



## ECONOMY

# World investors panic at signs of slowdown

By **DAVE BOYER**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A swift global panic struck financial markets Monday, triggering stock sell-offs around the world amid fears that the U.S. economy is slowing into recession territory in the presidential election year. Wall Street posted its second straight day of sharp losses after seven months of relatively steady growth. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 1,033 points, or 2.6%, the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite fell 3.4% and the S&P 500 was down by 3%, its worst performance

## Anxieties emphasize U.S. economy's role in election

in two years. Earlier Monday, Japan's Nikkei 225 plunged 12.4% for its worst day since the 1987 crash. South Korea's benchmark Kospi lost 8%. The losses cascaded through Europe, with London's FTSE 100 down 2% on its worst day of trading since January. Tech stocks in the U.S. sustained some of the heaviest losses as investors worried that spending on artificial intelligence might not bring results soon.

Nvidia Inc. lost more than 6%, Apple was down 4.4% as Berkshire Hathaway said it had cut its stake in the iPhone maker, and Microsoft fell 3.4%. Investors worldwide reacted to Friday's Labor Department report of weaker-than-expected hiring in July. They were concerned that the Federal Reserve had kept interest rates too high for too long to bring down inflation, which soared to a 40-year high under the Biden-Harris administration. The jobless

rate in July rose to 4.3%, the highest since October 2021. Economic anxieties highlighted by the massive sell-off rapidly regained prominence in the presidential campaign. President Biden, returning to the White House from a weekend at his home in Delaware, didn't respond to reporters' shouted questions about the stock market. Vice President Kamala Harris, who quickly captured the Democratic Party nomination after Mr. Biden

dropped out of the race, was huddled in meetings with advisers as she prepared to announce her selection of a running mate. Her Republican opponent, former President Donald Trump, blamed Ms. Harris and the president for the market chaos, signaling the renewed importance of the economy and high prices as campaign themes. "Of course there is a massive market downturn," Mr. Trump said on social media. "Voters have a choice — Trump

» see **MARKETS** | A5

## DEBBY'S SOUTHERN INHOSPITALITY



Residents of some of America's historic Southern cities prepared Monday for the drenching rains of Hurricane Debby, which was making its way toward low-lying regions of the Eastern Seaboard after slamming Florida. The storm contributed to at least four deaths. Story, A6.

## IMMIGRATION

# One-third flagged by terror watchlist freed under Biden

## Top-secret data hides dangers

By **STEPHEN DINAN**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The Biden administration has caught and released at least 99 illegal immigrants whose identities matched the terrorism watch list, according to a congressional report Monday.

They were caught by the Border Patrol along the southern border from 2021 through 2023 and were subsequently released as part of the Biden administration's more relaxed approach to immigration, the House Judiciary Committee said.

Another 34 illegal immigrants flagged by the watchlist were still being held as of June.

Since the start of fiscal 2021, Border Patrol agents at the southern border have detected 375 people whose names triggered the watchlist, including 282 from 2021 through 2023. That indicates that more than one-third of terrorism watchlist migrants are being released.

Those encountered spanned 36 countries, including the terror hot spots of Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Somalia, Syria, Tajikistan and Yemen.

At least 27 of the terrorism suspects were granted bond by an immigration judge, and four were granted asylum, the House report said. Investigators said most immigration judges don't have access to top-secret information, meaning they may not even know the dangers presented by migrants appearing before them and asking for release.

"Releasing terrorists into the United States has become almost

## DHS in rush 2 weeks from amnesty for spouses

By **STEPHEN DINAN**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The Homeland Security Department is on a crash course to recruit and train people ahead of the Aug. 19 launch of President Biden's latest deportation amnesty for illegal immigrant spouses married to U.S. citizens.

Two weeks before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is supposed to start accepting applications, the agency hasn't revealed vital details, such as the cost of application and what sorts of criminal entanglements will be forgiven for the new "parole" program.

The Washington Times has learned that training won't begin until Aug. 19 for some of the 267 staff positions dedicated to processing the applications, and others won't be reassigned until a week later.

