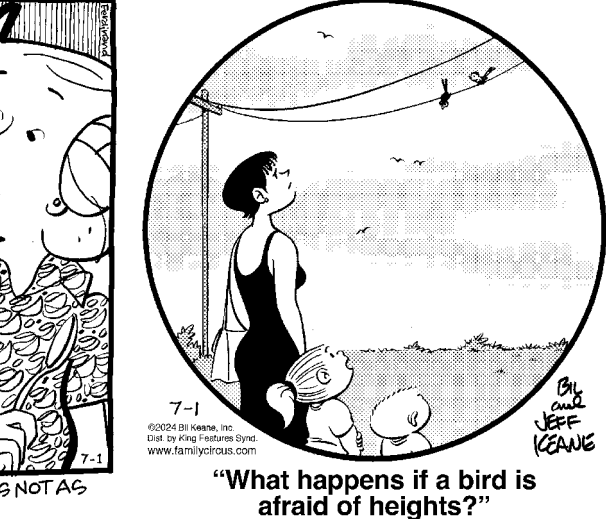
SPEED BUMP



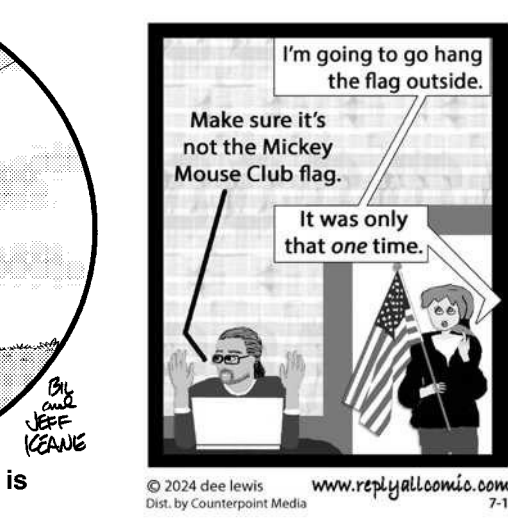
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



REPLY ALL LITE



Six editorial cartoonists share their mindsets in deciding how to depict debate

BY MICHAEL CAVNA

“Sick and disgusted.” That’s how Jeffrey Koterba felt as he watched CNN’s presidential debate Thursday evening between President Biden and former president Donald Trump. “Like many Americans, I was underwhelmed by Biden’s performance — and his stumbling around — and by Trump’s lies and refusal to ever answer the questions,” said Koterba, a political cartoonist syndicated by Cagle Cartoons.

Koterba decided his deadline job was to conjure a cartoon that not only satirized the historic campaign event, but also empathized with how he imagined many other viewers must have felt. Yet how to distill his disgust and concern in a single image? “Uncle Sam? Lady Liberty? I tend to go to those often as symbols because they’re easily recognizable, but they can be overused,” he said. Then, as his girlfriend’s son watched independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. in the background, Koterba thought of a famous image: The day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, Chicago Sun-Times cartoonist Bill Mauldin captured a nation’s emotion by drawing a grieving Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Memorial.

In Koterba’s cartoon, Lincoln looks panicked and horrified by the debate, which he has been watching on a phone. “I don’t often draw the Lincoln Memorial in my own work,” the artist said, “but to me, the debate rose to the level of using that symbol to express my own sense of angst and frustration.”

Nick Anderson, the Pulitzer-winning cartoonist for the Reform Austin News in Texas, chose instead to reflect a sudden fear specifically among the Democrats — an image of electoral night terror captioned “Woke.”

“I went to bed Thursday night worried about the election,” Anderson said, “so the ‘woke’ idea arose from personal experience” after watching Biden’s halting performance, which even members of the president’s camp acknowledged was a poor night for him.

“Joe Biden understands better than anyone that Donald Trump represents an existential threat to democracy,” Anderson said. “Unfortunately, as was so painfully demonstrated Thursday, he is not the strongest candidate to meet the moment.”

By Friday, Anderson had come to believe that Biden should step

aside and endorse a replacement Democratic candidate.

“There is too much at stake this election to continue on the current path,” the cartoonist said. “It would go down in history as a selfless act of patriotism.”

Some editorial artists chose to

focus not on Biden, but on what they saw as Trump’s stream of untrue, misleading or inaccurate statements during the debate. (The Washington Post reported Friday that Trump made “dozens of false claims, many of them his favorites” and that Biden “made a few.”)

Darrin Bell, a Pulitzer-winning cartoonist for King Features, viewed Biden’s debate performance as disastrous — and a wake-up call.

“It’s made the prospect of a Trump win a lot more plausible, and that’s going to cause millions of Americans to take it seriously

and to recall why they voted against Trump in 2020,” Bell said. “They’ve got four months to remember the chaos, the pathological lying, the grifting, the inhumane treatment of immigrants, the racist utterances. They’ve got four months to decide if they’d prefer an enfeebled version of the antidote they chose in 2020, or if they’d prefer the poison itself.”

As the chorus grows in some corners of media for Biden to step aside, Bell sees matters differently: “America didn’t vote for Joe Biden because he was energetic, or young, or charismatic. America voted for him because he was not Donald Trump. As long as he’s got a pulse, he will still be the only viable candidate who is Not Donald Trump.”

Ann Telnaes, the Pulitzer-winning cartoonist for The Post, trained her artistic crosshairs not on Biden’s debate performance, but rather on Trump’s misdeeds and crimes.

“Regardless of how President Biden looked or sounded during the debate, the fact is Trump broke his presidential oath and incited an insurrection on the Capitol of the United States,” Telnaes said. “If you believe in our democracy, there is no excuse for voting for such a man.”

Lalo Alcaraz, the Herblock Prize-winning cartoonist for An-

draws McMeel Syndication, purposefully drew an “in-between” cartoon that lampooned both candidates.

“I wasn’t as outraged or sad about Biden sounding old because he is old — he’s not going to be doing any handstands,” said Alcaraz, noting: “I can’t gloss over Biden’s performance, but I can’t ignore Trump’s bald-faced lies. The first thing I thought to draw was Biden being frozen in a block of ice, and then I thought of fire coming from Trump’s pants — a kind of visual balance and elemental balance.”

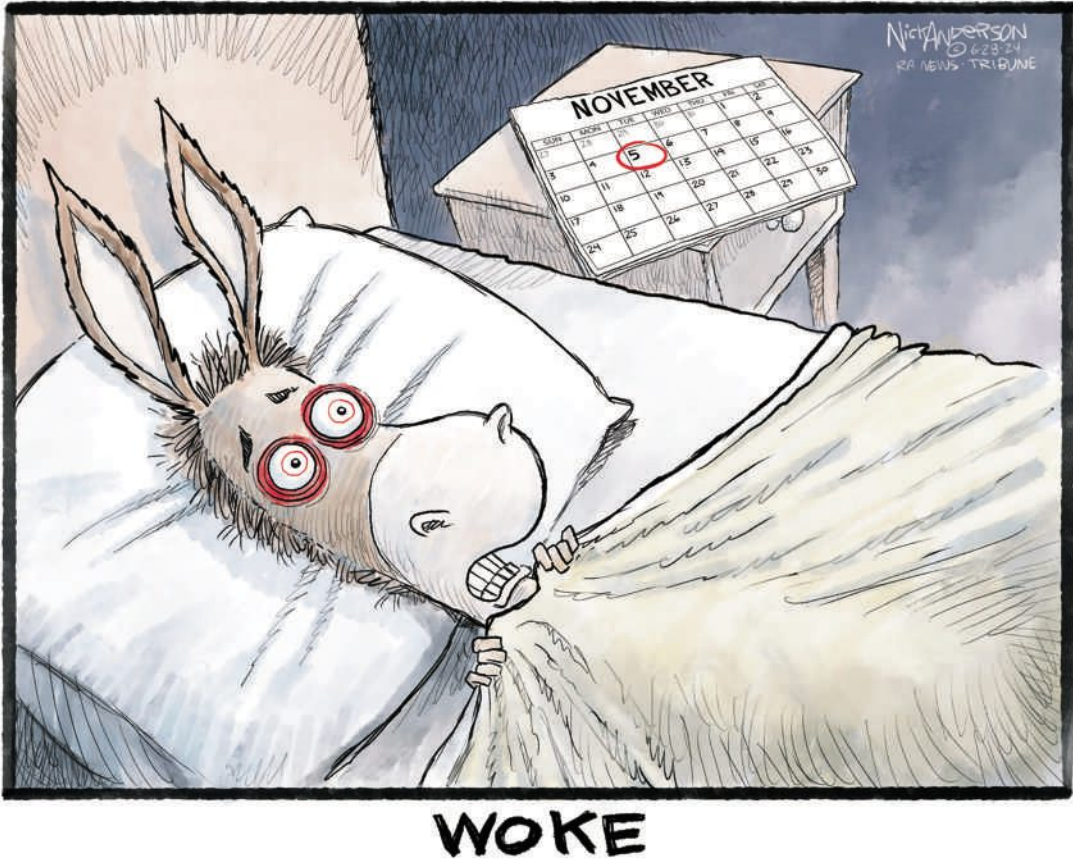
Meanwhile, Jeff Danziger, the past Pulitzer finalist for the Rutland Herald in Vermont, saved his ultimate punchline for the performance of the media, as his cartoon skewered what some media coverage has gravitated toward — even if, he said, this historic moment is not a laughing matter.

“A cartoon is a sometimes failing attempt to lighten the situation even if done with the broadest and least forgivable humor,” Danziger said. “And a good political cartoon is like a towel snap on the ass — meant to be playful, but too painful to laugh at.”

Michael Cavanaugh is the creator of the Comic Riffs column and a former Post reporter.



JEFF DANZIGER/RUTLAND HERALD/COUNTERPOINT MEDIA SYNDICATE



NICK ANDERSON/RA NEWS TRIBUNE



ANN TELNAES/THE WASHINGTON POST



LALO ALCARAZ/ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION



JEFFREY KOTERBA/CAGLECARTOONS.COM



DARRIN BELL/KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

Jill Biden appears unmoved by panic over the president’s debate showing

BY KARA VOGHT

NEW YORK — “So, let’s talk about last night’s debate, because I know it’s on your minds,” Jill Biden said.

The living room of the Greenwich Village brownstone fell silent. The first lady, poised in a polka dot dress and a pair of pink stilettos, stood behind a lectern, her lips spread into a half-smile. The nearly 60 attendees at Friday afternoon’s fundraiser, gripping the melted remnants of their Aperol spritzes, stared back at her.

“As Joe said earlier today, he’s not a young man,” she continued, her voice upbeat. “After last night’s debate, he said, ‘You know, Jill, I don’t know what happened. I didn’t feel that great.’”

It was the most intimate detail anyone in Biden’s orbit had revealed about how the president viewed his debate performance on Thursday night, a dismal 90 minutes in which he stammered, stumbled and appeared to lose his train of thought.

To his wife of 47 years, it was no reason to panic. “I said, ‘Look, Joe, we are not going to let 90

minutes define the four years that you’ve been president,” she said. The room erupted in applause.

“What my husband does know how to do is tell the truth,” she continued. “When he gets knocked down, Joe gets back up, and that’s what we’re doing today.”

“When he gets knocked down, Joe gets back up, and that’s what we’re doing today.”

First lady Jill Biden

If anyone had wondered whether the first lady thought her husband was still the best man for the job, this was a clear answer.

Outside of Biden Land, doubts remain, and some have called for drastic action. MSNBC’s Joe Scarborough, the host of one of Biden’s favorite morning shows and often his staunchest defender, called for Biden to drop out of

the race. So did New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman, a personal friend of the president.

Some of Biden’s high-profile Democratic allies, meanwhile, have doubled down on their support for the incumbent. “Let’s just stay the course,” Rep. James E. Clyburn (D-S.C.) told reporters Friday. “Bad debate nights happen,” wrote former president Barack Obama on X, appearing to brush off Biden’s performance as a surmountable setback.

The first lady’s review on the night of the debate had been implausibly rosy. “Joe, you did such a great job!” she said from the stage of a watch party late Thursday night. “You answered every question! You knew all the facts!” But by the time the Bidens took the stage at a rally in North Carolina on Friday afternoon, they were publicly admitting that things hadn’t gone well. “I don’t walk as easy as I used to,” President Biden explained to a supportive crowd in Raleigh. “I don’t speak as smoothly as I used to. I don’t debate as well as I used to.” But, he added, “I know how to do this job.”

Jill joined her husband onstage



DEMETRIUS FREEMAN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Jill Biden speaks at a campaign event in North Carolina on Friday, with President Biden behind her.

at the North Carolina event in a clingy black dress with “Vote” printed all over in a bold, white font. The dress was intended as a statement of support unto itself, according to a source close to the first lady, who is not authorized to speak publicly about the campaign.

Then it was on to the New York City fundraiser, the first time Jill Biden had faced an audience solo since the debate. The attendees, who had paid a minimum of \$1,000 each to hear Jill Biden speak in that Greenwich Village living room, did not appear to be alarmed about the president, ei-

ther. “We are in love with your husband,” novelist Adriana Trigiani, the fundraiser’s host, had said during her introduction of the first lady.

“We believe in you, we’re not going anywhere,” Trigiani added. “Everybody has a night here and there. Get off his back.”

PRO BASKETBALL

Potentially joining the 76ers, Paul George is leaving the Clippers, but James Harden will be back in the fold. **D2**

PRO BASKETBALL

The Wizards add some height in free agency, grabbing center Jonas Valanciunas on a three-year contract. **D6**

TENNIS

Defending champ Carlos Alcaraz will take on all comers at Wimbledon as he seeks the rare “Channel Slam.” **D6**

Stunning yet familiar result ends track trials

McLaughlin-Levrone sets the world record again in the 400 hurdles

BY ADAM KILGORE

EUGENE, ORE. — Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone knelt a few steps past the Hayward Field finish line and covered her mouth with her right hand, her fingernails tipped with neon-yellow polish. She gazed at the time on the clock, another new frontier in an event she has reorganized, another touchstone of disbelief for the sport she reigns over.

“Just shock,” McLaughlin-Levrone said. “Honestly, shock.”

The last race at the U.S. Olympic track and field trials rapidly became less competition than the latest salvo of McLaughlin-Levrone’s sustained assault on preconceived barriers. She ran away from the eight other fastest 400-meter hurdlers in the nation before the homestretch. As the brick-red chasm grew, twin adversaries she has grown accustomed to surfaced: herself and the limits of human achievement.

McLaughlin-Levrone won again. On Sunday night, she broke the world record for the fifth time in a little over three years, resetting it to 50.65 seconds while finishing a staggering 1.99 seconds clear of runner-up Anna Cockrell. One year after a knee injury sidelined her for the world championships, McLaughlin-Levrone will head to the Paris Olympics in search of a second individual gold medal that feels like a formality. The reasons to watch will be aesthetic and historic.

The path to 50.65 began three years ago at the trials, where she wrested the world record for good from Dalilah Muhammad in 51.90 seconds. She lowered it to 51.46 at the Tokyo Olympics. In 2022, she dropped it to 51.41 at the national championships, then an unthinkable 50.68 at the world championships.

On a day when seven U.S. Olympic trials records fell, headlined by Tokyo silver medalist Rai Benjamin’s 46.46-second finish in the men’s 400-meter hurdles, McLaughlin-Levrone still stood apart. She operates in a realm

SEE **TRACK** ON **D6**

Inside: Bullis star Quincy Wilson is heading to the Paris Games. **D5**



ABBIE PARR/ASSOCIATED PRESS

From left, Hezly Rivera, Joscelyn Roberson (alternate), Sunisa Lee, Simone Biles, Jade Carey, Jordan Chiles and Leanne Wong (alternate) compose the U.S. team.

Many happy returns

For men’s standout, failure to make squad is a ‘gut-wrenching’ heartbreak



Candace Buckner

Richard, the winner of the all-around competition at the Olympic trials, radiated like a rising star. Paul Juda couldn’t stop crying, and Stephen Nedorosic wouldn’t stop smiling. But there on the far end sat an alternate, his dream trampled and his heart broken.

During the three or so minutes when Shane Wiskus faced the media, he kept his answers short. He mostly stared at whoever was talking as redness filled his eyes. He fidgeted in his seat, probably because he wanted to get far away from the place that will mark a symbolic end point of his career.

Wiskus, along with his devotees who filled Target Center, thought the news Saturday night would center on this Minnesota kid and his triumphant return to the

SEE **BUCKNER** ON **D5**

Biles leads veteran women’s team as Rivera, 16, is set for Olympic debut

BY EMILY GIAMBALVO

MINNEAPOLIS — For Hezly Rivera, this all seemed improbable a week ago. Perhaps her best chance of making the U.S. Olympic women’s gymnastics team waited four years in the future. Several other Americans entered these trials with a clear edge over the 16-year-old. But as top athletes suffered injuries, Rivera’s outlook dramatically changed.

And now, here she is celebrating as one of the five women who will represent the United States in Paris. The other 2024 Olympians have been here before:

Simone Biles, Sunisa Lee, Jordan Chiles and Jade Carey competed in Tokyo and earned another Olympic berth Sunday night. Rivera is the newcomer, but she was undeniable after a fantastic showing at the trials.

Rivera capped her performance in Minneapolis with a strong double-twisting Yurchenko. She smiled and clapped a few times as she stepped off the mat. And then she waited. About 30 minutes later, relief and joy finally came as she was named to the five-member U.S. women’s gymnastics team that will be

SEE **GYMNASTICS** ON **D5**

Berhalter, American team facing do-or-die match

BY STEVEN GOFF

KANSAS CITY, MO. — The U.S. men’s national soccer team is in a difficult spot — and not for the first time under Coach Gregg Berhalter.

The group had hoped to have all but secured a Copa América quarterfinal berth by now. Instead, it faces elimination in the group stage Monday — a failure that would increase calls by fans for a coaching change two years before the World Cup takes place in North America.

The Americans (1-1-0, three points) sit second in Group C — two will advance — but it’s a precarious place because of unfavorable matchups on the last day of group play. A U.S. loss to Uruguay (2-0-0, six) would leave Panama (1-1-0, three) needing only a draw against Bolivia (0-2-0, zero) in a match being played in Orlando and also kicking off at 9 p.m. If both games finish in draws, the Americans would advance on goal differential.

Even a U.S. victory might not be enough because a Panamanian victory by a wide enough margin

SEE **U.S. SOCCER** ON **D14**

Copa América, Group C: Uruguay at United States
9 p.m., Fox Sports 1, Univision



EDUARDO MUNOZ/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

Coach Gregg Berhalter could be on the hot seat if the Americans don’t rebound with a win vs. Uruguay.

With Wood on the way, hitting woes on display

**RAYS 5,
NATIONALS 0**

BY ANDREW GOLDEN

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. — After Jesse Winker swung through a fastball from the Tampa Bay Rays’ Taj Bradley, he looked toward the Washington Nationals’ dugout. He shook his head as he stepped away from the plate, throwing his hands up and then dropping them to his side.