Mr. Biden announced the program more than six weeks ago. Those on all sides of the immigration debate are surprised that so many holes remain this

» see **SPOUSE** | A7

## CAMPAIGN 2024

# Biden-Harris switch rife with legal snags

By **JEFF MORDOCK**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Vice President Kamala Harris is trying to escape the shadow of President Biden, but her campaign emails still say "joebiden.com."

The email domain address is among several valuable assets transferred from the Biden campaign to the Harris campaign last month. Other assets include leases for field offices, campaign staff and, most importantly, hundreds of millions of dollars in

## Campaign enters new territory filled with thorny questions

contributions. The transfer of those assets from Mr. Biden to Ms. Harris enters a murky area that neither the Federal Election Commission nor the judicial system has resolved.

Bradley E. Smith, who served as commissioner, vice chairman and chairman of the FEC, said someone must account for those valuable assets.

"No one has ruled on this in the past. I think the better interpretation is that the transfer is not legal, but it's not like the Democrats don't have a leg to stand on," he said.

Since Ms. Harris took over the Biden campaign, it has remained largely the same but with a different name at the top. She has retained Mr. Biden's campaign

chair and manager, assumed control of the campaign's headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware, and kept the "@joebiden" domain name.

Ms. Harris, who won the Democratic presidential nomination Friday in an online vote by party delegates, also claimed ownership of the roughly \$96 million held in accounts controlled by the Biden campaign committee. She also gained access to roughly \$240 million in cash on hand split

» see **CAMPAIGN** | A4

## BUSINESS

# Opponents of China-made drones clash with those who rely on them

By **MIKE GLENN**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

China's grip on critical high-tech industries was on display this summer as Capitol Hill lawmakers sought to combat its dominance of the global drone market.

Senate Armed Services Committee drafters quietly dropped a provision from the massive national defense authorization bill that would have effectively banned Chinese-made commercial drones from the U.S. market. American farm groups and others say an immediate prohibition would be disastrous for

their operations. The House version of the 2025 National Defense Authorization Act, approved in June in the Republican-led chamber, incorporated the Countering [Chinese Communist Party] Drones Act. The two versions must be reconciled before the overall bill reaches the president's desk.

China is by far the world's leading exporter of drones, and a single company, Shenzhen-based Da Jiang Innovations (DJI), supplies nearly 80% of the U.S. market. American farmers, public safety

» see **DRONE** | A5



**LOOK IT UP:** Ubiquitous Google has been illegally exploiting its dominance to squash competition and stifle innovation, a federal judge has ruled.

## TECHNOLOGY

# 'Monopoly' ruling puts Google's search engine dominance at risk

By **MATTHEW BARAKAT AND MICHAEL LIETKE**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A judge ruled Monday that Google's ubiquitous search engine has been illegally exploiting its dominance to squash competition and stifle innovation in a seismic decision that could shake up the internet and hobble one of the world's best-known companies.

U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta issued the highly anticipated decision nearly a year after the start of a trial pitting the U.S. Justice Department against Google in the country's biggest antitrust showdown in a quarter century.

After reviewing reams of evidence that included testimony from top executives at Google, Microsoft and Apple during the 10-week trial last year, Judge Mehta issued his potentially market-shifting decision three months after the two sides presented their closing arguments in early May.

"After having carefully considered and weighed the witness testimony and evidence, the court reaches the following conclusion: Google is a monopolist, and it has acted as one to maintain its monopoly," Judge Mehta wrote in his

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## POLITICS

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GORSUCH HAS A SAY

Arriving today: "Over Ruled: The Human Toll of Too Much Law," by Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch and Janie Nitze, a visiting fellow with the National Security Institute at George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School.