There was no use in asking the dugout for tips on how to hit Bradley, either. Until that sixth-inning swing Sunday afternoon, Winker was the only player in the Nationals’ lineup whom Bradley hadn’t struck out. Winker was his final victim; the 23-year-old right-hander tied a career high with 11 strikeouts as the Rays cruised past the Nationals, 5-0, at Tropicana Field.

“You try to zone him in and get the ball down,” Winker said. “But it’s hard to do when he’s throwing strikes at the top of the zone. He pitched great. He got in a great groove. He was attacking everybody with everything.”

After Winker whiffed, Harold Ramírez singled to put runners at the corners with two outs for Luis García Jr., who had struck out swinging at a Bradley cutter in the second inning. But Rays Manager Kevin Cash removed Bradley after 99 pitches to bring in left-hander Colin Poche; García fled out to keep Washington’s deficit at 4-0.

Getting Bradley out of the game didn’t do much to help the Nationals at the plate. By the time the game was over, they had a season-high 16 strikeouts. Five guys struck out at least twice, and Joey Meneses earned the “golden sombrero” with four punch outs. The Nationals (39-44) were shut out for the eighth time as the Rays (42-42) returned to .500.

“You got to stay on that fastball when [Bradley’s] splitter is that good,” Manager Dave Martinez said.

The Nationals headed home after a 3-6 road trip that opened with a series win against the Colorado Rockies but went

SEE **NATIONALS** ON **D3**

Mets at Nationals
6:45 p.m., MASN

THE DAY IN SPORTS

PRO BASKETBALL

George is on the move as free agency begins

The NBA's summer free agency period officially opened Sunday with **LeBron James**, **Paul George**, **James Harden**, **Klay Thompson** and **Chris Paul** among this year's headliners.

Five years after the Los Angeles Clippers paired Kawhi Leonard and George during a blockbuster summer, the superstar partnership is over without producing a trip to the NBA Finals.

George, 34, who averaged 22.6 points, 5.2 rebounds and 3.5 assists last season, will leave as an unrestricted free agent.

The Philadelphia 76ers appear to be the leading candidate to sign George in free agency.

Harden, meanwhile, will re-sign with the Clippers on a two-year deal worth \$70 million, according to a person with knowledge of the agreement. Harden, 34, joined the Clippers last fall after a trade from the 76ers.

The San Antonio Spurs agreed to sign Paul to a one-year, \$11 million contract, according to ESPN.

Earlier on Sunday, the 39-year-old Paul was waived by the Golden State Warriors, who would have owed him \$30 million for the 2024-25 season if they had kept his rights.

James will turn down his \$51.4 million option for the 2024-25 season to become an unrestricted free agent. The four-time MVP is widely expected to re-sign with the Lakers, who hired his podcast co-host, **JJ Redick**, to be their coach and drafted his eldest son, **Bronny James**, in the second round.

D'Angelo Russell will pick up his \$18.7 million player option and return to the Lakers, and teammate **Max Christie** will get a four-year contract worth \$32 million.

The Orlando Magic will sign free agent guard **Kentavious Caldwell-Pope** to a three-year contract, according to USA Today. The deal will be worth a total of \$66 million, ESPN reported. Caldwell-Pope was a starter for the Denver Nuggets' 2023 championship team.

The offseason activity got off to an early start last week when the Brooklyn Nets agreed to trade **Mikal Bridges** to the New York Knicks and the Atlanta Hawks agreed to trade **Dejounte Murray** to the New Orleans Pelicans. **Trae Young**, **Brandon Ingram** and **Zach LaVine** are among the other prominent players who have been mentioned as possible trade targets this summer.

Driving much of this year's free agency and trade activity will be new salary cap rules, which add financial penalties and restrictions for the league's highest-spending teams. If a team exceeds the salary cap by approximately \$50 million — a new spending tier known as the "second apron" — it would pay significant luxury tax penalties and no longer be able to use trade exceptions, execute sign-and-trade agreements, include cash in a trade or buy a draft pick. Given these onerous new restrictions, most teams are expected to avoid entering the second apron if at all possible.

— Ben Golliver

The Detroit Pistons agreed to a four-year contract with Coach **J.B. Bickerstaff** with a team option for a fifth season, a person familiar with the situation told the Associated Press.

The Cleveland Cavaliers fired Bickerstaff in May after they lost to the Boston Celtics in the Eastern Conference semifinals despite winning 99 games over two years. ...

Kayla McBride scored 16 points, and the visiting Minnesota Lynx spoiled a record-setting day from Chicago rookie **Angel Reese**, rallying for a 70-62 victory over the Sky.

Reese broke a WNBA single-season record with her 10th straight double-double, finishing the day with 10 points and 16 rebounds. ...

Caitlin Clark had 15 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds, and the visiting Indiana Fever rallied for an 88-82 victory over the Phoenix Mercury.

The Fever closed out June with a 7-4 record after going 1-8 in May. ...

Breanna Stewart had 22 points and 12 rebounds to help the New York Liberty rally to beat the visiting Atlanta Dream, 81-75.

HOCKEY

Reign in the rain as Panthers get to party

They waited 30 years. It was going to take more than a

massive thunderstorm to deter the Florida Panthers from this party.

Not even a torrential downpour — so bad that flood warnings were issued in the area — accompanied by a huge lightning storm could stop the Panthers' Stanley Cup celebration in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. With tens of thousands of fans estimated in attendance, the team arrived on double-decker buses that took a beachfront route before stopping on the sand for a rally where the trophy was hoisted yet again.

Carter Verhaeghe was the player who got to bring the Cup onto the stage, Queen's "We Are the Champions" blared and nobody minded how soaked they were; nobody minded that it was still raining. The Panthers were champs after three decades of waiting.

The title was won last Monday

night, with Florida beating the Edmonton Oilers, 2-1, in Game 7 of the Stanley Cup finals. ...

The Tampa Bay Lightning got a head start on free agency by acquiring the rights to high-scoring winger **Jake Guentzel**.

The Lightning sent a 2025 third-round draft pick to the Carolina Hurricanes. The move allows the Lightning to sign Guentzel before he hits the open market Monday.

He is coming off scoring 30 goals this past season for the Hurricanes and Pittsburgh Penguins, his fourth time reaching that mark in an eight-year career that has included him getting to 40 twice.

The New Jersey Devils continued to rebuild their defense by getting **Johnathan Kovacevic** from the Montreal Canadiens for a 2026 fourth-round pick.

Forward **Patrick Kane** is

returning to the Detroit Red Wings for next season on a contract that gives him a chance to earn up to \$6.5 million if he helps the franchise end its lengthy playoff drought.

The Buffalo Sabres finalized a buyout of forward **Jeff Skinner**'s contract, ending the tenure of the highest-paid player on their roster.

Edmonton put goaltender **Jack Campbell** on unconditional waivers to buy out the rest of his contract.

GOLF

Davis takes Detroit after Bhatia's misses

Australia's **Cam Davis** won the Rocket Mortgage Classic for the second time, closing with a 2-under-par 70 that gave him a one-shot victory when **Akshay Bhatia** three-putted from 32 feet

on the final hole in Detroit.

Davis, a 29-year-old who won his first PGA Tour title three years ago at Detroit Golf Club, had not finished better than 38th in sixth starts since he tied for 12th at the Masters in April.

Davis pulled into a tie with Bhatia with a birdie on the par-5 17th hole.

That proved to be enough when the left-handed Bhatia, who uses a long putter, watched his four-foot par attempt on the 18th miss low and left for his first three-putt of the week.

"Just a little bit of nerves, honestly," he said. "I'm human." Davis finished at 18-under 270 on a day of missed opportunities for the final pairing of Bhatia and **Aaron Rai**, each of whom shot an even-par 72. **Davis Thompson** (68) and **Min Woo Lee** (69) also finished one shot back.

Davis became the first two-time winner of the event since its

debut on the PGA Tour schedule in 2019. ...

Hiroyuki Fujita held a three-stroke lead with eight holes to play in the final round of the U.S. Senior Open when the tournament was postponed because of severe weather at Newport (R.I.) Country Club.

Fujita was 2 under for the day on the course at the mouth of Narragansett Bay when the horn sounded because of storms. The USGA said the tournament would resume Monday.

Richard Bland birdied the first three holes to move into second place. The recent Senior PGA champion was at 13 under for the tournament with eight holes left. ...

Atthaya "Jeeno" Thitikul of Thailand made a 12-foot birdie putt on the final hole as she and **Ruoning Yin** of China won the LPGA Tour's Dow Championship by closing with an 8-under 62 in the fourballs format in Midland, Mich. ...

In Cervia, Italy, **Marcel Siem** beat **Tom McKibbin** in a playoff to win the DP World Tour's Italian Open in the German's fourth event back after hip surgery in February.

AUTO RACING

Logano ends long day with a Cup Series win

Joey Logano stretched his fuel enough to hold off a group of pursuers at the finish line in Lebanon, Tenn., and win the rain-delayed Ally 400 in a NASCAR Cup Series-record fifth overtime.

Logano held off a charge by **Tyler Reddick**, then beat **Zane Smith**, Reddick, **Ryan Preece** and **Chris Buescher** to the line in a race that started nearly six hours earlier at Nashville Superspeedway and went 31 laps longer than the 300 that were scheduled.

"It's a much-needed win for sure," a smiling and relieved Logano said of his first victory this year and 33rd of his career. ...

George Russell clinched Mercedes's first win of the season at Formula One's Austrian Grand Prix after taking advantage of a late clash between McLaren driver **Lando Norris** and championship leader **Max Verstappen** in a Red Bull.

It was Russell's second Formula One win.

McLaren's **Oscar Piastri** finished second in Spielberg, Austria, ahead of Ferrari's **Carlos Sainz Jr.**

Norris was trying to take the lead from Verstappen with just seven laps remaining when the pair came together. The incident left Norris's car unable to continue, and Verstappen was given a 10-second time penalty.

Verstappen and Norris had been caught up in a fight for the top spot, with the British driver accusing his rival of "dangerous" driving.

MISC.

As Ecuador moves on, Mexico is out of Copa

Ecuador avoided a penalty shot in stoppage time after a review and earned a spot in the Copa América quarterfinals with a 0-0 draw against Mexico in Glendale, Ariz.

Ahead on goal differential, Ecuador weathered a second-half push by Mexico at State Farm Stadium to finish second in Group B behind Venezuela.

In Austin, **Eduard Bello** opened the scoring in the 49th minute, and Venezuela completed Group B play by beating Jamaica, 3-0.

Mexico failed to get out of the group stage for the fourth time in its past five Copa América appearances, which could put Coach **Jaime Lozano**'s job in jeopardy. ...

It took only two days into the Tour de France to show that **Tadej Pogacar** and **Jonas Vingegaard** are in a class of their own.

Pogacar attacked from the chasing peloton up the second ascent of the short but steep San Luca climb in the second stage of the Tour in Bologna, Italy, and only Vingegaard was able to follow him.

The move meant Pogacar took the leader's yellow jersey from **Romain Bardet**.

Breakaway rider **Kevin Vauquelin** made it two French wins in two days by winning the hilly stage with an attack of his own up San Luca to follow up countryman Bardet's success.

Pogacar won the Tour in 2020 and 2021, then finished second behind Vingegaard the past two years. This year's opening four stages are being held in Italy for the first time.

— From news services and staff reports



GEORGI LICOVSKI/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

English star Jude Bellingham scores on a spectacular bicycle kick Sunday, lifting his nation into the Euro quarterfinals.

Hey, Jude: Bellingham saves day for England

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jude Bellingham needed to produce something special to keep England at Euro 2024.

And he did.

England was seconds away from slumping to one of the biggest upsets in the history of the European Championship when it trailed Slovakia deep into stoppage time in the round of 16 on Sunday in Gelsenkirchen, Germany.

But Bellingham's spectacular overhead kick in the fifth of six added minutes at Veltins Arena sent the game into extra time, and Harry Kane sealed a 2-1 win that keeps alive England's hopes of a first major trophy since 1966.

"I think it was 30 or 20 seconds until

ENGLAND 2, SLOVAKIA 1 (ET)

Late tally stuns Slovakia at Euros; Spain advances

we were out of the European Championship," Bellingham said. "It's hard to deny that it was one of the most important moments of my career so far"

He has had a few.

The midfielder, who turned 21 on Saturday, just completed a stunning debut season at Real Madrid, winning the Champions League and the Spanish title.

At such a young age, he is already one

of England's most important players and delivered a moment of magic when all hope seemed lost.

England, one of the pretournament favorites and runner-up at the last Euros, trailed 45th-ranked Slovakia after Ivan Schranz's 25th-minute goal.

England will play Switzerland in the quarterfinals Saturday.

• **SPAIN 4, GEORGIA 1:** Spain recovered from conceding an early own-goal to beat Georgia in Cologne for a spot in the quarterfinals, ending one of the tournament's most compelling underdog stories. Spain faces host Germany next.

Goals from midfielders Rodri and Fabián Ruiz brought Spain back into the game after Robin Le Normand's own-goal in the 18th minute.

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB	
3 p.m.	Houston at Toronto » MLB Network
6:45 p.m.	New York Mets at Washington » MASN, WJFK (106.7 FM), WDCN (87.7 FM)
9:30 p.m.	Milwaukee at Colorado » MLB Network (joined in progress)
WNBA	
10 p.m.	Dallas at Seattle » NBA TV
GOLF	
8 a.m.	U.S. Senior Open, completion of final round » Golf Channel

SOCCER	
Noon	European Championship, round of 16: France vs. Belgium » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
3 p.m.	European Championship, round of 16: Portugal vs. Slovenia » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
9 p.m.	Copa América, Group C: Uruguay at United States » Fox Sports 1, Univision
9 p.m.	Copa América, Group C: Bolivia vs. Panama » Fox Sports 2
TENNIS	
6 a.m.	Wimbledon, first round » ESPN

BASEBALL

To learn more about himself as a pitcher, Gore finally went to college

Nationals left-hander spent the offseason at the pitching lab at Wake Forest, an elite training facility, and entered this season with a better grasp of his stuff

BY ANDREW GOLDEN

Mike McFerran noticed, at first, the pitchers at Wake Forest University were a bit star-struck. MacKenzie Gore was the big man on campus, so to speak, while training this past offseason with McFerran — then the school’s director of player development and pitching lab coordinator. And many of the Wake Forest pitchers couldn’t believe they were sharing a field with a major leaguer.

But McFerran said those college pitchers eventually came to realize Gore was just like them. He wasn’t MacKenzie Gore, the former top prospect who could now be found on the mound at Nationals Park, a key part of the Washington Nationals’ rotation. He was MacKenzie Gore, a pitcher intent on growing his knowledge of himself and the game. He hung out all day, talking to pitchers about what they were throwing. He would watch bullpen sessions, asking coaches questions about what he was seeing.

“He’s —” McFerran said, pausing. “I don’t know if *savant’s* the right word, but he just loves pitching. He’s obsessed with it. He really wants to be a master of his craft. And everything we were doing at Wake was the perfect place to be because he could soak up so much information.”

For Gore to become the pitcher that he knows he can be, he had to learn about who he was. So he went back to college. This wasn’t traditional course work. And it wasn’t at East Carolina, where Gore committed before he was drafted No. 3 by San Diego in 2017. Instead, Gore spent the offseason working with McFerran, now pitching coordinator for the Oakland Athletics, at the pitching lab at Wake Forest, one of the elite offseason training facilities for MLB pitchers. What was he studying? Himself.

“It was like, ‘Where does my stuff play?’” Gore said. “‘Why was I successful when I was successful last year?’ That’s kind of what we talked about, and we dove into it.”

By many people’s standards, Gore had a solid first full MLB season. He finished with a 7-10 record and a 4.42 ERA. But Gore’s internal expectations are higher than most people’s.

Gore’s “elite drive to improve,” as McFerran described it, paved the way for his impressive 2024 campaign. He has a 3.60 ERA though 16 starts, though his 3.13 FIP (fielding independent pitching) indicates he has had



GREGORY BULL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

MacKenzie Gore improved his key stats this season, his second year in Washington. Through 16 starts he has a 3.60 ERA and is striking out 10.5 batters per nine innings.

some bad luck behind him defensively. His velocity is up this year, thanks to tweaked mechanics. He has dropped his home runs per nine innings from 1.78 to 0.74 while striking out more hitters per nine innings.

Gore’s education with McFerran began by diving into the left-hander’s numbers — and there was a lot to like. Gore had four distinct pitches with pitch shapes that attacked all parts of the zone. He was throwing enough strikes and had elite extension, in the 94th percentile among major leaguers in 2023.

But a closer look at Gore’s pitch usage explained why he gave up so many hits last season. More than 60 percent of the hits Gore allowed came on fastballs. Seventeen of the 27 home runs Gore gave up last season were on fastballs, and 16 of those were to

righties. Fourteen of those homers against righties came on 0-0, 1-0, 2-1 and 3-2 counts. Gore also threw his curveballs primarily to righties and didn’t throw his change-up enough. In short: He was too predictable.

Nationals pitching coach Jim Hickey thought Gore was at times indecisive when it came to pitch selection. Gore was confident in his pitches but wasn’t sure how to use them all together.

“It’s not like he’s got three or four pitches and he leans on two and one of them is a show pitch,” Hickey said. “They’re all weapons that can all retire hitters. ... I think he’s got that a little bit more locked down in his mind. Like, if I do get into this particular situation, this is exactly how I’m going to get out of it — or at least try to get out of it.”

From there, Gore worked with

McFerran to make adjustments. Gore’s fastball always has been elite because of a low release height and quality backspin. But McFerran emphasized Gore should throw his fastball at the top of the strike zone — and also throw it less often.

Instead, McFerran wanted Gore to open up his full toolbox. He wanted Gore to throw his change-up more because it had a spin rate and movement that set it apart. That pitch arrived in a part of the strike zone that hitters weren’t accounting for. Its usage is up from 2.9 percent last year to 9.7 percent this year. Gore is also throwing his curveball more to lefties.

“I just think he’s overall way more in control of the at-bats,” said Nationals closer Kyle Finnegan, who said Gore is getting more swings and misses in

the zone. “For him, it should be execution over selection. I don’t think the pitch matters as much as the execution. So as long as he’s confident in what he chooses to throw and executes it, he’s going to be all right more times than not because his stuff is so good.”

Gore also made physical adjustments on the mound. He was previously on the far right of the rubber. Now he stands closer to the center, a change that helps in a few ways. His pitches are harder to decipher, and McFerran noted that centering himself allowed Gore’s extension to be as close to the plate as possible.

“He’s potentially one of the elites of the elite,” McFerran said. “He has stuff so good that, if he makes each pitch look similar to each other pitch, he’s going to overpower guys.”

Moving to the center of the

mound also helps Gore with the mechanics of his delivery, which he tweaked in the offseason. Gore said he leaned over too much toward first base in 2023. This year, he’s more upright. McFerran also said Gore altered his mechanics slightly to create more separation between his upper body and his plant leg, which has allowed him to throw harder.

Gore said no pitcher wants to experience growing pains as he did a season ago. But he also believes his struggles gave him an opportunity to learn. He’s starting to reap the rewards of that — and there’s still more to learn.

“We want it to happen right away, but that’s just part of it,” Gore said. “I expect a lot out of myself and didn’t feel like I was playing up to what I was capable of. And I still don’t. But we’re definitely better than we were.”

Champions snap to life and blast O’s

RANGERS 11, ORIOLES 2

BY CHILDS WALKER

BALTIMORE — After three days of Orioles retribution, the Texas Rangers who battered Baltimore in last year’s American League Division Series reappeared Sunday evening at Camden Yards.

With a national audience watching on ESPN, the defending World Series champions emerged from their first-half doldrums to tear into struggling Orioles starter Cole Irvin and relievers Nick Vespi and Matt Krook. The Rangers took the series finale, 11-2, in front of an announced crowd of 23,439.

In ending its six-game losing streak, Texas piled up seven extra-base hits, including a pair of home runs from journeyman Derek Hill. Rookie Wyatt Langford hit for the cycle — the first time that has been done in the majors this season — by tripling in the fourth inning, doubling in the fifth, singling in the sixth and homering in the eighth.

The Orioles’ AL-best offense could not keep pace against Rangers starter Andrew Heaney, who struck out 10 and allowed but five hits over seven innings.

Baltimore failed to homer for just the second time in 29 games, and Gunnar Henderson’s on-base streak ended at 36 games as he struck out four times.

— *Baltimore Sun*

Nats end their road trip with a whimper, await the arrival of Wood

NATIONALS FROM D1

sideways with a sweep by the San Diego Padres and closed with two losses in three games against the Rays. Against Tampa Bay, the Nationals managed just nine runs in three games — with six of those coming in the seventh inning Saturday. They enter a four-game series with the New York Mets hoping for a spark from prospect James Wood, a 21-year-old outfielder who is expected to make his major league debut Monday.

“That’s the expectation,” Martinez said. “My biggest thing is, if he’s there, to get him in the lineup and have him play.”

The Nationals’ offensive identity is that of a contact-first team that puts the ball in play; their 644 strikeouts (7.8 per game) are the third fewest in the National League. But Bradley entered Sunday averaging 11.1 strikeouts per nine innings in his first nine starts; he would rank in the top 10 in the majors if he had pitched enough innings to qualify.

Bradley set the tone by striking out six of the first eight hitters he faced, including five in a row from cleanup man Ramírez to No. 8 hitter Drew Millas. The Nationals had runners at the corners in the third inning, but Lane Thomas struck out before Winker grounded out. After Bradley retired him while covering first base, Winker told him he threw a good pitch. Bradley gave him a first bump in return.

“It was, in the heat of competition, just giving him a little hat tip. And then he blew my doors off the last at-bat,” Winker joked.



DOUGLAS P. DEFELICE/GETTY IMAGES

CJ Abrams, who had one of the Nationals’ three hits Sunday, steals second during the third inning.

The sight of the Nationals chasing balls in the dirt was all too familiar. Bradley racked up four strikeouts with his splitter, four with his fastball and three with his cutter. And only Winker’s strikeout in the sixth came on a pitch that Bradley left in the strike zone.

Nationals lefty Patrick Corbin couldn’t keep pace as his record dropped to 1-8. He allowed a home run to Isaac Paredes to

open the second inning, giving the Rays the lead. Three batters later, José Caballero hit a two-run homer to make it 3-0. Paredes finished a single short of the cycle; in the fourth inning, he tripled and then scored on a Jose Siri sacrifice fly. Randy Arozarena added a solo homer in the seventh against Jordan Weems.

In the eighth, the Nationals had two runners on and one out with the heart of the order due

up. But Winker struck out looking on a Garrett Cleavinger fastball that clipped the edge of the strike zone before Ramírez chased a slider to end the threat.

Note: Righty Josiah Gray made his fifth rehab start of June — and his second in a row with Class AAA Rochester — and allowed seven runs over three innings.

Gray, who has been on the injured list since early April with

a strained right flexor muscle in his forearm, had turned in his best rehab start of the season Tuesday, allowing one run in six innings. Martinez said Gray would make at least one more start before returning to the Nationals. The goal was for him to go seven innings and 90 pitches.

On Sunday, Gray made it to 73. Perhaps the most alarming part of his outing was that his velocity was down. His average fastball velocity was 93.3 mph in 2023; on Sunday, he averaged 90.6 and topped out at 91.9.

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The Washington Post



50115-6x1.25

BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Philadelphia	55	29	.655	—	6-4	W-1
Atlanta	46	36	.561	8 5-5	L-1	
New York	40	41	.494	13½ 6-4	L-2	
Washington	39	44	.470	15½ 3-7	L-1	
Miami	30	54	.357	25 5-5	L-1	

Rays 5, Nationals 0

NATIONALS	AB	R	H	B	BBSO	AVG
Abrams ss.....	2	0	1	0	2	1.283
Thomas rf.....	3	0	0	0	1	1.239
Winkler lf.....	3	0	0	1	2	1.256
Ramirez dh.....	4	0	1	0	2	1.268
Garcia 2b.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.260
Meneses 1b.....	4	0	0	0	4	1.230
Vargas 3b.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.262
Millas c.....	4	0	0	0	2	1.161
Young cf.....	3	1	0	1	2	1.272
TOTALS	30	0	3	0	3	1.16

RAYS	AB	R	H	B	BBSO	AVG
Diaz dh.....	4	0	1	0	1	1.271
Arozarena lf.....	4	1	2	1	0	1.196
A. Rosario 3b.....	4	0	0	0	2	1.291
Paredes 1b.....	4	2	3	1	0	1.276
Siri cf.....	3	0	1	0	1	1.213
DeLuca rf.....	4	1	1	0	0	1.165
Caballero 2b.....	2	1	2	1	1	1.246
Walls ss.....	3	1	0	1	1	1.167
Jackson c.....	3	0	0	0	1	1.070
TOTALS	31	5	9	5	1	1.17

WASHINGTON, 000 000 000 — 0 3 0
TAMPA BAY 030 100 10X — 5 9 0

LOB: Washington 7, Tampa Bay 4.
2B: Diaz (16), Paredes (16). **3B:** Paredes (1). **HR:** Paredes (13), off Corbin; Caballero (5), off Corbin; Arozarena (11), off Weems; RBH: Paredes (43), Caballero 2 (22), Siri (30), Arozarena (28).
SB: Abrams (14), Siri (1).

NATIONALS IP H R ER BB SO NPERA
Corbin 6 8 4 4 1 5 945.49
Weems.....11 1 1 0 1 156.03
Raney.....10 0 0 1 1 157.43

RAYS IP H R ER BB SO NPERA
Bradley.....5½ 3 0 0 2 11 993.42
Poche.....½ 0 0 0 0 63.15
Adam.....10 0 0 1 1 122.00
Clevinger.....1 0 0 1 3 232.91
Milton.....1 0 0 1 1 95.01

WP: Bradley (3-4); **LP:** Corbin (1-8).
Inherited runners-scored: Poche (2-0).
HBP: Clevinger (Thomas). **PB:** Jackson (1). T: 2:20. A: 18,259 (25,025).

HOW THEY SCORED

RAYS SECOND
Isaac Paredes homers. Jose Siri flies out. Jonny DeLuca singles. **Jose Caballero homers.** Jonny DeLuca scores. Taylor Walls singles. Alex Jackson strikes out swinging. Taylor Walls out at second.

Rays 3, Nationals 0
RAYS FOURTH
Isaac Paredes triples. Jose Siri out on a sacrifice fly. **Isaac Paredes scores.** Jonny DeLuca flies out. Jose Caballero strikes out swinging.

Rays 4, Nationals 0
RAYS SEVENTH
Alex Jackson flies out. Yandy Diaz grounds out. **Randy Arozarena homers.** Amed Rosario strikes out swinging.
Rays 5, Nationals 0

NATIONALS' LEADERS

Entering Monday's game.	Batters	Avg	R	H	2B	HR	RBI
Call	.313	6	5	1	0	1	
Ramirez	.294	1	5	1	0	4	
Abrams	.283	50	85	20	13	42	
Lau	.272	41	61	12	1	48	
Vargas	.262	13	38	11	0	15	
Garcia	.260	25	69	14	7	36	
Winkler	.256	38	66	11	9	37	
Thomas	.239	31	51	8	8	34	
Finley	.237	16	28	1	9	26	
Meneses	.230	19	61	11	3	41	
Adams	.215	6	17	5	2	6	
Senzel	.211	23	41	10	7	18	
Ruiz	.203	18	42	7	4	20	
Carroll	.183	26	40	11	7	26	
Millas	.167	2	5	1	1	1	
Gallo	.164	17	23	7	5	11	
Robles	.120	3	3	0	0	2	
Nunez	.083	6	1	0	0	0	

Pitchers	ERA	H	ER	BB	SO
Flore	2.09	31	9	10	30
Finegan	2.16	22	12	12	37
Williams	2.22	45	14	16	47
Adon	2.25	3	1	3	2
Irvin	3.03	81	33	23	86
Lau	3.26	47	18	13	60
Parker	3.32	70	29	18	63
Harvey	3.40	35	15	12	45
Gore	3.60	90	34	28	99
J.Barnes	3.94	27	13	8	21
Garcia	4.56	25	13	9	23
Herz	5.48	25	17	7	27
Corbin	5.49	112	58	33	65
Weems	6.03	32	11	25	25
M.Barnes	6.75	16	10	4	10
Raney	7.43	27	19	15	17
Rutledge	9.00	2	1	0	1

NL leaders

Entering Sunday's games.

BATTING	
Ohtani, LA	321
Profar, SD	315
Arraez, SD	315
Betts, LA	304
Harper, Phi	303
HOME RUNS	
Ohtani, LA	26
Ozuna, Atl	21
Harper, Phi	20
Hernández, LA	18

RBI	
Ozuna, Atl	67
Bohm, Phi	66
Ohtani, LA	62
Harper, Phi	58
Profar, SD	55
Hernández, LA	55

ERA	
López, Atl	1.70
Suárez, Phi	1.83
Sánchez, Phi	2.41
Stone, LA	2.73
Wheeler, Phi	2.73

SAVES	
Helsley, StL	29
Finnegan, Was	22
Iglesias, Atl	20
Suarez, SD	20
Diaz, Cin	17
Megill, Mil	17

STRIKEOUTS	
Glasnow, LA	136
Cease, SD	125
Sale, Atl	118
King, SD	115
Peralta, Mil	112

STRIKEOUTS	Glasnow, LA	136
Cease, SD	125	
Sale, Atl	118	
King, SD	115	
Peralta, Mil	112	

AL leaders	Entering Sunday's games.
Rengifo, LA	317
Judge, NY	313
Correa, Min	311
Witt, KC	307
Soto, NY	302

HOME RUNS	
Judge, NY	30
Henderson, Bal	26
Ramírez, Cle	23
Santander, Bal	22
Naylor, Cle	20

Soto, NY	20
RBI	
Judge, NY	80
Ramirez, Cle	75
Naylor, Cle	60

ERA	Burnes, Bal <td>2.28</td>	2.28
Lugo, KC	2.29	
Skubal, Det	2.32	
Blanco, Hou	2.49	
Anderson, LA	2.63	

SAVES	Clase, Cle <td>25</td>	25
Holmes, NY	19	
Kimble, Bal	19	
Estévez, LA	16	
Jensen, Bos	12	

STRIKEOUTS	Crockett, Chi <td>130</td>	130
Ragans, KC	126	
Flaherty, Det	122	
Skubal, Det	112	
López, Min	110	

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Milwaukee	50	34	.595	—	6-4	W-1
St. Louis	43	40	.518	6½ 7-3	W-1	
Pittsburgh	40	43	.482	9½ 5-5	W-1	
Cincinnati	39	45	.464	11 4-6	L-1	
Chicago	39	46	.459	11½ 3-7	L-1	

Pirates 4, Braves 2

Oneil Cruz and Rowdy Tellez each hit a two-run homer in the fifth inning, and Pittsburgh took advantage of Bailey Falter's strong start to defeat Atlanta and avoid a three-game sweep.

Bryan Reynolds's 25-game hitting streak ended for the Pirates.

PIRATES	AB	R	H	B	BBSO	AVG
McCutchen dh.....	3	0	0	0	2	1.232
Joe ph-dh.....	2	0	0	0	2	1.288
Reynolds lf.....	4	0	0	0	2	1.275
Cruz ss.....	3	1	2	1	1	1.239
Oliveras rf.....	3	1	1	0	1	1.236
Taylor cf.....	0	0	0	0	1	1.191
Tellez 1b.....	4	1	2	1	1	1.230
Gonzales 2b.....	4	2	0	0	0	1.280
Bart c.....	4	0	0	0	2	1.250
Truitt 3b.....	4	0	0	0	3	1.202
Suwinski cf-rf.....	3	1	0	0	1	1.168
TOTALS	34	4	6	4	2	1.12

BRAVES	AB	R	H	B	BBSO	AVG
Kelenic cf.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.278
Albies 2b.....	4	0	1	0	0	1.254
Ozuna dh.....	3	1	1	0	1	1.230
Olson 1b.....	3	1	1	0	1	1.242
Riley 2b.....	3	1	0	0	1	1.250
Duvall rf.....	3	1	1	0	1	1.269
Murphy c.....	4	0	0	0	2	1.217
Arcia ss.....	2	0	0	1	1	1.211
Williams lf.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.198
d'Arnaud ph.....	1	0	0	0	0	1.233
Wall lf.....	0	0	0	0	0	1.250
Short ph.....	1	0	0	0	0	1.163
TOTALS	30	2	6	1	9	1.12

PITTSBURGH, 000 040 000 — 4 6 0
ATLANTA..... 000 100 001 — 2 6 1

E: Arcia (4). **LOB:** Pittsburgh 6, Atlanta 7. **2B:** Gonzales (9), Ozuna (18), Murphy (3). **HR:** Cruz (12), off Schwellenbach; Tellez (4), off Schwellenbach.

PIRATES IP H R ER BB SO ERA
Falter.....5 2 1 1 4 5 3.87
Nicolas.....2 1 0 0 1 1 3.432
Mlodzinski.....1 1 0 0 1 0 13.70
Chapman.....1 2 1 1 0 0 9.90

BRAVES IP H R ER BB SO ERA
Schwellenbach.....5 5 4 4 2 7 5.68
Holmes.....3 1 0 0 4 1 18.00
Bumgarner.....1 0 0 0 1 3 7.2

WP: Falter (4-6); **LP:** Schwellenbach (1-4); **S:** Chapman (3). **HBP:** Schwellenbach (Suwinski). T: 2:31. A: 36,679 (41,149).

Cardinals 2, Reds 0

Lance Lynn allowed two hits and struck out six in six straight innings, and St. Louis beat Cincinnati to split their four-game series.

The Reds' Jonathan India extended his hitting streak to 12 games with a double in the third. He has at least one double in each of his past eight games.

REDS	AB	R	H	B	BBSO	AVG
India 2b.....	4	0	1	0	1	1.278
De La Cruz ss.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.252
Candelario dh.....	3	0	0	1	1	1.243
Steer 1b.....	3	0	0	1	1	1.241
Fraley rf-cf.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.274
Marce 3b.....	3	0	0	0	1	1.176
Fairchild cf.....	2	0	1	0	0	1.236
Enson ph-lf.....	1	0	0	0	0	1.193
Bishop lf-cf.....	2	0	0	0	1	1.190
Turner dh.....	0	0	0	0	1	1.198
Malik c.....	3	0	0	0	1	1.182
TOTALS	29	0	2	0	8	1.12

CARDINALS	AB	R	H	B	BBSO	AVG
Winn ss.....	4	0	1	0	0	1.286
Burleson rf.....	3	0	1	0	1	1.278
Carlson lf.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.198
Contreras dh.....	2	0	0	1	1	1.262
Goldschmidt 1b.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.225
Donovan lf.....	3	0	0	1	1	1.264
Arenado 3b.....	4	1	1	0	2	1.262
Gosselin 2b.....	3	0	0	0	1	1.100
Pages c.....	4	1	3	0	0	1.191
Siani cf.....	3	0	0	0	1	1.234
TOTALS	31	2	7	2	10	1.12

CINCINNATI..... 000 000 000 — 0 2 0
ST. LOUIS..... 000 011 00X — 2 7 0

LOB: Cincinnati 4, St. Louis 2. **B:** India (13), Winn (16).

REDS IP H R ER BB SO ERA
Greene.....4½ 4 1 1 2 6 3.70
Moll.....1 2 1 1 0 2 1.86
Cruz.....½ 1 0 0 0 0 1.50
Farmer.....1 0 0 0 1 1.82
Diaz.....1 0 0 0 1 1.75

CARDINALS IP H R ER BB SO ERA
Lynn.....6 2 0 0 1 6 3.59
Kittredge.....½ 0 0 1 0 3 1.22
Romero.....1½ 0 0 0 0 2 1.68
Helsley.....1 0 0 0 0 2 1.61
WP: Lynn (4-3); **LP:** Greene (5-4); **S:** Helsley (30). **Inherited runners-scored:** Moll 3-0, Cruz 2-1, Romero 1-0. **HBP:** Greene 2 (Burleson, Contreras). **WP:** Greene. T: 2:17. A: 40,951 (44,494).

Diamondbacks 5, Athletics 1

Brandon Pfaadt pitched six innings of one-run ball and pinch hitter Blaze Alexander delivered a two-run single during Arizona's three-run seventh inning, helping the Diamondbacks hand Oakland its 12th loss in its past 13 road games.

ATHLETICS	AB	R	H	B	BBSO	AVG
Bleday cf.....	4	0	0	0	2	1.242
Andujar lf.....	4	0	0	0	3	1.305
Rooker dh.....	4	0	0	0	1	1.261
Soderstrom 1b.....	4	0	1	0	2	1.226
McCann c.....	4	0	2	0	2	1.289
Nevin 3b.....	3	0	0	0	1	1.203
Gelof 2b.....	4	1	1	1	0	1.203
Butler rf.....	2	1	0	0	0	1.179
Cameron ph-rf.....	1	0	0	0	0	1.167
Diaz ss.....	2	0	0	1	1	1.103
TOTALS	32	1	5	1	2	1.13

D'BACKS							TOTALS			35	4	8
Carroll cf.....	4	1	1	0	1	0.213						
Marte 2b.....	3	2	0	0	2	0.287	GIANTS	AB	R	H		
Pederson dh.....	3	0	1	0	0	0.283	Soler dh.....	4	2	2	0	1
B,Alexander ph-dh.....	1	0	1	2	0	0.259	Slater rf.....	3	0	0	1	1
Walker 1b.....	4	0	3	2	0	0.256	Ramos cf.....	5	2	3	2	3
Gurriel lf.....	3	0	0	0	3	0.267	Bailey c.....	5	1	2	1	2
McCarthy rf.....	2	0	0	2	0	0.278	Chapman 3b.....	3	1	1	1	1
Suárez 3b.....	3	1	0	1	2	0.196						

U.S. OLYMPIC TRIALS

CANDACE BUCKNER

Wiskus endures heartbreak after being passed over for men’s gymnastics squad

BUCKNER FROM D1

Olympics. The hometown hero being the day’s protagonist always makes for a good story. Wiskus missing the five-man cut — because what matters most here is not the individual standings but how much certain routines can boost the team’s score — was the cruelest plot twist.