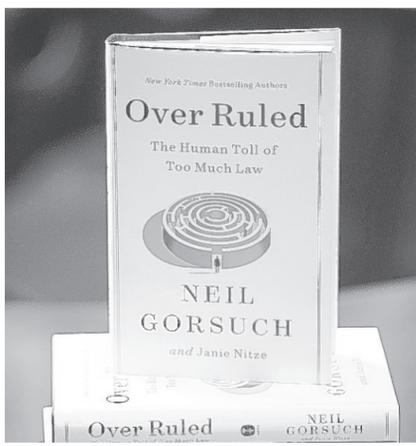
"America has always been a nation of laws. But today our laws have grown so vast and reach so deeply into our lives that it's worth asking: In our reverence for law, have we gone too far?" the authors wrote in the first chapter of the book.

"Over just the last few decades, laws in this nation have exploded in number; they are increasingly complex; and the punishments they carry are increasingly severe. Some of these laws come from our elected representatives, but many now come from agency officials largely insulated from democratic accountability," they said.

The book itself is full of well-researched examples of this phenomenon, along with an extensive list of sources of information for the book. Chapter 1 is titled "An Introduction to Law's Empire," and the book ends with a chapter titled "The Spirit of Liberty."

The publisher also had a statement. "Some law is essential to our lives and our freedoms. But too much law can place those very same freedoms at risk and even undermine respect for law itself. And often those who feel the cost most acutely are those without wealth, power, and status," Harper Books — a division of HarperCollins Publishing — said in advance notes.

"Deeply researched and superbly written, 'Over Ruled' is one of the most significant books of the year. It is a must-read for every citizen concerned about the erosion of our constitutional system, and its insights will be key to the preservation of our liberties for generations to



"Over Ruled: The Human Toll of Too Much Law," by Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch and Janie Nitze, published by Harper Books, a division of HarperCollins Publishing, is available today.

come," Harper Books said.

The book already has emerged as a No. 1 best-seller on Amazon in the "Civic & Citizenship," "United States Judicial Branch" and "Political Freedom" categories.

SEND IN THE MEAT

"Euro News: The German men's hockey team has panned the food served at the Olympic Village, calling it 'a disaster', while British athletes flew an additional chef out to Paris to bridge a shortfall of the supply. Andy Anson, CEO of the UK Olympic Association, lamented the lack of protein — especially chicken and eggs — on menus in the village," wrote Marc Morano, creator and editor of ClimateDepot.com, a nimble watchdog site the monitors trends among organizations and activists alarmed by climate issues.

"The Paris 2024 Food Vision document aimed for reduced animal protein to lower the Games'

carbon footprint," he said, noting that the move brought applause from the European Vegetarian Union, which favors plant-based options and local sourcing.

Yes, well. "Elite athletes are being lectured on what they SHOULD and CAN eat by non-athlete climate activists, Olympic organizers and bureaucrats. These dietary restrictions are piled on top of the Olympics attempt to impose air conditioning rationing and miserably hot bus transportation services. The absurdity of the Net Zero climate agenda is on full display at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris," Mr. Morano said.

FOR THE LEXICON

"Kamala crash."

This very alarming phrase dominated X and other social media Monday after the equally alarming stock-market plunge.

The hashtag version #KamalaCrash could be found on tweets from the Republican National Committee and the Republican Party, among many others.

"This is the Kamala Harris economic agenda at work. #KamalaCrash," the GOP said in its X entry.

FOR THE LEXICON PART 2

"The teleprompter campaign."

This handy little phrase emerged in National Review on Monday, and refers to a certain campaign style adopted by Democratic presidential hopeful Kamala Harris.

"Kamala can't be trusted off script. The base-campaign has been updated. Kamala Harris isn't in the cellar of the Naval Observatory campaigning via Zoom calls a la Joe Biden in 2020," writes Rich Lowry, editor in chief of National Review.

"No, she's speaking to adoring crowds fired up by pop stars. She's identifying herself with powerful (if somewhat esoteric) cultural trends. She's clapping back against Donald Trump with panache. Indeed, in one of the great political

transformations of our time, she's gone from a sub-par vice president to the second coming of Barack Obama in the space of about two weeks," Mr. Lowry said.

"Except Obama was a genuine political talent who was glib enough to handle almost anything. He wasn't an intellectual but was a writer with intellectual interests — in another life, he could have been a staffer at the New Yorker instead of president of the United States (would that it had been so)," he continued.