“Uh, I mean, numb,” Wiskus responded when asked how he felt about being named one of the team’s two alternates.

We tune in to these events every four years because the stakes aren’t just high — they’re sky-scraping. The casual observer and couch potato don’t need to know a thing about obscure scoring systems or the career results of athletes who have spent the past three years largely anonymous. The reason we watch, the reason our blood pressure spikes (as if we’re the ones trying to stick the landing), is simple: We’re here for the stories.

The mainstream audience that lives blissfully outside of the gymnastics orbit, those viewers who don’t know the difference between the parallel bars and the pommel horse, probably had never heard of Wiskus before Saturday. But you don’t need to know him to care about what happened in this arena:

A 25-year-old had devoted his life to the steadfast pursuit of just one thing. He had been flipping since he was a toddler, and now he was at the precipice of a major life change. One false move, and his career would be over. And the make-or-break event would play out in front of his family, friends and former teammates. He was home.

When the public address announcer introduced him last among the performers, the screams from roughly 16,000 fans let it be known that this was *his* event.

Wiskus freed himself to soak up all the love in that moment, lingering on the stage a while longer and making a heart gesture back to the audience. He wasn’t the best gymnast in the field — Richard wasted little time earning that distinction — but Wiskus was Minnesota’s



CHARLIE RIEDEL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shane Wiskus was a fan favorite at gymnastics trials in his home state of Minnesota, but he failed secure a spot on the U.S. Olympic roster.

guy. He had the home-court advantage as well as the motivation.

“I allowed myself to have some fun considering what could potentially be the last meet of my career,” Wiskus said following Thursday’s first round of competition.

Wiskus, who made the Tokyo Olympics squad in 2021, previously considered retirement. Those thoughts eventually took root. This past week, as Wiskus returned to his home state, where he excelled at the University of Minnesota, it appeared he had come to a resolution. If he didn’t make this Olympic team, the trials probably would be his final competition.

Wiskus wouldn’t go down without a fight — and several fist pumps. After his floor routine, Wiskus, who looks as if

he has never missed a chest and arms day in the weight room, flexed his biceps and exulted. As he closed his routine on the rings, sticking the landing, he clapped so hard he created a cloud of chalk.

In his final event, the parallel bars, Wiskus began his routine just as the other competitors had stopped. All eyes were on him. NBC’s cameras followed his every swing, dip and handstand. When he finished, the crowd cheered its hero. He roared “Let’s go!” then cupped his hands to his ears to hear his fans scream even louder.

“I had the best two days of competition, so ...” Wiskus would say later, his sentence trailing off.

The lead-up to the Games have been tough for several notable athletes. Athing Mu, who won gold in the 800 meters

at the Tokyo Olympics, tripped and fell during the track and field trials. But she’s merely 22; in 2028, she will have a ready-made narrative for a revenge run in Los Angeles. Elaine Thompson-Herah, formerly the world’s fastest woman, had to pull out of the Jamaican trials with an injury, but her legacy is already paved in gold.

Alex Morgan was left off the U.S. women’s soccer roster, but her contributions to the sport — and the movement for pay equality — will never be forgotten. Bryson DeChambeau, the U.S. Open winner, didn’t make America’s team because he lacked enough ranking points. But he will be just fine drying his tears with the stacks of money he gets from the Saudis.

Those athletes have either seen their Olympic dreams

come true or possess the kind of wealth that makes life comfortable. Wiskus’s pain is different.

He has devoted his life to a sport that rides the back seat to the women’s version, and though he has enjoyed an excellent career, its lights will soon flicker out — possibly without an Olympic medal.

After the meet, all of the participants left the floor as the selection committee deliberated and chose the team members who would join Richard in Paris. Wiskus finished third in the all-around, and he thought he had done enough to make the cut.

“Yeah, I think I deserved it, so ...” he said, again his words coming to a quick end.

When the team was announced, one by one the lucky few bounded from

backstage and bathed in the spotlight. Like the five gymnasts named to the team, Wiskus, too, received a bouquet of white flowers. He wore the same blue Nike warmups they were wearing and stood next to them on the platform. However, when Wiskus appeared for the last time at Target Center, he was no longer pumping his fists and flexing. The support from the fans felt more sympathetic. They were applauding for an alternate.

“You’re not human if you don’t have those types of emotions for these incredible athletes,” said Brett McClure, the high performance director who helps pick the men’s team. “Every athlete out there just laid it all on the line, been training their entire lives for this, and it is absolutely gut-wrenching. It’s horrible for the ones that don’t quite make it, and it’s great for the ones that do — it’s life-changing for them. The roller coaster of emotions is absolutely real, and it never gets easier to manage in my position.”

It’s a strange thing to grieve the end of a dream in front of strangers with notepads and microphones. But given the U.S. gymnastics media obligations, Wiskus did so. When a local reporter asked a variation of the question about his feelings, Wiskus just repeated the one-word answer: “Numb.” When the same man began a question about how hard it was not to make the team despite all the “great things” he did, Wiskus was the very epitome of Minnesota nice.

“I’m not answering any more of your questions, sir,” Wiskus said, calmly and in control.

Wiskus then shifted eye contact and asked whether anyone had further questions. No one spoke up, so he turned to a volunteer and inquired how he could get back to the other end of the row. Wiskus’s stuff was down there.

As Richard was providing easy sound bites (“... loving Minnesota! Going to do everything to get the men’s team back!”), Wiskus was down on the floor, picking up his garment bag and that bouquet of flowers. Then he left. End of story.

Bullis star Wilson, 16, will be going to the Games

If sprinter gets a chance in one of the relays, he will make history

BY ADAM KILGORE

EUGENE, ORE. — Quincy Wilson, the 16-year-old Bullis School sensation who captivated fans at the U.S. Olympic track and field trials, will head to the Paris Games as part of the 4x400-meter relay pool, his coach, Joe Lee, said Sunday after the trials concluded.

“He’s in,” Lee said in a text message.

If Wilson runs in Paris, he will become the youngest male U.S. track and field Olympian in history. He would replace Arthur Newton, who was 17 when he competed in the steeplechase in 1900, according to U.S. Olympic historian Bill Mallon.

Wilson finished sixth in the 400-meter final Monday after a remarkable weekend in which he twice broke what had been a 42-year-old American record. Wilson ran one lap around the Hayward Field track in 44.66 seconds in the opening round, 44.59 seconds in the semifinals and 44.94 seconds in the final, placing him among the fastest sprinters in the country before he acquired a driver’s license.

“All I know is I gave everything that I had and then some,” Wilson said after the final. “I can’t go back and be disappointed. At the end of the day, I’m 16 running grown-man times.”

Biles leads returnees on the U.S. team; Rivera joins as newcomer

GYMNASTICS FROM D1

expected to win gold in Paris.

During a chaotic week here, three of the top contenders withdrew with injuries. The race for the final spot on the Olympic team suddenly featured athletes who hadn’t seemed to be strong contenders a week ago. Rivera, who turned 16 a few weeks ago, delivered under pressure. Across nationals and the trials, she performed 16 strong routines — none more important than her showing on beam Sunday.

Rivera navigated her difficult routine with confidence and precision, earning a 14.275 that will help the U.S. team in Paris. She also is excellent on bars. Even though she has competed at a major international competition as a senior elite, her consistent scores here proved she was an athlete who would complement the four Tokyo Olympians.

Biles earned an automatic Olympic berth by winning the all-around competition at the trials; her score of 117.225 was more than five points ahead of runner-up Lee (111.675). Biles perhaps is better than she has ever been. She will enter the Games with the potential to earn up to five gold medals. She has been dominant since her return to competition last year.

A three-person selection committee chose the other four Olympic team members, considering their performances here and at other recent competitions, as well as the overall strength of the team. Biles, Lee, Chiles and Carey began solidifying their spots on the team with strong performances on the first day of the trials Friday. As long as they made it through Sunday’s final night of competition without major trouble or an injury, their Olympic berths seemed assured.



ABBIE PARR/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Simone Biles earned an automatic Olympic spot by winning the all-around competition at the trials. She could earn up to five gold medals.

Together, those four past Olympians create a team without a major weakness, but the group had room for an athlete with the potential to contribute on beam in the team final. Rivera (13.9875 average at the trials), Joscelyn Roberson (also a 13.9875 average) and Tiana Sumanasekera (just behind with a 13.950) were fantastic on the apparatus here.

Rivera was chosen as the answer. She finished fifth in the all-around, and she also is strong on bars, posting a 14.300 on the apparatus Sunday for the second-best score of the evening. Across four days of competition at nationals and the trials, Rivera hasn’t slipped below a 13.700 on bars and beam, her best events.

Roberson, who suffered a serious ankle injury that limited her training heading into the Olympic season, had a strong performance at the trials, and she was named a traveling alternate, along with Leanne Wong, who also was an alternate for the Tokyo Games.

In the past week, Shilese Jones, Skye Blakely and Kayla

DiCello suffered injuries that ended their bids for Paris. Jones and Blakely headed to the trials as favorites to earn Olympic berths, and DiCello was expected to be in the mix as well. Without them, the Americans will have a much lower scoring ceiling in Paris, but they will still be expected to win gold, particularly given Russia’s absence.



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The Washington Post

Alcaraz optimistic he can join another exclusive club with a ‘Channel Slam’

BY AVA WALLACE

WIMBLEDON, ENGLAND — Carlos Alcaraz made history twice over when he defeated Alexander Zverev to win the French Open in early June. The Spaniard became the first male player to win his first three Grand Slam titles on three different surfaces — hard court, grass and clay — and the only man in tennis history to win a Grand Slam on all three surfaces before turning 22.

With Wimbledon beginning Monday, Alcaraz has a chance to scribble his name in the history books again. This time, Alcaraz will look to join a club even more exclusive than the now-seven-member group that claims Grand Slam men’s titles on all three surfaces. As a favorite to win his second consecutive crown at the All England Club, the 21-year-old also will be attempting to pull off the cleverly named “Channel Slam” and win the French Open and Wimbledon back-to-back.

“Well, winning Grand Slams is difficult. Obviously changing

from clay to a grass court, totally different surfaces, totally different game of play,” Alcaraz said ahead of his first-round match against Estonia’s Mark Lajal on Monday. “Let’s say: I’m going to try.”

Alcaraz radiated youthful optimism as he spoke about the challenge at a news conference Saturday, punctuating his sentences with a wide grin as he sat in front of reporters sporting a fresh haircut and wearing the trendy summer uniform of a heavyweight white T-shirt and cutoff jean shorts.

But don’t let his positivity disguise how ghostly the turnaround between the French Open and Wimbledon can be.

There is a reason only five men have accomplished the feat since the Open era began in 1968 — Rod Laver (in 1969, when he completed a calendar-year Grand Slam), Bjorn Borg (in 1978, 1979 and 1980), Rafael Nadal (in 2008 and 2010), Roger Federer (in 2009) and Novak Djokovic (in 2021). The tournaments are

staged on the two surfaces least alike — slow clay and speedy grass — and require the players to adjust their movement, ball striking, footwork and game strategy in just three weeks.

“I know that there’s going to be a really difficult and big challenge for me [winning the two Grand Slams back-to-back],” Alcaraz said, “but I think I’m ready to do it.”

He is among a small group of favorites to win the men’s title, along with world No. 1 Jannik Sinner, the lanky Italian who won the Australian Open in January and lost to budding rival Alcaraz in the semifinals of the French Open. Zverev made it to the semifinals of a grass-court tournament in Halle, Germany, ahead of Wimbledon and could make a deep run as well. And world No. 2 Djokovic is feeling confident about his ability to compete despite having surgery to repair a torn meniscus in his right knee June 5.

Djokovic — who will play for his eighth Wimbledon champion-

ship, which would tie Federer’s record on the men’s side — isn’t the only former champion hoping making a quick comeback from surgery. Two-time winner Andy Murray hasn’t decided whether he will play his first-round singles match against Tomas Machac on Tuesday after undergoing a procedure June 22 to remove a cyst from his spinal cord that was compressing a nerve and affecting sensation in his right leg.

“I’ve been practicing for the last few days. I played a set today,” Murray said Sunday. “It went pretty well, but I still don’t have 100 percent sort of feeling and sensation in my leg yet. It’s getting better every single day. Like I said a few days ago, I want to give it every single chance that I can to get there.”

The 37-year-old Scot has said this Wimbledon will be his last; he plans to retire after the Paris Olympics.

In the women’s draw, French Open champion Iga Swiatek and Australian Open champion Aryna Sabalenka are both chasing

their first Wimbledon titles. Swiatek, the top-ranked player in the world, is coming down from the dual highs of capturing her fourth title at Roland Garros and seeing Taylor Swift perform in Liverpool, England.

“I actually was thinking about going [to see Swift] here for the second time. My team was like, ‘Okay ...’” Swiatek said, trailing off. “Basically after this concert, like three days after, I was so excited I couldn’t sleep and everything. We decided it’s better to focus on the tournament.”

Swiatek had regained her usual cool by the time she arrived at Wimbledon. She has not played a tournament since the French Open and instead opted to dedicate her time to practicing on grass, focusing on her movement, which is so suited for clay, and her serve.

She drew a formidable challenger in the first round: American Sofia Kenin, who won the Australian Open in 2020 and beat Coco Gauff in an opening-round stunner last year. That memory

has served to calm Gauff this time around as she arrives at Wimbledon hoping for a better result. The Floridian is another favorite to win what would be her second Grand Slam title five years after shooting to tennis stardom here as a 15-year-old.

“Yeah, for me, with Wimbledon, I’m really relaxed going into this year,” Gauff said. “I did not have a great Wimbledon last year. It’s like, it couldn’t get any worse — it can only get better or the same.”

Gauff did manage to take from last year’s loss the lesson that difficult times don’t last forever. She went on a late-summer tear after falling to Kenin, winning three hard-court tournaments, including the U.S. Open, and beginning the ascent that resulted in her current ranking of No. 2 in the world.

“Oh, man,” Gauff said Saturday. “I wish a year ago me after that match could see me now.”

Wimbledon, first round
6 a.m., ESPN



PATRICK SMITH/GETTY IMAGES

Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone set the world record in the women’s 400-meter hurdles at the U.S. Olympic track and field trials.

McLaughlin-Levrone is dominant in 400 hurdles

TRACK FROM D1

just shy of fantastical. Her time would have beaten four sprinters in last week’s women’s 400-meter final — the one sans hurdles. She continued to do things that have never been done before.

“That excites me,” McLaughlin-Levrone said. “There’s something really exciting trying to figure out how to improve upon history in whatever capacity that looks like. That always is something I’m looking at.”

McLaughlin-Levrone astonishes even when she dabbles. At a May meet in Los Angeles, she beat Gabby Thomas, the 200 champion at these trials, in a 200. In June, McLaughlin-Levrone entered a 400 in New York and laid waste to the field in 48.75 — 0.05 seconds off the American record.

McLaughlin-Levrone decided against running a second individual event in Paris. “I like to hone in on one thing and do it the best of my ability,” she said. “I’m grateful we did that. I think today was a good testament of that.”

McLaughlin-Levrone’s versatility, combined with her decision to forgo an individual double attempt in Paris, permits imaginative speculation. In the mixed zone, a reporter asked whether she might run the 4x400 and the mixed relay in Paris. “I will help Team USA any way I can,” she said.

Another, more tantalizing possibility exists. After McLaughlin-Levrone answered questions from a gaggle of reporters, she walked out of a large white tent behind Hayward Field. She was asked one last question: Could she run not only on the 4x400 relay team but also the 4x100 team and try for three gold medals in Paris?

She widened her eyes, smiled and shrugged.

“Any way I can help,” she said.

The decision would have precedent. Allyson Felix, the legend who trained alongside McLaughlin-Levrone late in her career under Bobby Kersee, won gold in both relays at the 2012 London Olympics and the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Games. If McLaughlin-Levrone adds three gold medals to her current two at 24, it would position her to challenge — if not smash — Felix’s record of 11 track and field Olympic medals by career’s end.

McLaughlin-Levrone demonstrated the athletic superiority that allows for massive projection.

McLaughlin-Levrone burst inside Lane 5 and took the race by the throat. She separated from the hurdlers who started behind. She caught the ones ahead by the

last curve. Down the stretch, she ran alone.

“She’s really fast, and she’s really strong,” Cockrell said. “It’s hard to put it any other way. She’s great at holding her speed. She executes hurdles 6 through 8 exceptionally well. She’s a great technician. So I know what I need to work on.”

When her time flashed on the clock, it read 50.67. “There’s no way,” McLaughlin-Levrone thought. A review adjusted it down another 0.02 seconds.

McLaughlin-Levrone called making the Olympics “reliving that childhood dream over and over again.”

Before the virtuosic 400 hurdles finals, the last night of the trials produced a procession of excellence. Nikki Hiltz (women’s 1,500 meters), Maggie Malone Russell (women’s javelin), Masai Russell (women’s 100-meter hurdles), Grant Fisher (men’s 5,000 meters), Bryce Hoppel (men’s 800 meters), McLaughlin-Levrone and Benjamin set U.S. trials records.

“It is a super fast track,” Fisher said. “Even when there’s a little bit of wind, people can rip on this thing.”

Russell’s 12.25-second finish scared Keni Harrison’s eight-year-old, 12.20-second American record and separated the former Bullis School standout from a remarkably deep field. Alaysha Johnson and Grace Stark took the other two podium spots, leaving Harrison and Nia Ali, the past two Olympic silver medalists, home for Paris.

Fisher, the undisputed king of American distance running, won his second trials title. He held off Abdihamid Nur and a late charge from North Carolina’s Parker Wolfe to win the 5,000 in 13:08.85, a trials record he paired with his gold in the 10,000 on the first night of the trials. Pole vaulter Katie Moon, a gold medalist in Tokyo, returned to the Games with a second-place finish behind Virginia alum Bridget Williams.

More than 120 athletes made the Olympics over 10 days at Hayward Field. Some of them — Noah Lyles, Sha’Carri Richardson and so many others — will be among the brightest stars in Paris. None can match the palpable possibility of history that accompanies McLaughlin-Levrone to the starting line. She ran another time that defied even her own belief. It only left her wanting to do more.

“I would love to dip under 50 at some point,” she said. “I don’t know if that’s this year. I don’t know if that’s next year — whatever. Just chipping away, seeing what’s possible.”

BY ADAM KILGORE

EUGENE, ORE. — The first victory for Weini Kelati came when she arrived this past week. She had been back to Eugene many times, and each visit reminded her of the first trip a decade ago. It made her think of the unfathomable decision she made, of telling her family she would not be returning home, of leaving behind an old life and starting a new one.

“Every time I come out here, it brings back the memory,” Kelati said. “I get very emotional, and it affects my race. This time, I’ve been saying: ‘I’ve got to become a new me. Forget all the past and focus on the present.’”

On Saturday night, Kelati took her new self to the starting line of the 10,000 meters at the U.S. Olympic track and field trials. Even though she almost certainly would become an Olympian regardless of the result, she wanted to win. On the final lap, after a grueling 30 minutes of running, Kelati surged to the front, fell behind and surged back into the lead. She crossed the finish line first. She kept the memories at bay.

Kelati made a victory lap holding a tiny American flag. She will compete at the Paris Olympics with “USA” across her chest. It will be another touchstone in a remarkable saga that began in Eugene.

In 2014, at 17, Kelati ran for Eritrea, the nation in which she was born and grew up, in a youth world championship event in Eugene. Thousands attempt to flee and seek asylum every year from Eritrea, which human rights groups regard as one of the most repressive countries on Earth.

Kelati became one of them. She called her family and cried as she told them she would not be returning home. She defected to the United States. She moved to Leesburg in the Northern Virginia suburbs and lived with a third cousin, Amlesom Teklai, who had been a distance runner in college at Stephen F. Austin.

Kelati became a star at Heritage High and a 13-time all-American in cross-country and track



CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

Weini Kelati won the 10,000 meters in Eugene, Ore., where she defected from Eritrea 10 years earlier.

and field at the University of New Mexico. In 2021, she became a U.S. citizen three days before the 10,000 meters at the Olympic trials. Her flight landed two days before the race. “I was so excited, I couldn’t sleep,” Kelati said. In brutal heat, exhausted from travel, Kelati faded and did not finish the race.

Kelati came to Eugene again intent on victory, even if she had an Olympic berth all but secured. Kelati was the only runner in the race who had achieved the Olympic standard. The only way she wouldn’t make the Olympic team would be if an unlikely chain of events unfolded: if she finished outside the top three, then all three podium finishers recovered quickly enough to achieve the standard time in the next few weeks.

Kelati didn’t care about any of that.

“I was thinking about winning the race,” she said, “no matter how hard it’s going to be.”

Before Kelati walked to the starting line, her coach, Stephen Haas, told her, “Whatever you do, do you.” As a professional, Kelati, 27, has struggled to manage her

expectations. This year, she told herself to try her best and accept the results — another part of the new Weini Kelati.

“Even though I perform well and I run PRs, I don’t feel I was doing good enough because I came up short of my goals,” Kelati said. “That hits me really hard. It’s mentally a struggle when you feel like, ‘Oh, my God, I don’t know if my sponsors are happy about this.’ And it destroys everything I work for. So this year, I said, ‘It’s okay.’”

Kelati told herself to be patient, to conserve energy for the finishing kick she has focused on in training. Kelati stayed at the edge of the front-runners for the first 7,000 meters, then surged to third place. Kelati, Florida newcomer Parker Valby and Tokyo Olympian Karissa Schweizer separated from the pack, Kelati running in third.

With 300 meters left, Kelati darted past Valby into second place. She passed Schweizer with 200 meters to go. Schweizer took her shot with 150 meters left, jetting past Kelati back into the lead. In another 50 meters, her face contorting, Kelati swooped

inside Schweizer, zoomed past and finally created separation until she finished in 31 minutes 41.07 seconds. Kelati bent at the waist and placed her hands on the back of her head.

“I knew I was going to do it,” Kelati said. “At the same time, I felt like I was in disbelief.”

Kelati would continue her journey all the way to Paris. Three years ago, she could have sought to gain citizenship elsewhere and compete for a different country, a reasonable consideration given her citizenship hurdles. She decided she wanted to run for the United States or she wouldn’t run at all.

“It’s an honor every time I go out and put the USA gear on,” Kelati said. “I feel like I’m going to be out there and have the best race of my life.”

Kelati will still be thinking about the place she left. She can suppress her memories, but they do not disappear. She hears from people in Eritrea every time she runs. “They’re watching,” Kelati said. “Every time I race, wherever I go, they follow me. They watch my race. They’re going to see me in Paris, too.”

Wizards to sign Valanciunas to a three-year deal

BY BEN GOLLIVER

The Washington Wizards continued their frontcourt makeover by agreeing to sign center Jonas Valanciunas to a three-year contract worth \$30 million, a person with knowledge of the agreement confirmed to The Washington Post on Sunday night.

Valanciunas, 32, will join rookie center Alex Sarr, the No. 2 pick in last week’s draft. While Sarr brings defensive versatility and long-term potential to the table, Valanciunas is a hard-hat rebounder and interior finisher who averaged 12.2 points and 8.8 rebounds while playing all 82 games for the New Orleans Pelicans last season. ESPN first reported the terms.

The 6-foot-11 center is primarily known for his physicality and paint presence, and he will step in as the most experienced frontcourt player for the Wizards, who ranked 28th in defensive efficiency and 30th in rebound rate last season. In recent years, the 2011 lottery pick has shown an increased willingness and proficiency as a three-point shooter while starting for an up-and-coming Pelicans team that reached



KATHERINE FREY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Jonas Valanciunas, center, is known for his physicality and will step in as the most experienced frontcourt player for the Wizards.

the playoffs twice during his three-year tenure.

In New Orleans, Valanciunas was paired with Zion Williamson in a bruising frontcourt combination. When Williamson, the No. 1

pick in 2019, was sidelined with injuries, Valanciunas stepped forward as a featured offensive option. The Lithuanian struggles to cover ground defensively and lacks the leaping ability to be an

elite rim protector, but he’s a big-bodied paint presence with good instincts on the glass.

Something had to give financially for the Pelicans, who traded for guard Dejeunte Murray on Friday and are reportedly exploring trades involving forward Brandon Ingram. New Orleans used its first-round pick to select Yves Missi, a 6-11 center from Baylor.

Given that Sarr is just 19, the Wizards could start him alongside Valanciunas to ease him into life as a defensive linchpin. Valanciunas’s contract, which doesn’t include a player or team option, could make him a potential trade piece as the Wizards progress through a multiyear rebuilding effort.

Also, Washington agreed to resign forward Richaun Holmes, who was acquired from the Dallas Mavericks in February, to a two-year, \$25.9 million contract, the Athletic reported Saturday. Holmes, 30, averaged 7.1 points and 6.1 rebounds in 17 games for the Wizards. The Wizards also have 2018 No. 2 pick Marvin Bagley III, a scoring-minded big man, on the books for \$12.5 million next season.

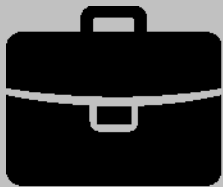
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Trustees Sale - DC
1621 D ST NE, WASHINGTON DC 20002

In execution of the Superior Court for the District of Columbia's Decree of Sale in Case : 2023-CAB-003115, the undersigned Trustee(s) will offer for sale the property known as 1621 D ST NE, WASHINGTON DC 20002 at a public auction within the offices of, HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC. 5335 Wisconsin Avenue NW Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015 202-463-4567 On **JULY 30, 2024 AT 11:00 A.M.**, the land and premises situated in the District of Columbia, and designated as and being Lot 0123 AND Square 4563, and more particularly described in the Deed of Trust recorded in the Land Records of the District of Columbia, on DECEMBER 19, 2012 as Instrument Number:2012137672

The property will be sold by Trustee's Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of the lesser of \$25,000.00 or 10% of the sale price will be required at time of sale in cash or certified funds. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee which shall be announced at sale. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid in cash within 30 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid thirty (30) days of the ratification, the purchaser agrees to pay the trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the Mortgage holder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. Trustees' File No:22-010772

JAMES E. CLARKE and DANIEL K. EISENHAUSER,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

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815 Legal Notices
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
REAL TIME RESOLUTION, INC.
Plaintiff,
v.
RICHARD CUNNINGHAM JR.
Defendant.

Case No.: 2024-CAB-002295
Pursuant to Order Granting Motion for Service by Alternate Means entered in the above referenced case on June 25, 2024, the Plaintiff, by undersigned counsel, hereby inform interested parties as follows: 410-228-8437
There now is pending before the Superior Court of the District of Columbia an action, case number 2023-CAB-007351 seeking to affect title to the property known as 1740 W St SE, Washington, DC 20020. A copy of the action is available in the Clerk's office of the Court. A written answer, including any claims or defenses must be filed with the District of Columbia, 500 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before 30th day of August 2024.

Samuel I White PC
6100 Executive Blvd., Suite 400
Rockville MD 20852
Attorney for Plaintiff
301-804-3400
Cunninghamjr165.00006

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TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE CONDOMINIUM UNIT 1A, CONTAINED WITHIN PREMISES OF THE 2501 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE Condominium Association, Inc., 1100 25TH Street NW, Washington, DC 20037. Pursuant to the District of Columbia Condominium Act of 1976, as amended, the Condominium Declaration recorded February 4, 2009 as Instrument No. 2009010272, and the Bylaws relating thereto recorded on February 4, 2009 as Instrument No. 2009010273 among the Land Records of the District of Columbia, and any recorded amendments thereto as of the date hereof, and pursuant to D.C. Code Section 42-1903.13, establishing that the Executive Officer shall be the Trustee to conduct the foreclosure sale, notice was filed on June 10, 2024. The Trustee shall sell at public auction on **Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 11:50 A.M.**, at the office of ALEX COOPER AUCTIONEERS, INC., 4910 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, #100, Washington, DC 20016, the following described premises situated in the District of Columbia:

UNIT 1A IN THE CONDOMINIUM KNOWN AS "2501 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE CONDOMINIUM", ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM DATED JANUARY 27, 2009 AND RECORDED FEBRUARY 4, 2009 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 10272 AND THE BYLAWS RELATING THERETO DATED JANUARY 27, 2009 AND RECORDED FEBRUARY 4, 2009 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 10273 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AS AMENDED BY FIRST AMENDMENT TO DECLARATION RECORDED APRIL 14, 2010 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201031709 AND BY FIRST AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS RECORDED APRIL 14, 2010 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201031710, AND ANY RECORDED AMENDMENTS THERETO AS OF THE DATE HEREOF, AND AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN CONDOMINIUM BOOK 70 AT PAGE 6.

TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE SHARE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS OF SAID "2501 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE CONDOMINIUM" AS SET FORTH IN SAID DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM.

SAID CONDOMINIUM PROJECT IS SITUATE ON LOT 73 IN SQUARE 14 IN THE SUBDIVISION MADE BY CHATHAM LAKE ASSOCIATES, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN LIBER 185 AT FOLIO 21 IN THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

SAID PROPERTY BEING NOW KNOWN FOR ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION PURPOSES AS LOT NUMBERED 2232 IN SQUARE NUMBERED 14.

TERMS OF SALE: Sold subject to real estate taxes, and subject to other superior liens, encumbrances and municipal assessments, if any. The Association is foreclosing on both its six-month priority lien and the balance of the Association's statutory lien against the Property. Other oral information regarding 1100 25th Street, NW, Unit 1A may be disclosed at the time of the sale. A deposit of \$10,000.00 shall be required at time of sale and such deposit shall be a certified check, cashier's check, or in such other form as the Association, in its sole discretion, requires. All conveyancing, recording, recodation tax, transfer tax etc. shall be at the purchaser's sole expense.

The balance of the purchase price, together with interest at the rate of 10% per annum from date of sale to date of receipt of the balance of the purchase price, must be paid, and all other terms shall be complied with within 30 days. Otherwise, the deposit is forfeited and the property may be re-advertised and resold at the discretion of the Trustee and at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser. The Trustee shall convey a deed pursuant to D.C. Code Section 42-1903.13, and makes no further representations or warranties as to title. The Trustee cannot guarantee clear title or the purchaser's ability to obtain title insurance. For this reason, the purchaser may not be able to obtain financing but must be able to pay the entire purchase price balance, in any case, within 30 days from the date of auction. In the event of the failure on the part of the Trustee to convey such deed for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit.

Contact: Natasha James, at (202) 659-6798, Attorney for the 2501 Pennsylvania Avenue Condominium Association, Inc.

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Jul 1,5,10 2024 0012464655

815 Legal Notices

NOAA Fisheries is seeking public comment on proposed incidental take regulations, pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act, that would govern the incidental harassment of marine mammals related to the SouthCoast Wind Project within the Massachusetts Wind Energy Area. The public comment period on the proposed rule will be open from June 27, 2024 to July 29, 2024. Information on this proposed action, including how to submit a public comment, is available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/incidental-take-authorization-southcoast-wind-off-shore-wind>

There is now pending before the District of Columbia Superior Court a civil action, case number 2023-CAB-007351 seeking to affect title to the property now or formerly owned by the Defendant, Francois-Guillaume Lejars, located at 3542 Warder Street, NW Apt. 202, Washington, DC 20010. A copy of the action is available in the Clerk's office of the Court. A written answer, including any claims or defenses, must be filed with the District of Columbia Superior Court Civil Branch, 500 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before the 29th day of August 2024

825 Bids & Proposals

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) # 2285 "FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AND CONSULTING SERVICES"

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) invites proposals from qualified firms to provide federal legislative advocacy and consulting services.

Proposals are due on or before 2:00 p.m., August 13, 2024. A pre-proposal conference will be held on July 16, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. EST in Washington D.C.

Firms may download the RFP at <https://commnet.octa.net>.

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TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE CONDOMINIUM UNIT 5A, CONTAINED WITHIN PREMISES OF THE 2501 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE Condominium Association, Inc., 2501 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20037. Pursuant to the District of Columbia Condominium Act of 1976, as amended, the Condominium Declaration recorded February 4, 2009 as Instrument No. 2009010272, and the Bylaws relating thereto recorded on February 4, 2009 as Instrument No. 2009010273 among the Land Records of the District of Columbia, and any recorded amendments thereto as of the date hereof, and pursuant to D.C. Code Section 42-1903.13, establishing that the Executive Officer shall be the Trustee to conduct the foreclosure sale, notice was filed on June 10, 2024. The Trustee shall sell at public auction on **Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 11:40 A.M.**, at the office of ALEX COOPER AUCTIONEERS, INC., 4910 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, #100, Washington, DC 20016, the following described premises situated in the District of Columbia:

UNIT 5A AND LIMITED COMMON ELEMENT PARKING SPACE NOS. P1-3 AND P1-13 IN THE CONDOMINIUM KNOWN AS "2501 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE CONDOMINIUM", ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM DATED JANUARY 27, 2009 AND RECORDED FEBRUARY 4, 2009 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 10272 AND THE BYLAWS RELATING THERETO DATED JANUARY 27, 2009 AND RECORDED FEBRUARY 4, 2009 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 10273 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AS AMENDED BY FIRST AMENDMENT TO DECLARATION RECORDED APRIL 14, 2010 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201031709 AND BY FIRST AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS RECORDED APRIL 14, 2010 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201031710, AND ANY RECORDED AMENDMENTS THERETO AS OF THE DATE HEREOF, AND AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN CONDOMINIUM BOOK 70 AT PAGE 6.

TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE SHARE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS OF SAID "2501 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE CONDOMINIUM" AS SET FORTH IN SAID DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM.

SAID CONDOMINIUM PROJECT IS SITUATE ON LOT 73 IN SQUARE 14 IN THE SUBDIVISION MADE BY CHATHAM LAKE ASSOCIATES, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN LIBER 185 AT FOLIO 21 IN THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

SAID PROPERTY BEING NOW KNOWN FOR ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION PURPOSES AS LOT NUMBERED 2243 IN SQUARE NUMBERED 14.

TERMS OF SALE: Sold subject to real estate taxes, and subject to other superior liens, encumbrances and municipal assessments, if any. The Association is foreclosing on both its six-month superpriority lien and the balance of the Association's statutory lien against the Property. Other oral information regarding 2501 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Unit 5A may be disclosed at the time of the sale. A deposit of \$50,000.00 shall be required at time of sale and such deposit shall be a certified check, cashier's check, or in such other form as the Association, in its sole discretion, requires. All conveyancing, recording, recodation tax, transfer tax etc. shall be at the purchaser's sole expense.

The balance of the purchase price, together with interest at the rate of 10% per annum from date of sale to date of receipt of the balance of the purchase price, must be paid, and all other terms shall be complied with within 30 days. Otherwise, the deposit is forfeited and the property may be re-advertised and resold at the discretion of the Trustee and at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser. The Trustee shall convey a deed pursuant to D.C. Code Section 42-1903.13, and makes no further representations or warranties as to title. The Trustee cannot guarantee clear title or the purchaser's ability to obtain title insurance. For this reason, the purchaser may not be able to obtain financing but must be able to pay the entire purchase price balance, in any case, within 30 days from the date of auction. In the event of the failure on the part of the Trustee to convey such deed for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit.

Contact: Natasha James, at (202) 659-6798, Attorney for the 2501 Pennsylvania Avenue Condominium Association, Inc.