"The people most aware that Kamala isn't truly a new version of Obama are the people around her, who clearly fear putting her in any setting where she isn't reading from a script. Biden's basement campaign in 2020 kept him from having to go out and build a crowd, but he did interviews," Mr. Lowry wrote.

"Kamala's teleprompter campaign in 2024 is meant to limit her exposure to keep her from inadvertently bursting the media bubble that's been created around her," he said.

POLL DU JOUR

- 33% of U.S. adults "strongly disapprove" of the job Congress is doing; 41% of independents, 31% of Democrats and 27% of Republicans agree.
- 25% of U.S. adults "somewhat disapprove" of the job Congress is doing; 20% of independents, 25% of Democrats and 31% of Republicans agree.
- 18% of U.S. adults "neither approve or disapprove"; 21% of independents, 14% of Democrats and 20% of Republicans agree.
- 12% of U.S. adults "somewhat approve"; 6% of independents, 19% of Democrats and 10% of Republicans agree.
- 2% of U.S. adults "strongly approve"; 1% of independents, 4% of Democrats and 2% of Republicans agree.
- 10% overall are "not sure" about the issue; 12% of independents, 7% of Democrats and 10% of Republicans agree.

SOURCE: AN ECONOMIST/YOUGOV POLL OF 1,610 U.S. ADULTS CONDUCTED ONLINE, JULY 27-30.

• Contact Jennifer Harper at [jharper@washingtontimes.com](mailto:jharper@washingtontimes.com).

DEMOCRATS

'Squad' member Bush's anti-Israel stance puts her at risk in primary

By KERRY PICKET  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Rep. Cori Bush is fighting for her political survival in Tuesday's Democratic primary in Missouri where her anti-Israel stance threatens to make her the second "Squad" member ousted by Democratic voters.

Ms. Bush, 48, a two-term incumbent, faces off against St. Louis prosecutor Wesley Bell, a well-funded challenger backed up by pro-Israel super-PACs that booted another Squad member, Rep. Jamaal Bowman, in the New York Democrat primary.

According to federal financial records, Ms. Bush raised \$2.9 million for her reelection campaign, but Mr. Bell collected \$4.7 million from donors.

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee's political action committee, the United Democracy Project, has spent more than \$8.4 million to defeat Ms. Bush.

A poll paid for by another pro-Israel PAC shows Mr. Bell leading Ms. Bush by six points.

Ms. Bush is an outspoken critic of Israel's war against Hamas after its Oct. 7 terrorist attack on the Jewish state, including her accusing Israel of an "ethnic cleansing campaign."

She was among the handful of House Democrats who opposed a resolution supporting Israel and also boycotted Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's speech last month to a joint meeting of Congress.

Ms. Bush represents Missouri's solidly liberal 1st Congressional District which covers St. Louis and

several suburbs, including Ferguson.

Before her election to Congress in 2018, she was a defund-the-police activist who made a name for herself during the 2014 Ferguson riots.

Mr. Bell also was on the streets of Ferguson with protesters after the deadly confrontation between Officer Darren Wilson and Michael Brown, an unarmed Black man.

Mr. Bell facilitated talks between protesters and police in 2014 and was later elected to the Ferguson City Council. The young Black prosecutor early on distinguished his position on Israel from Ms. Bush.

"I think we have to stand with our allies, and Israel has always been an ally, but we always want to keep the door open for a two-state solution," he said, when he launched his campaign for Congress.

"But we cannot give aid and comfort to terrorist organizations, and Hamas is a terrorist organization, and Israel has the right to defend themselves."

Pro-Palestinian American Jewish organizations, such as IfNotNow have rallied behind Ms. Bush and her fellow Squad members.

Ms. Bush called on her supporters to "reject AIPAC and defeat far-right extremism in the U.S. & across the world."

Justice Democrats, which is part of Reject AIPAC, spent about \$1.5 million this cycle to support Ms. Bush.

She also had run-ins with Democratic leaders within the district when she voted against the White House-backed Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that spent \$429 million on Missouri water infrastructure projects.