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Jul 1,5,10 2024 0012463875

850 Montgomery County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, MARYLAND

WILLIAM M. SAVAGE, et al.
Trustee(s)
Plaintiff(s)
vs.
NANDAH ZAINABU
Defendant(s)
Mortgagor(s)

CIVIL NO: C15CV23002371

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, this 26 day of June, 2024, by the Circuit Court for the County of Montgomery, Maryland and by the authority thereof, that the sale made by William M. Savage, Gregory N. Britto, Trustees, of the Real Property designated as 3654 Alpen Green Way, Burtonsville, MD 20866, and reported in the above entitled cause, will be finally ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 26 day of July, 2024 next; provided a copy of this order be inserted in the WASHINGTON POST, 1150 15th Street, Washington DC, MD, published in said County of Montgomery once a week for three successive weeks before the 26 day of July, 2024. The report states the amount of the sale to be \$305,000.00.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk, Circuit Court
FOR COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Trustees File#: 23-293444

Jul 1,8,15 2024 0012465039

850 Montgomery County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,
vs.
ALLI G. ABDULLA
3930 Tynenwick Drive
Unit 8
Silver Spring, MD 20906
Defendant(s)

Civil No. 477368V

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this 27 day of June, 2024, by the Circuit Court for the County of Montgomery, Maryland and by the authority thereof, that the sale made by William M. Savage, Gregory N. Britto, Angela M. Tonello, Rachel S. Feinstein, Trustees, of the Real Property designated as 5930 Tynenwick Drive, Unit 8, Silver Spring, MD 20906, and reported in the above entitled cause, will be finally ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 26 day of July, 2024 next; provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the 29 day of July, 2024. The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be \$381,000.00.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk, Circuit Court, Maryland

BWW#MD-121457

Jul 1,8,15 2024 0012465107

Trustees Sale - DC
Law Office of Allan P. Feigelson PA
3812 Thoroughbred Lane
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117
410-504-5608

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE RESIDENTIAL DWELLING
KNOWN AS:
3628 Georgia Avenue (Units 1-8, C-1, P-1 and P-2), NW, Washington, DC 20011

By virtue of Deed of Trust recorded in the land records of the District of Columbia recorded on September 28, 2020, as Instrument Number 2020117441, in case 2022 CAB 005810 and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer to sell at public auction, within the office of HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440 Washington, DC 20015-2034 on

JULY 16, 2024 AT 11:00 AM

the land and premises situated in the District of Columbia and more particularly described in the above referenced Deed of Trust and as of the date hereof designated on the Records of the Assessor of the District of Columbia for assessment purposes as 3628 Georgia Avenue (Units 1-8, C-1, P-1 and P-2), NW, Washington, DC 20011, Lot Numbered 0134 and Square Numbered 2897

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, the ability of the purchaser to obtain title insurance 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 any assessments including assessment pursuant to D.C. Code Section 42-1903.13.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$300,000.00 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 on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 12% from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, payable in cash or certified funds within THIRTY DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. Adjustment of current year's real property taxes are adjusted as of the date of sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, whether incurred prior to or after the sale are to be paid by the purchaser. All costs of deed recodation including but not limited to title examination, conveyancing, city revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from date of sale. Time is of the essence for the Purchaser. If the Purchaser fails to settle within thirty days of ratification, Purchaser agrees that the property will be resold and the entire deposit retained by the Substitute Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for all correspondence including any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into and repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event or if the sale is not ratified, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. 22-0028

Allan P. Feigelson, PA.

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC.
5335 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Ste 440
Washington, DC 20015
202-463-4567
www.hwestauctions.com

Jun 17,24,Jul 1,8 2024 0012463601

850 Montgomery County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, MARYLAND

WILLIAM M. SAVAGE, et al.
Trustee(s)
Plaintiff(s)
vs.
REBECCA SUSAN PRITCHARD
JOSEPH ZELLER PRITCHARD
Defendant(s)
Mortgagor(s)

CIVIL NO: C-15-CV-23-004804

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, this 26 day of June, 2024, by the Circuit Court for the County of Montgomery, Maryland and by the authority thereof, that the sale made by William M. Savage, Gregory N. Britto, Angela M. Tonello, Rachel S. Feinstein, Trustees, of the Real Property designated as 14602 DEERHURST TER UNIT #2098 SILVER SPRING, MD 20906, reported by Jennifer Deardorff, Attorney for the Substitute Trustee, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the 15 day of July, 2024, provided a copy of this Notice be inserted in Washington Post, a newspaper published in MONTGOMERY County, Maryland, once in each of three (3) successive weeks on or before the 15 day of July, 2024, next; provided a copy of this order be inserted in the WASHINGTON POST, 1150 15th Street, Washington DC, MD, published in said County of Montgomery once a week for three successive weeks before the 26 day of July, 2024. The report states the amount of the sale to be \$225,000.00.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk, Circuit Court, Maryland

Trustees File#: 23-295526

Jul 1,8,15 2024 0012465053

Trustees Sale - DC
1719 CORCORAN STREET NW, Washington, DC 20009

In execution of the Superior Court for the District of Columbia's Decree of Sale in Case 2021 CA 004134 RRP, the undersigned Trustee(s) will offer for sale the property known as 1719 CORCORAN STREET NW, Washington, DC 20009 at public auction within the offices of, HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC. 5335 Wisconsin Avenue NW Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015 202-463-4567 On **July 9, 2024 AT 10:30 AM**, the land and premises situated in the District of Columbia, and designated as and being in , and more particularly described in the Deed of Trust recorded in the Land Records of the District of Columbia, on February 10, 2020 as Instrument Number .

The property will be sold by Trustee's Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of the lesser of \$ 100,000 or 10% of the sale price will be required at time of sale in cash or certified funds. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee which shall be announced at sale. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid in cash within 30 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid thirty (30) days of the ratification, the purchaser agrees to pay the trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the Mortgage holder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. Trustees' File No. DC2022-00006

MILT N. THEOLOGOU,
MICHAEL T. ONDECK,

McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC
7470 Technology Way, Suite P
Frederick, MD 21703

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC.
5335 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Ste 440
Washington, DC 20015
202-463-4567
www.hwestauctions.com

Jun 17,24,Jul 1,8 2024 0012463289

851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S, MARYLAND

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Trustees Sale - DC

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Trustees Sale - DC

Pardo & Drazin, LLC
Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF
REAL PROPERTY**
431 Atlantic Street, SE
Washington, DC 20032
Lot 0802 in Square 6166

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust ("Deed of Trust") dated April 20, 2022 and recorded on April 28, 2022 as Instrument No. 2022046905 from Native Washingtonian Limited Liability Company (also known of record as Native Washingtonian LLC), a District of Columbia limited liability company, as grantor, to Russell S. Drazin ("Trustee"), as trustee, for the benefit of WCP Fund I LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as beneficiary, securing that certain Commercial Deed of Trust Note dated April 20, 2022 in the principal amount of \$41,250.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and following the mailing and recordation of an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit, at the request of the current noteholder, Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

JULY 9, 2024 AT 2:05 PM

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (if any) situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as 431 Atlantic Street, SE, Washington, DC 20032, and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same – except those encumbrances of record that are extinguished by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust. Without limitation, the property will be sold subject to that certain Deed of Trust dated April 20, 2022 and recorded on April 28, 2022 as Instrument No. 2022046904 from Native Washingtonian Limited Liability Company (also known of record as Native Washingtonian LLC), a District of Columbia limited liability company, as grantor, to Russell S. Drazin, as trustee, for the benefit of WCP Fund I LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as beneficiary, securing that certain Commercial Deed of Trust Note dated April 20, 2022 in the principal amount of \$701,250.00.

Purchaser will take title to the property subject to all taxes, water and sewer charges, and other utility charges, if any. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$60,000.00 by cashier's check will be required of purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the applicable interest rate set forth in the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.

The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including legal fees and costs, and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Trustee may resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. Defaulting purchaser shall be liable to Trustee for legal fees and costs incurred by Trustee in connection with such default.

If Trustee is unable to settle as set forth herein, purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect whatsoever.

Trustee reserves the right, in Trustee's sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.

Additional terms may be announced at the sale. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Russell S. Drazin, Trustee



Jun 25,27,Jul 1,3,5 2024 0012463106

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Trustees Sale - DC

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Trustees Sale - DC

Pardo & Drazin, LLC
Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY**
(no house number) 26th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20018
(Lot 0042 in Square 4347)

Under a power of sale contained in that certain Refinance Deed of Trust, Assignment of Rents and Security Agreement (the "Deed of Trust") dated October 2, 2023 and recorded on December 15, 2023 as Instrument No. 2023112024 from Council Industries Inc., as grantor, to Russell S. Drazin ("Trustee"), et al. (either one of whom may act alone), as trustees, for the benefit of Equity Trust Company, Custodian FBO Steven Sushner Roth IRA, as beneficiary, securing that certain Commercial Balloon Promissory Note (the "Note") dated October 2, 2023 in the principal amount of \$228,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and following the mailing and recordation of an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit, at the request of the current noteholder, Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

JULY 9, 2024 AT 2:00 PM

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (if any) situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as (no house number) 26th Street, NE, Washington, DC 20018 (Lot 0042 in Square 4347), and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same – except those encumbrances of record that are extinguished by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust.

Purchaser will take title to the property subject to all taxes, water and sewer charges, and other utility charges, if any. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$30,000.00 by cashier's check will be required of purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the applicable interest rate set forth in the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.

The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including legal fees and costs, and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Trustee may resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. Defaulting purchaser shall be liable to Trustee for legal fees and costs incurred by Trustee in connection with such default.

If Trustee is unable to settle as set forth herein, purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect whatsoever.

Trustee reserves the right, in Trustee's sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.

Additional terms may be announced at the sale. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Russell S. Drazin, Trustee



Jun 25,27,Jul 1,3,5 2024 0012462830

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Trustees Sale - DC

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Trustees Sale - DC

Pardo & Drazin, LLC
Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY**
3838 Carpenter Street, SE
Washington, DC 20020
Lot 0030 in Square 3530

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust ("Deed of Trust") dated May 4, 2022 and recorded on May 23, 2022 as Instrument No. 2022055868 from Native Washingtonian Limited Liability Company (also known of record as Native Washingtonian LLC), a District of Columbia limited liability company, as grantor, to Russell S. Drazin ("Trustee"), as trustee, for the benefit of WCP Fund I LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as beneficiary, securing that certain Commercial Deed of Trust Note dated May 4, 2022 in the principal amount of \$630,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and following the mailing and recordation of an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit, at the request of the current noteholder, Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

JULY 9, 2024 AT 2:15 PM

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (if any) situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as 3838 Carpenter Street, SE, Washington, DC 20020, and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same – except those encumbrances of record that are extinguished by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust.

Purchaser will take title to the property subject to all taxes, water and sewer charges, and other utility charges, if any. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$40,000.00 by cashier's check will be required of purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the applicable interest rate set forth in the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.

The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including legal fees and costs, and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Trustee may resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. Defaulting purchaser shall be liable to Trustee for legal fees and costs incurred by Trustee in connection with such default.

If Trustee is unable to settle as set forth herein, purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect whatsoever.

Trustee reserves the right, in Trustee's sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.

Additional terms may be announced at the sale. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Russell S. Drazin, Trustee



Jun 25,27,Jul 1,3,5 2024 0012463110

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Trustees Sale - DC

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Trustees Sale - DC

4712 Southern Avenue SE, WASHINGTON DC 20019

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY**
3838 Carpenter Street, SE
Washington, DC 20020
Lot 0030 in Square 3530

In execution of the Superior Court for the District of Columbia's Decree of Sale in Case:) 2018 CA 005094 (R/P) the undersigned Trustee(s) will offer for sale the property known as 4712 Southern Avenue SE, WASHINGTON DC 20019 at a public auction within the offices of, HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue NW Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015 202-463-4567 On **JULY 9, 2024 AT 11:00 A.M.**, the land and premises situated in the District of Columbia, and designated as and being Lot 0032 in Square 3530, and more particularly described in the Deed of Trust recorded in the Land Records of the District of Columbia, on DECEMBER 12, 2006 as Instrument Number 2006167163. The property will be sold by Trustee's Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of the lesser of \$35,000.00 or 10% of the sale price will be required at time of sale in cash or certified funds. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee which shall be announced at sale. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid in cash within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid sixty (60) days of the ratification, the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the Mortgage holder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. Trustees' File No: 18-900053

JAMES E. CLARKE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE

C/O ORLANDS PC
1602 Village Market Blvd SE, Suite 310
Leesburg, VA 20175
(703) 777-7101



Jun 10,17,24,Jul 1 2024 0012462495

Pardo & Drazin, LLC
Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY**
3243 Massachusetts Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20019
Lot 0816 in Square 5498

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust ("Deed of Trust") dated June 8, 2022 and recorded on September 7, 2023 as Instrument No. 2023077262 from Native Washingtonian Limited Liability Company (also known of record as Native Washingtonian LLC), a District of Columbia limited liability company, as grantor, to Russell S. Drazin ("Trustee"), as trustee, for the benefit of WCP Fund I LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as beneficiary, securing that certain Commercial Deed of Trust Note dated June 8, 2022 in the principal amount of \$600,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and following the mailing and recordation of an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit, at the request of the current noteholder, Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

JULY 9, 2024 AT 2:30 PM

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (if any) situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as 3243 Massachusetts Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20019 (Lot 0816 in Square 5498), and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same – except those encumbrances of record that are extinguished by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust.

Purchaser will take title to the property subject to all taxes, water and sewer charges, and other utility charges, if any. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$60,000.00 by cashier's check will be required of purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the applicable interest rate set forth in the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.

The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including legal fees and costs, and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Trustee may resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. Defaulting purchaser shall be liable to Trustee for legal fees and costs incurred by Trustee in connection with such default.

If Trustee is unable to settle as set forth herein, purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect whatsoever.

Trustee reserves the right, in Trustee's sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.

Additional terms may be announced at the sale. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Russell S. Drazin, Trustee



Jun 25,27,Jul 1,3,5 2024 0012463130

840

Trustees Sale - DC

840

Trustees Sale - DC

5140 SOUTHERN AVENUE SE, WASHINGTON DC 20019

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY**
3838 Carpenter Street, SE
Washington, DC 20020
Lot 0030 in Square 3530

In execution of the Superior Court for the District of Columbia's Decree of Sale in Case:) 2022-CAB-005520 the undersigned Trustee(s) will offer for sale the property known as 5140 SOUTHERN AVENUE SE, WASHINGTON DC 20019 at a public auction within the offices of, HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue NW Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015 202-463-4567 On **JULY 9, 2024 AT 11:00 A.M.**, the land and premises situated in the District of Columbia, and designated as and being Lot 0062 in Square 5340, and more particularly described in the Deed of Trust recorded in the Land Records of the District of Columbia, on APRIL 18, 2017 as Instrument Number 2017041992 the property will be sold by Trustee's Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of the lesser of \$35,000.00 or 10% of the sale price will be required at time of sale in cash or certified funds. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee which shall be announced at sale. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid in cash within 45 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid forty five (45) days of the ratification, the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the Mortgage holder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. Trustees' File No 19-900182

JAMES E. CLARKE AND DANIEL K. EISENHAEUER
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

C/O ORLANDS PC
1602 Village Market Blvd SE, Suite 310
Leesburg, VA 20175
(703) 777-7101



Jun 10,17,24,Jul 1 2024 0012462831

Samuel I. White, P.C.
6100 EXECUTIVE BLVD.
SUITE 400
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF
VALUABLE RESIDENTIAL DWELLING KNOWN AS:
1330 S STREET NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20009**

By virtue of Deed of Trust recorded in the land records of the District of Columbia recorded on January 25, 2019, as Instrument Number 2019008604, and in accordance with Judgment filed on March 26, 2024, in case 2023-CAB-001369 and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer to sell at public auction, within the office of HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC. 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440 Washington, DC 20015-2034 on

JULY 9, 2024 AT 1:00 PM

the land and premises situated in the District of Columbia and more particularly described in the above referenced Deed of Trust and as of the date hereof designated on the Records of the Assessor of the District of Columbia for assessment purposes as

1330 S Street NW, Washington, DC 20009
LOT NUMBER 2005 AND SQUARE NUMBER0239

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, the ability of the purchaser to obtain title insurance 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 any assessments including assessment pursuant to D.C. Code Section 42-1903.13.

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 on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note (4% per annum) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, payable in cash or certified funds within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. Adjustment of current year's real property taxes are adjusted as of the date of sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, whether incurred prior to or after the sale are to be paid by the purchaser. All costs of deed recordation including but not limited to title examination, conveying, city revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from date of sale. Time is of the essence for the Purchaser. If the Purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, Purchaser agrees that the property will be resold and the entire deposit retained by the Substitute Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for all correspondence including any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into and repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event or if the sale is not ratified, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. 81811

Daniel J. Pesachowitz, Esquire Attorney for Trustees



Jun 10,17,24,Jul 1 2024 0012461472

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washingtonpost.com/recipes

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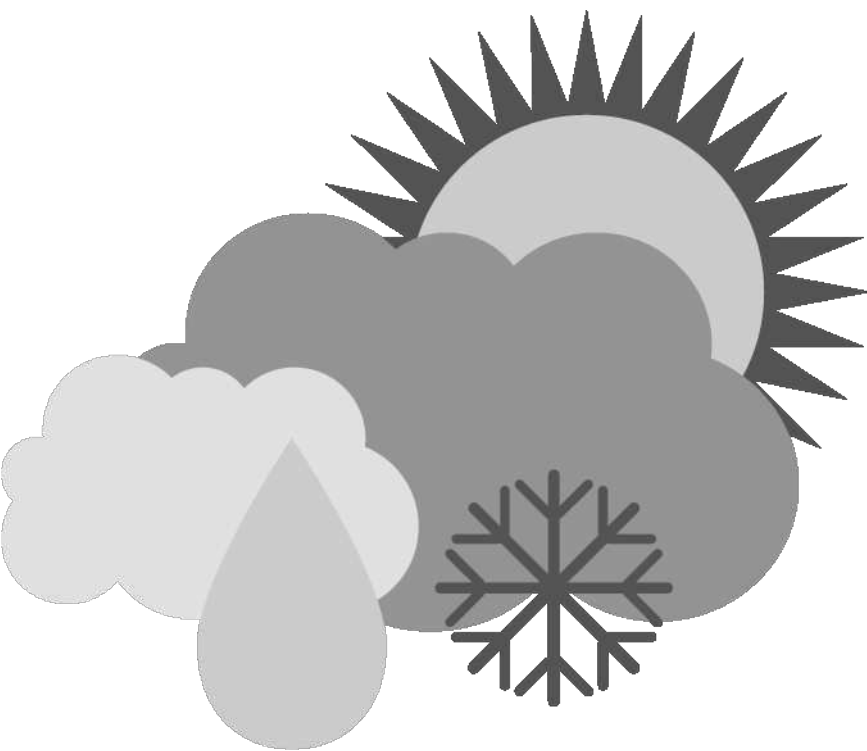
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ORLANS PC 1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310 LEESBURG, VA 20175 703-777-7101 SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 200 Garden Gate Lane Upper Marlboro, MD 20774 Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from LINCOLN P. LIGHTFOOT-TAYLOR AND HILDA R. BROWNE, dated December 29, 2006 and recorded in Liber 26808, folio 470 MODIFIED ON JUNE 3, 2017 IN LIBER 39638 FOLIO 418 AND MODIFIED ON MARCH 7, 2022 IN LIBER 47232 FOLIO 401; among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-16-CV-24-000784; Tax ID No.07-3663457) the Sub. Trustees will sell 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 3, 2024 at 2:30 PM ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust. The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. Terms of Sale: A deposit \$50,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 23-014905) JAMES E. CLARKE, SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE  HARVEY K. CASSEL & ASSOCIATES, INC. 300 E. Joppa Road Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797 Jun 17,24,Jul 1 20240012462417	ORLANS PC 1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310 LEESBURG, VA 20175 703-777-7101 SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 3718 Harmon Ave Hyattsville, MD 20784 Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from DAVID CRENSHAW AND DOROTHY CRENSHAW, dated January 30, 2013 and recorded in Liber 36766, folio 397 among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.CAEF22-20269; Tax ID No.02-0132902) the Sub. Trustees will sell 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 3, 2024 at 2:30 PM ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust. The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. Terms of Sale: A deposit \$20,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 22-001597) JAMES E. CLARKE, SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES  HARVEY K. CASSEL & ASSOCIATES, INC. 300 E. Joppa Road Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797 Jun 17,24,Jul 1 20240012461649	ORLANS PC 1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310 LEESBURG, VA 20175 703-777-7101 SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 1005 Fenton Place Upper Marlboro, MD 20774 Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from KEVIN J. WOLFOLK AND CHARLOTTE D. WOLFOLK, dated May 9, 2006 and recorded in Liber 27959, folio 700 among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.CAEF16-25471; Tax ID No.13-1470129) the Sub. Trustees will sell 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 3, 2024 at 2:30 PM ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust. The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. Terms of Sale: A deposit \$30,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 16-700061) JAMES E. CLARKE, SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES  HARVEY K. CASSEL & ASSOCIATES, INC. 300 E. Joppa Road Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797 Jun 17,24,Jul 1 20240012461648	ORLANS PC 1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310 LEESBURG, VA 20175 703-777-7101 SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 9607 Windermere Turn Fort Washington, MD 20744 Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from EARL J. PRINGLE AND RUBY H. PRINGLE, dated March 14, 2012 and recorded in Liber 33589, folio 292 among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-16-CV-23-004588; Tax ID No.12-1263649) the Sub. Trustees will sell 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 3, 2024 at 2:30 PM ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust. The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. Terms of Sale: A deposit \$5,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 19-701540) JAMES E. CLARKE, SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES  HARVEY K. CASSEL & ASSOCIATES, INC. 300 E. Joppa Road Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797 Jun 17,24,Jul 1 20240012461638	ORLANS PC 1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310 LEESBURG, VA 20175 703-777-7101 SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 5607 Berwyn Rd Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from DAVID J. SIMARD, dated January 30, 2007 and recorded in Liber 27476, folio 525 among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-16-CV-23-005725; Tax ID No.21-02341170) the Sub. Trustees will sell 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 3, 2024 at 2:30 PM ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust. The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. Terms of Sale: A deposit \$35,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 23-009617) JAMES E. CLARKE, SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE  HARVEY K. CASSEL & ASSOCIATES, INC. 300 E. Joppa Road Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797 Jun 17,24,Jul 1 20240012461266			



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Prince Georges County

ORLANDS PC

1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**

6108 Seminole St
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from APRIL L. RITCHEY, dated August 17, 2020 and recorded in Liber 44049, folio 212, among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-16-CV-23-004112, Tax ID No.21-2325322) the Sub. Trustees will sell 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 3, 2024 at 2:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit \$25,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 23-005383)

JAMES E. CLARKE
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE



AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jun 17,24,Jul 1 2024

0012461229

ORLANDS PC

1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**

10451 Campus Way South
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from AMANDA BRANDON, dated July 5, 2012 and recorded in Liber 33770, folio 516 MODIFIED ON JANUARY 19, 2018 IN LIBER 40467 FOLIO 536; among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.CAEF18-19201, Tax ID No.13-1490804) the Sub. Trustees will sell 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 3, 2024 at 2:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit \$10,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 18-700356)

JAMES E. CLARKE
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE



AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jun 17,24,Jul 1 2024

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Anne Arundel County

ORLANDS PC

1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
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**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**

403 Walton Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21225

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from DEYVI E. GIRON PEREZ AND XIOMARA YAMILET DE LA O TEJADA, dated June 22, 2022 and recorded in Liber 38953, folio 505 among the Land Records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-02-CV-24-000543, Tax ID No.05-693-16422000) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401, on

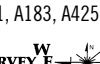
JULY 10, 2024 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit \$35,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 23-014725)

JAMES E. CLARKE
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE



AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

Jun 24,Jul 1,8 2024

0012463006

ORLANDS PC

1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**

7501 Hollybrook Road
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from LAURA A. SCOTT, dated March 20, 2007 and recorded in Liber 18964, folio 300 among the Land Records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-02-CV-24-000711; Tax ID No.03-148-90019552) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401, on

JULY 10, 2024 at 10:00 AM

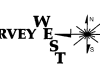
ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

THE PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO AN IRS RIGHT OF REDEMPTION.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit \$40,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 24-000169)

JAMES E. CLARKE
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE



AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
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A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

Jun 24,Jul 1,8 2024

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Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY**

KNOWN AS
138 ARUNDEL ROAD
Pasadena, MD 21122

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to DAVID E. WATERS AND ANTHONY B. OLIVERT SR, Trustee(s), dated March 11, 2020, and recorded among the Land Records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 34316, folio 496, 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 16, 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:

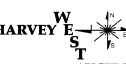
BEGINNING FOR THE SAME AT THE POINT WHERE THE WESTMOST SIDE OF ARUNDEL ROAD, AS LAND OUT 50 FEET WIDE, IS INTERSECTED BY THE NORTH 68 DEGREES 57 MINUTES 35 SECONDS WEST 1125.55 FOOT LINE OF THE WHOLE TRACT AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF "RESUBDIVISION OF SCHOOL GARDENS", FILED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK NO. 61 FOLIO 26; AND RUNNING THENCE WITH THE LAND LINE, NORTH 68 DEGREES 57 MINUTES 35 SECONDS WEST 56.57 FEET TO THE DIVISION LINE BETWEEN LOT 14 AND LOT 15, AS SHOWN ON THE AFORESAID PLAT; THENCE RUNNING WITH SAID DIVISION LINE, SOUTH 21 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST 88.68 FEET TO THE DIVISION LINE AND RUNNING TO AND THROUGH THE CENTER OF A PARTITION WALL BETWEEN THE DWELLING LOCATED ON THE PARCEL OF LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED AND THAT ADJOINING TO THE SOUTHEAST, SOUTH 68 DEGREES 57 MINUTES 35 SECONDS EAST 83.20 FEET TO THE WESTMOST SIDE OF ARUNDEL ROAD; THENCE RUNNING BY A CURVE BEARING THE EAST, HAVING A RADIUS OF 760.80 FEET AND ARC LENGTH OF 92.76 FEET TO A CHORD BEARING NORTH 4 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST 92.50 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, BEING LOT 15-A AS SHOWN ON THE AFORESAID PLAT OF RESUBDIVISION OF SCHOOL GARDENS, 138 ARUNDEL ROAD PASADENA, MD 21122 TAX ID NO.: 03-718-90005477

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 \$22,500.00 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 Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020. File No. (22-07321)

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



AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 1,8,15 2024

0012463288

851

Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
MARYLAND

KEITH YACKO, et al,
Substitute Trustee,
Plaintiff,

versus

Nicholas Kotsis
Defendant

No. 02-CV-24-000025

NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued this **Monday, June 24, 2024** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Samuel I. White, P.C., Substitute Trustee BE RATIOFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **25th day of July, 2024**, provided a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Prince George's County, Maryland, once in each of three (3) successive weeks or on before the **25th day of July, 2024**, provided a copy of this Notice be inserted in Washington Post, a newspaper published in Prince George's County, Maryland, once in each of three (3) successive weeks or on before the **25th day of July, 2024**. The report states the amount of sale to be **\$264,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk

Jul 1,8,15 2024

0012465034

851

Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
MARYLAND

KEITH YACKO, et al,
Substitute Trustee,
Plaintiff,

versus

SUSUANA KOFFIE, et al,
Defendants.

Case No. C-16-CV-23-004136

NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued this **25 day of June, 2024**, that the sale of the property in this case, **6911 10611 CAMPUS WAY S UNIT 1005 CT L'AN MARLBORO, MD 20774**, reported by Jennifer Dearthoff, Attorney for the Substitute Trustee, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the **25 day of July, 2024**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be published at least once a week in each of three successive weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in said Court before the **25 day of July, 2024**. The Report of Sale states the amount of sale to be **\$263,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk

Jul 1,8,15 2024

0012465037

852

Anne Arundel County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY,
MARYLAND

ROBERT A. JONES, et al
Plaintiffs, Substitute Trustees

versus

SHELLEY ANDERSON
Defendant(s)

Civil Action No. C-16-CV-24-000323

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **20 day of June, 2024**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **6500 Grafton Street, District Heights, MD 20747** will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **24th day of July, 2024**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be published at least once a week in each of three successive weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in said Court before the **22 day of July, 2024**. The Report of Sale states the amount of sale to be **\$3263,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Jun 24,Jul 1,8 2024

0012464653

852

Anne Arundel County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Robert A. Jones, et al
Substitute Trustees

versus

Estate Of
Clare McManus Lebling
Defendant

No. C-02-CV-24-000324

NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued this **Monday, June 24, 2024** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Samuel I. White, P.C., Substitute Trustee BE RATIOFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **10th day of July 2024** next; provided, that the amount of sale of the property, at **404 EDEGMERE DRIVE, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21403** to be **\$392,000.00**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundel County, MD.

Jun 17,24,Jul 1 2024

0012464380

852

Anne Arundel County

Brock and Scott, PLLC

5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY**

KNOWN AS
5103 Ballman Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21225

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to PREMIUM TITLE SERVICES, Trustee(s), dated June 6, 2014, and recorded among the Land Records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 27392, folio 105, MODIFIED FEBRUARY 17, 2022 IN BOOK 39606, PAGE 305, 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 16, 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:

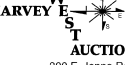
BEGINNING FOR THE SAME ON THE NORTHEAST SIDE OF BALLMAN AVENUE AS LAID OUT 40 FEET WIDE AT THE DISTANCE OF 150 FEET MEASURED NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE NORTHEAST SIDE OF BALLMAN AVENUE FROM THE NORTHWEST SIDE OF SOUTHERLY DRIVE AS LAID OUT 50 FEET WIDE, SAID POINT OF BEGINNING BEING AT THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN LOTS NOS 122 AND 123 AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF SECTION 3, STOLLS MANOR, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MARYLAND AND RUNNING THENCE AND BINDING ON THE NORTHEAST SIDE OF BALLMAN AVENUE NORTH 28 DEGREES 29 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST 50 FEET TO THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN LOTS 123 AND 124 AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAT, THENCE WITH SAID DIVIDING LINE NORTH 61 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST 155 FEET TO THE END THEREOF, THENCE BINDING ON PART OF LOT NO.114 AND NO.115 AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAT SOUTH 28 DEGREES 29 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST 50 FEET TO THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN LOTS NO.122 AND 123 HEREIN REFERRED TO, AND THENCE WITH SAID DIVIDING LINE SOUTH 61 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST 155 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, BEING LOT 123 ON THE AFORESAID PLAT, SITUATE ON THE NORTHWEST SIDE OF BALLMAN AVENUE. THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AS NO. 5103 BALLMAN AVENUE.

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 2.875 % on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustee(s) 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. (19-19887)

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



AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampden Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 1,8,15 2024

0012462888

852

Anne Arundel County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Robert A. Jones, et al,
Substitute Trustees

versus

Nicholas Kotsis
Defendant

No. 02-CV-24-000025

NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued this **Monday, June 24, 2024** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Samuel I. White, P.C., Substitute Trustee BE RATIOFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **25th day of July, 2024** next; provided, that the amount of sale of the property, at **711 LIONS GATE LANE, ODENTON, MD 21113** to be **\$259,000.00**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundel County, MD.

Jul 1,8,15 2024

0012464743

853

Calvert County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

KEITH YACKO, et al,
Substitute Trustee,
Plaintiff,

versus

WEERA WIANGKHAM , et al,
Defendants.

Case No. C-04-CV-24-000069

NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued this **18th day of June, 2024**, that the sale of the property in this case, **2036 YEW CT SAINT LEONARD, MD 20685**, reported by Jennifer Dearthoff, Attorney for the Substitute Trustee, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the **18th day of July, 2024**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some newspaper published in Calvert County, Maryland, once in each of three (3) successive weeks or on before the **18th day of July, 2024**. The report states the amount of sale to be **\$256,410.00**.

Kathy P. Smith
Clerk

Jul 24,Jul 1,8 2024

0012464626

856

Frederick County

CIRCUIT COURT FOR
FREDERICK COUNTY,

100 West Patrick Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701
Clerk of the Court: 301-600-1976
Assignment Office:
301-600-2015

Case Number:
C-10-CV-23-000620
Other Reference Numbers:

WILLIAM SAVAGE

VS.

KRISTIN BERGER, ET AL.

Date: 6/27/2024

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby issued by the Circuit Court for Frederick County, this **27th day of June, 2024**, that the sale made and recorded by William Savage for the sale of the property described in these proceedings **5871 Barts Way, Frederick, MD 21704** be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before

852 Anne Arundel County	852 Anne Arundel County
ORLANDS PC 1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310 LEESBURG, VA 20175 703-777-7101	
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 594 Quaker Ridge Court, Unit #130 Arnold, MD 21202	

JULY 10, 2024 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit \$15,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 24-001176)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
PAUL J. MORAN,
MARY L. HURLEY,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY W. S. AUCTIONEERS, LLC 300 E. Joppa Road Hampden Plaza, Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797	0012462435
Jun 24, Jul 1, 8 2024	

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S0108 2x6

855 Charles County	855 Charles County
ORLANDS PC 1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310 LEESBURG, VA 20175 703-777-7101	
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 2375 Progress Ct Waldorf, MD 20601	

JULY 3, 2024 at 12:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit \$20,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for CHARLES COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 23-000303)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE

HARVEY W. S. AUCTIONEERS, LLC 300 E. Joppa Road Hampden Plaza, Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797	0012462837
Jun 17, 24, Jul 1 2024	

ORLANDS PC 1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310 LEESBURG, VA 20175 703-777-7101	
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 6323 Josephine Rd Waldorf, MD 20601	

JULY 3, 2024 at 12:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit \$25,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for CHARLES COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 23-003608)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE

HARVEY W. S. AUCTIONEERS, LLC 300 E. Joppa Road Hampden Plaza, Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797	0012461246
Jun 17, 24, Jul 1 2024	

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856 Frederick County	856 Frederick County
Brook and Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington NC, 28403	
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 1 Ironmaster Drive Thurmont, MD 21788	

JULY 10, 2024 at 9:30 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in FREDERICK COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT 320 AS SET FORTH ON A PLAT ENTITLED "PLAT 2, SECTION III, GATEWAY" PLAT IS RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND IN PLAT BOOK 44, PAGE 77.

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 in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 2% on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020 . File No. (17-10269)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN,
JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLLE,
ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S. AUCTIONEERS, LLC 300 E. Joppa Road Hampden Plaza, Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797	0012463218
Jun 24, Jul 1, 8 2024	

872 Fairfax County TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 421 Arkansas Avenue, Hornum, VA 22070	873 Prince William County TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 3246 Gino Place, Woodbridge, VA 22193
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In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$400,000.00 dated November 17, 2005 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for Fairfax County on November 22, 2005 as Instrument Number: 2005048401005, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, 4110 Chain Bridge Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030 on August 5, 2024 at 12:45 PM the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and briefly described as: Lot 36, Phase Section 6, PRINCE WILLIAM COMMONS, as the same is duly dedicated, plotted and recorded in Deed Book 1877, at Page 311, and as corrected in Deed Book 1882, at Page 189, all among the land records of Fairfax County, Virginia. Tax ID: 0161 04050004.

TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of \$13,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. (Trustee # 23-011863)

Substitute Trustee: ALG Trust-ees, LLC C/O Orland PC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orlands.com The Vendor XOME.COM will be used in conjunction with this sale.

873 Prince William County TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 8908 Rugby Road, Manassas Park, VA 20111	
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In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$372,000.00 dated July 26, 2006 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for Prince William County on November 1, 2006 as Instrument Number: 200608010113463, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of Prince William County, 9311 Lee Ave, Manassas, VA 20110 on August 5, 2024 at 4:00 PM the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and briefly described as: ALL OF THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND TOGETHER WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE AND BEING IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA. Tax ID: 7797-71-4590.

TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of \$12,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. (Trustee # 24-00517)

Substitute Trustee: ALG Trust-ees, LLC C/O Orland PC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orlands.com The Vendor XOME.COM will be used in conjunction with this sale.

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857 Howard County	857 Howard 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 6145 CLEAR SMOKE COURT COLUMBIA, MD 21045	

JULY 16, 2024 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in HOWARD COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 16-098388

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 \$30,500.00 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 5.9100% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (20-079279)

GENEVIEVE JOHNSON, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S. AUCTIONEERS, LLC 300 E. Joppa Road Hampden Plaza, Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797	0012462656
Jul 1, 8, 15 2024	

878 Stafford County TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 51 LIBERTY KNOLLS DRIVE, STAFFORD, VA 22654	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Roommates
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In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated November 23, 2015, in the original principal amount of \$495,853.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Stafford County, Virginia, Instrument No. 150021126, The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Stafford County, 1500 Churchill Road, Stafford, Virginia, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court on August 29, 2024, at 2:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND ALL APPURTENANCES THERETO, BEING DESIGNATED AS FOLLOWS: LOT 20, LIBERTY KNOLLS, AS THE SAME IS DULY DEDICATED IN INSTRUMENT NUMBER: 080016674, AND AS PLATTED IN PLAT MAP NUMBER 08000160, RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF STAFFORD COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price, or the principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee, must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser will be provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee's attorney or the Trustee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwv-ws.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation.

Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Third Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com, VA-36464.

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10:00am-3:00pm
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Washington, DC 20020
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857 Howard County	857 Howard County
Brook and Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington NC, 28403	
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 9536 Haddaway Place Laurel, MD 20723	

JULY 10, 2024 at 12:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in HOWARD COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

BEGINNING FOR THE SAME AT THE POINT ON THE WESTERLY SIDE OF HADDAWAY PLACE SOUTH 22 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST 25 FEET FROM THE SOUTHEASTERLY CORNER OF LOT 15, AND CONTINUING ALONG THE WEST SIDE OF SAID HADDAWAY PLACE SOUTH 22 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST 77.70 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE ON 30 FOOT RADIUS FOR 67.90 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF FULTON AVENUE; THENCE ALONG THE EASTERLY SIDE OF FULTON AVENUE NORTH 29 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 50 SECONDS WEST 72.50 FEET TO POINT, SAID POINT ALSO BEING SOUTH 29 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 50 SECONDS EAST 25 FEET FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 2; THENCE LEAVING FULTON AVENUE NORTH 60 DEGREES 45 MINUTES, 10 SECONDS EAST 65.80 FEET TO A POINT THENCE SOUTH 67 DEGREES 54 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST 65.60 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 8063 SQUARE FOOT OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.

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 \$15,000.00 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 HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 4.625% 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. (23-30019)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN,
JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLLE,
ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY W. S. AUCTIONEERS, LLC 300 E. Joppa Road Hampden Plaza, Suite 1103 Baltimore, MD 21286 410-769-9797	0012462887
Jun 24, Jul 1, 8 2024	

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 9508 MELLOW CT LAUREL, MD 20723
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Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated June 22, 2006, and recorded in Liber 10128, folio 023, of the land records of HOWARD COUNTY, with an original principal balance of \$349,600.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE HOWARD COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 9250 JUDICIAL WAY, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043 ON,

JULY 16, 2024 at 10:00 AM

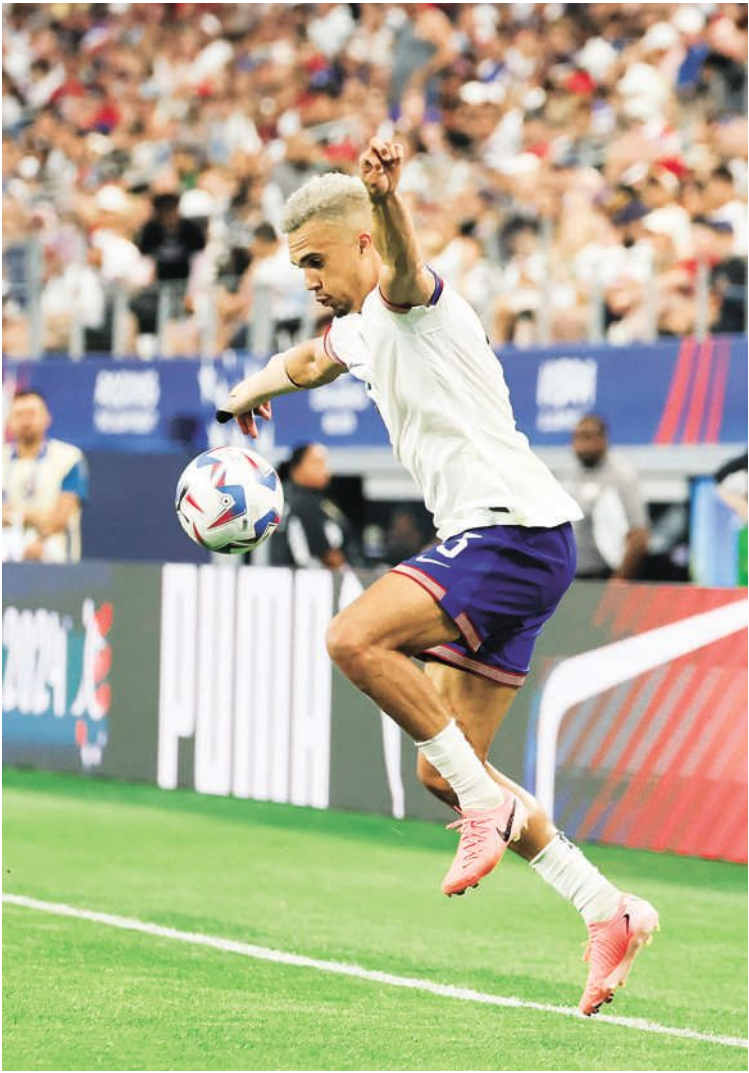
ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in HOWARD COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 06-452132

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 7.375% 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. (18-223985)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID



KEVIN JAIRAJ/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

U.S. left back Antonee Robinson said “there’s no reason to hold anything back” during the team’s match Monday vs. Uruguay.

U.S. team probably needs to win to advance at Copa

U.S. SOCCER FROM D1

could flip the goal differential tiebreaker. Entering Monday, the U.S. team is plus-one; Panama is minus-one.

“Our knockout game actually came five days earlier,” Berhalter said of his team’s prospects of reaching Saturday’s quarterfinal. “If we don’t put a good performance, [if] we don’t win the game, our Copa América is done. There’s not much else to say.”

The U.S. team is motivated to rebound from its 2-1 loss to Panama on Thursday in Atlanta, where Tim Weah received an early red card — the fifth by a U.S. player in the past 21 matches in official competition — and the winning goal was scored in the 83rd minute.

Failure to advance would strike a considerable blow to the U.S. program, which is seeking to make strides as the 2026 World Cup approaches and grow public support for the team and the sport. Copa América is soccer’s third-most-prominent tournament, behind the World Cup and European Championship, and offers the last major test for the U.S. team until 2026.

“We’re all extremely motivated and want to put on a really strong performance, especially on home soil,” captain Christian Pulisic said of this tournament’s importance. “We want to show everyone we’re here to compete with the best.”

Berhalter and his team have faced — and conquered — plenty of adversity over the past 19 months.

At the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, they needed to defeat Iran in the group finale to reach the knockout stage. They did.

In the group opener at the 2023 Concacaf Gold Cup, they trailed Jamaica in the waning moments before scoring a late equalizer. In the quarterfinals, they trailed Canada in extra time before benefiting from an own goal and ultimately prevailing in a shoot-out. In the semifinals, they came back in the same manner against Panama before falling in the tie-breaker.

In the Concacaf Nations League semifinals this year, the United States needed a stoppage-time own goal against Jamaica to force extra time. Two subsequent goals by Haji Wright clinched a

place in the final, in which they thumped Mexico for the program’s third consecutive trophy.

“It’s good experience to have in our back pocket,” midfielder Tyler Adams said.

Uruguay, though, is the best team the Americans will face in a do-or-die situation since they lost to the Netherlands in the 2022 World Cup’s round of 16. La Celeste (Sky Blue), the 15-time Copa América champion, breezed past Panama and Bolivia by an 8-1 count.

Uruguay has not clinched passage to the Copa quarterfinals because, in theory, the group could finish with three teams on six points. Its famous coach, Marcelo Bielsa, will not be on the sideline Monday, though: Tournament organizers suspended him one game and fined the Uruguayan federation \$15,000 because the team was late returning to the field after halftime of the Bolivia match.

His longtime assistant, Diego Reyes, will handle sideline duties. Pressed on whether Uruguay will rest regulars, Reyes said Sunday that lineup decisions had yet to be made.

“My estimate would be they play their strongest team,” Berhalter said.

Bielsa’s absence will not alter Uruguay’s plans to play with high intensity and press aggressively — Bielsa trademarks. “We think as a team. There is a clear idea,” Reyes said.

The Americans will need to cope with Uruguay’s style while pushing for goals themselves in a match they almost certainly must win to advance.

“If you are looking at it realistically, there is a chance this is our last game,” left back Antonee Robinson said, “and there’s no reason to hold anything back.” **Notes:** Already ineligible against Uruguay, Weah was suspended an additional game for punching Panama’s Roderick Miller in the back of the head. He would miss the quarterfinal should the United States qualify. ...

Goalkeeper Matt Turner, who left the Panama game at halftime with a leg injury, engaged in limited training the past two days. Berhalter said the staff will continue to monitor him. If Turner cannot play, Ethan Horvath would start.

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA

EAST	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	16	3	.842	—
Connecticut	14	4	.778	1½
Atlanta	7	10	.412	8
Indiana	8	12	.400	8½
Chicago	6	11	.353	9
Washington	4	15	.211	12
WEST	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	14	4	.778	—
Seattle	10	6	.667	2
Las Vegas	10	6	.625	3
Phoenix	9	9	.500	5
Los Angeles	4	14	.222	10
Dallas	4	14	.222	10

SATURDAY’S RESULTS

Las Vegas 88, at Washington 77 at Seattle 97, Dallas 76

SUNDAY’S RESULTS

at New York 81, Atlanta 75 Minnesota 70, at Chicago 62 Indiana 88, at Phoenix 62

MONDAY’S GAMES

Connecticut at Phoenix, 10 Dallas at Seattle, 10

TUESDAY’S GAMES

Washington at Los Angeles, 10 Chicago at Atlanta, 7 Minnesota at New York, 7 Indiana at Las Vegas, 9:30

Liberty 81, Dream 75

Atlanta	24	17	18	16	—	75
New York	13	23	24	21	—	81

ATLANTA	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Coffey	20:32	0-4	0-0	0-3	1	0	0
Gray	36:25	8-13	5-5	1-5	0	2	24
Charles	32:07	7-15	2-2	0-12	2	4	16
Canada	37:44	4-7	0-1	0-5	9	1	9
H.Jones	16:45	1-4	0-0	0-1	2	2	2
Caldwell	24:34	3-5	0-0	2-3	1	1	8
Parker-Tyus	21:21	4-10	4-5	1-6	2	4	12
Hillmon	10:32	2-2	0-0	0-2	0	1	4
TOTALS	200	29-60	11-13	4-37	16	15	75

Percentages: FG .483, FT .846, 3-Point Goals: 6-17, .353 (Gray 3-5, Caldwell 2-4, Canada 1-2, H.Jones 0-1, Charles 0-2, Coffey 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 4. **Team Turnovers:** 3. **Blocked Shots:** 2 (Canada, Gray). **Turnovers:** 15 (Charles 6, Canada 4, Hillmon 2, Parker-Tyus 2, Caldwell). **Steals:** 2 (Canada, Charles).

NEW YORK	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Laney-Hamilton	32:52	6-12	2-2	1-5	6	2	18
Stewart	37:23	7-17	5-7	1-12	3	4	22
J.Jones	29:38	2-5	0-0	1-4	2	3	5
Ionescu	33:38	3-17	2-2	0-4	1	10	10
Vandersloot	21:18	3-6	0-0	0-1	7	3	9
Fiebelch	22:03	2-9	0-0	1-7	0	12	12
Burke	12:59	2-3	0-0	1-1	0	1	4
Thornton	10:09	0-2	3-5	0-0	1	0	3
TOTALS	200	28-71	12-16	5-28	25	14	81

Percentages: FG .394, FT .750, 3-Point Goals: 13-39, .333 (Laney-Hamilton 4-6, Stewart 3-7, Fiebelch 2-5, Ionescu 2-11, J.Jones 1-3, Vandersloot 1-4, Burke 0-1, Thornton 0-2). **Team Rebounds:** 11. **Team Turnovers:** 2. **Blocked Shots:** 2 (Laney-Hamilton, Stewart). **Steals:** 3 (Fiebelch 3, Stewart 2, Vandersloot 2, Laney-Hamilton). **Technical Fouls:** None. **A:** 10,823 (17,732). **T:** 1:52.

Lynx 70, Sky 62

Minnesota	16	18	18	18	—	70
Chicago	24	15	18	5	—	62

MINNESOTA	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Carleton	28:45	2-7	0-0	0-4	2	2	6
Collier	38:41	5-13	3-4	5-11	6	1	13
Smith	25:26	5-12	0-1	1-7	0	4	11
McBride	27:17	3-7	8-8	0-5	1	1	9
C.Williams	27:17	4-10	1-1	0-4	4	1	16
Zandalasini	18:14	3-5	1-2	0-1	1	3	8
Juhász	15:53	0-2	0-0	0-5	0	1	0
Collier	22:43	2-4	1-1	0-2	4	0	5
Miller	8:59	1-5	0-1	0-1	1	2	2
TOTALS	200	25-65	14-18	6-40	23	15	70

Percentages: FG .385, FT .778, 3-Point Goals: 6-24, .250 (Laney-Hamilton 2-5, McBride 2-4, Zandalasini 1-1, Smith 1-5, C.Williams 0-1, Collier 0-1, Hiedeman 0-1, Juhász 0-1, Miller 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 9. **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 9 (Smith 4, Collier 3, Zandalasini 2). **Turnovers:** 18 (McBride 4, C.Williams 3, Carleton 3, Collier 2, Hiedeman 2, Miller 2, Smith 2). **Steals:** 11 (Collier 4, Hiedeman 3, McBride 2, Juhász, Miller). **Technical Fouls:** None.

CHICAGO	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Mabrey	33:42	4-17	1-2	0-3	4	2	11
Reese	34:57	4-16	2-4	5-16	0	3	10
Cardoso	30:46	1-9	1-2	6-10	0	3	3
Allen	32:43	5-10	0-0	3-6	7	4	13
Carleton	31:17	3-14	5-6	1-12	3	15	15
Harrison	14:17	1-5	2-4	0-3	0	4	4
DeShields	12:07	2-4	0-0	0-2	0	3	4
Evans	7:17	1-4	0-0	0-0	0	2	2
TOTALS	200	25-82	7-14	16-44	14	21	72

Percentages: FG .305, FT .500, 3-Point Goals: 1-8, .128 (Allen 3-5, Mabrey 2-8, Carter 0-1, DeShields 0-1, Evans 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 15. **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 3 (Allen 2, Cardoso). **Turnovers:** 14 (Carter 4, Hiedeman 4, Harrison 4, DeShields, Reese). **Steals:** 9 (Carter 2, DeShields 2, Harrison 2, Mabrey 2, Allen). **A:** 9,025 (10,387).

Fever 88, Mercury 82

Indiana	20	18	29	21	—	88
Phoenix	26	23	15	18	—	82

INDIANA	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Smith	32:25	5-9	1-4	4-15	1	5	12
Wallace	17:53	2-5	3-4	0-3	0	1	7
Boston	34:16	6-9	4-6	3-8	4	5	17
Clark	39:26	7-12	1-2	1-9	3	15	15
Mitchell	21:06	5-11	3-3	0-3	1	16	16
Wheeler	19:29	2-4	2-2	0-1	1	2	6
Samuelson	17:37	1-6	2-2	0-1	1	1	5
Fagbenle	12:57	3-5	4-4	2-2	0	1	10
Hull	4:48	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
TOTALS	200	28-63	24-31	9-42	20	58	82

Percentages: FG .444, FT .774, 3-Point Goals: 8-28, .286 (Mitchell 3-6, Clark 2-10, Boston 1-1, Smith 1-3, Samuelson 1-4, Harrison 1-2, Wheeler 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 7. **Team Turnovers:** 2. **Blocked Shots:** 2 (Samuelson, Smith). **Turnovers:** 14 (Clark 6, Boston 3, Smith 2, Fagbenle, Mitchell, Wheeler). **Steals:** 5 (Smith 2, Wheeler 2, Mitchell). **Technical Fouls:** Fagbenle, 4:48 second; Wheeler, 4:48 second.

PHOENIX	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Allen	25:47	2-6	0-0	0-1	2	9	9
Copper	30:48	3-15	0-0	0-3	2	6	7
Griner	31:18	8-13	8-10	2-6	2	24	24
Cloud	32:40	5-12	3-4	0-5	7	4	15
Taurasi	32:08	5-14	7-8	1-3	3	19	19
Cunningham	26:51	2-2	0-2	1-1	5	15	15
Sutton	11:42	1-3	0-0	0-0	2	1	3
Dixon	4:56	0-1	0-0	1-1	0	0	0
Mack	3:47	0-0	0-0	0-0	2	0	0
TOTALS	200	27-68	20-24	6-28	18	25	82

Percentages: FG .397, FT .833, 3-Point Goals: 8-28, .286 (Cloud 2-4, Taurasi 2-10, Cunningham 1-2, Sutton 1-2, Allen 1-4, Copper 1-6). **Team Rebounds:** 10. **Team Turnovers:** 1. **Blocked Shots:** 1 (Griner). **Turnovers:** 12 (Taurasi 5, Copper 2, Allen 4, Griner 2, Cunningham 2). **Steals:** 9 (Cloud 4, Taurasi 3, Allen, Copper). **Technical Fouls:** Griner, 6:50 second; Copper, 4:48 second; Cloud, 4:48 second. **A:** 17,071 (18,422).

Storm 97, Wings 76

Late Saturday

Dallas	25	16	18	17	—	76
Seattle	28	26	17	—	—	77

DALLAS	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Howard	27:13	6-12	0-2	1-7	5	4	12
Sheldon	26:03	3-10	0-0	0-1	0	5	6
McCowan	28:52	7-7	1-3	1-6	2	3	15
McGowans	37:29	2-15	4-6	0-5	1	24	24
Uzun	21:11	1-2	0-0	0-0	2	2	2
Sims	24:31	3-11	1-2	2-3	4	7	7
Billings	12:47	2-6	0-0	2-6	1	2	4
K.Brown	11:08	2-2	0-1	0-1	0	1	4
Lopez Sénéchal	8:41	0-0	0-0	1-2	1	0	0
Soares	2:04	1-2	0-0	1-1	0	2	2
TOTALS	200	32-70	6-14	8-32	18	21	76

Percentages: FG .457, FT .429, 3-Point Goals: 6-18, .333 (Ogunbowale 6-10, Lopez Sénéchal 0-1, Sims 0-1, Uzun 0-1, Howard 0-2, Sheldon 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 9. **Team Turnovers:** 1. **Blocked Shots:** 2 (K.Brown, Uzun). **Turnovers:** 18 (Howard 4, Billings 3, McCowan 3, Ogunbowale 3, Uzun 3, K.Brown, Sims). **Steals:** 12 (Ogunbowale 4, Howard 3, McCowan 2, Sims 2, Soares). **A:** 9,080 (15,354).

SEATTLE	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Horston	29:37	5-10	2-2	4-11	4	4	12
Ogunmike	25:02	5-11	5-5	1-5	1	16	16
Magbegor	28:54	6-9	0-1	1-5	2	12	12
Diggins-Smith	31:51	4-8	3-3	0-3	1	11	11
Loyd	33:14	6-14	16-17	1-5	1	30	30
Russell	16:21	2-6	0-0	0-1	2	13	13
Whitcomb	13:26	2-4	0-0	0-1	1	5	5
Holmes	9:42	2-5	2-2	0-0	0	1	6
Vivians	5:04	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Williams	3:47	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Muhl	2:50	0-0	0-0	1-1	0	1	0
TOTALS	200	32-65	28-30	10-35	22	14	97

Percentages: FG .492, FT .933, 3-Point Goals: 5-17, .294 (Loyd 2-6, Magbegor 1-2, Ogunmike 1-2, Whitcomb 1-3, Holmes 0-1, Diggins-Smith 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 5. **Team Turnovers:** 1. **Blocked Shots:** 6 (Diggins-Smith, Holmes, Horston, Ogunmike, Russell, Whitcomb). **Turnovers:** 14 (Horston 4, Diggins-Smith 2, Holmes 2, Magbegor 2, Loyd, Ogunmike, Russell, Whitcomb). **Steals:** 11 (Diggins-Smith 3, Loyd 2, Ogunmike 2, Whitcomb 2, Horston, Magbegor). **A:** 9,080 (15,354).

SCOREBOARD

SOCCER

Copa América

MONDAY’S RESULTS

Colombia 2, Paraguay 1 Brazil 0, Costa Rica 0

TUESDAY’S RESULTS

Peru 0, Canada 1 Chile 0, Argentina 1

WEDNESDAY’S RESULTS

Ecuador 3, Jamaica 1 Venezuela 1, Mexico 0

THURSDAY’S RESULTS

Panama 2, United States 1 Uruguay 5, Bolivia 0

FRIDAY’S RESULTS

Colombia 3, Costa Rica 0 Brazil 4, Paraguay 1

SATURDAY’S RESULTS

Colombia 0, Chile 0 Ecuador 0, Mexico 0

SUNDAY’S RESULTS

Venezuela 3, Jamaica 0 Ecuador 0, Mexico 0

MONDAY’S MATCHES

United States vs. Uruguay, 9 Bolivia vs. Panama, 9

TUESDAY’S MATCHES

Brazil vs