2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Poll: Trump, Harris tied in Pennsylvania

A new poll in the swing state of Pennsylvania shows former President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris tied among likely voters.

According to the poll conducted by Fabrizio, Lee & Associates, likely voters are divided on their opinions of both Mr. Trump and Ms. Harris.

According to the survey, 48% of those surveyed supported Mr. Trump, 48% supported Ms. Harris, and 4% said they were undecided.

Additionally, an equal number of independents, 44%, support both candidates, with 12% saying they are undecided.

Five percent of Republicans say they support Ms. Harris, and 7% of Democrats in the survey said they support Mr. Trump.

When third party candidates are thrown into the mix, the result is still a tie between Mr. Trump and Ms. Harris, with 45% each.

When these voters were asked whether they approved of the job that the candidates are doing or did in their respective posts at the White House, Mr. Trump holds a 51% approval and 48% disapproval rating, while Ms. Harris has a 43% approval rating and a 50% disapproval rating.

— Kerry Picket

CANDIDATE RHETORIC

Kennedy texts say Trump 'barely human'

Texts sent earlier this year by independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. revealed how he really feels about former President Donald Trump.



Usha Vance said the "childless cat ladies" comments made by her husband, Republican vice presidential hopeful J.D. Vance, were taken out of context and it can be really hard to be a parent.

VICE PRESIDENCY

Usha Vance calls husband's 'cat ladies' comment a quip that's being distorted

Usha Vance, wife of Republican vice-presidential hopeful J.D. Vance, defended her husband's comment about "childless cat ladies," saying it was taken out of context.

"I took a moment to look and actually see what he had said and try to understand what the context was and all that, which is something that I really wish people would do a little bit more often," Mrs. Vance said in a "Fox & Friends" interview that aired Monday. "He made a quip in service of making a point that he wanted to make that was substantive, and it had actual meaning."

Mrs. Vance said that she wishes people would "spend a lot less time just sort of going through this three-word phrase or that three-word phrase, because what he was really saying is that it can be really hard

to be a parent in this country.

"And sometimes our policies are designed in a way that make it even harder. And we should be asking ourselves, 'why is that true?'" she said.

Mr. Vance, Ohio Republican, made the now notorious comment about "childless cat ladies" running the United States to then-Fox News host Tucker Carlson while running for an Ohio U.S. Senate seat in 2021.

"We're effectively run in this country, via the Democrats, via our corporate oligarchs, by a bunch of childless cat ladies who are miserable at their own lives and the choices that they've made and they want to make the rest of the country miserable," Mr. Vance said.

— Mallory Wilson

In a text exchange reported Monday by The New Yorker, Mr. Kennedy called Mr. Trump "a terrible human being. The worse [sic] president ever and barely human. He is probably a sociopath."

The texts were sent just after Mr. Kennedy had attended the Republican National Convention.

Mr. Kennedy spoke with Mr. Trump ahead of the convention, where they discussed vaccine skepticism and the possibility of a spot for Mr. Kennedy in a Trump administration.

Mr. Kennedy also attacked President Biden in the same text exchange, calling him "more dangerous to the Republic and the planet."

The New Yorker did not specify the person with whom Mr. Kennedy was exchanging text messages.

— Mallory Wilson

WHITE HOUSE

Sperling leaves to join Harris campaign

For the second time in as many weeks, a top adviser to President Biden is leaving the White House to focus on Vice President Kamala Harris' presidential campaign.

The White House announced Monday that senior economic adviser Gene Sperling is stepping down to take the same role on Ms. Harris' campaign.

Mr. Sperling has a strong working relationship with Ms. Harris, having partnered with her when she was the California attorney general and he worked in the Obama administration. He also served as an outside adviser during Ms. Harris' time in the Senate, and the two worked closely on economic policy in the Biden administration.

In a statement, Mr. Biden said he made the right choice when he picked Mr. Sperling to help address the economic devastation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

— Jeff Mordock

MALLARD FILLMORE / Bruce Tinsley



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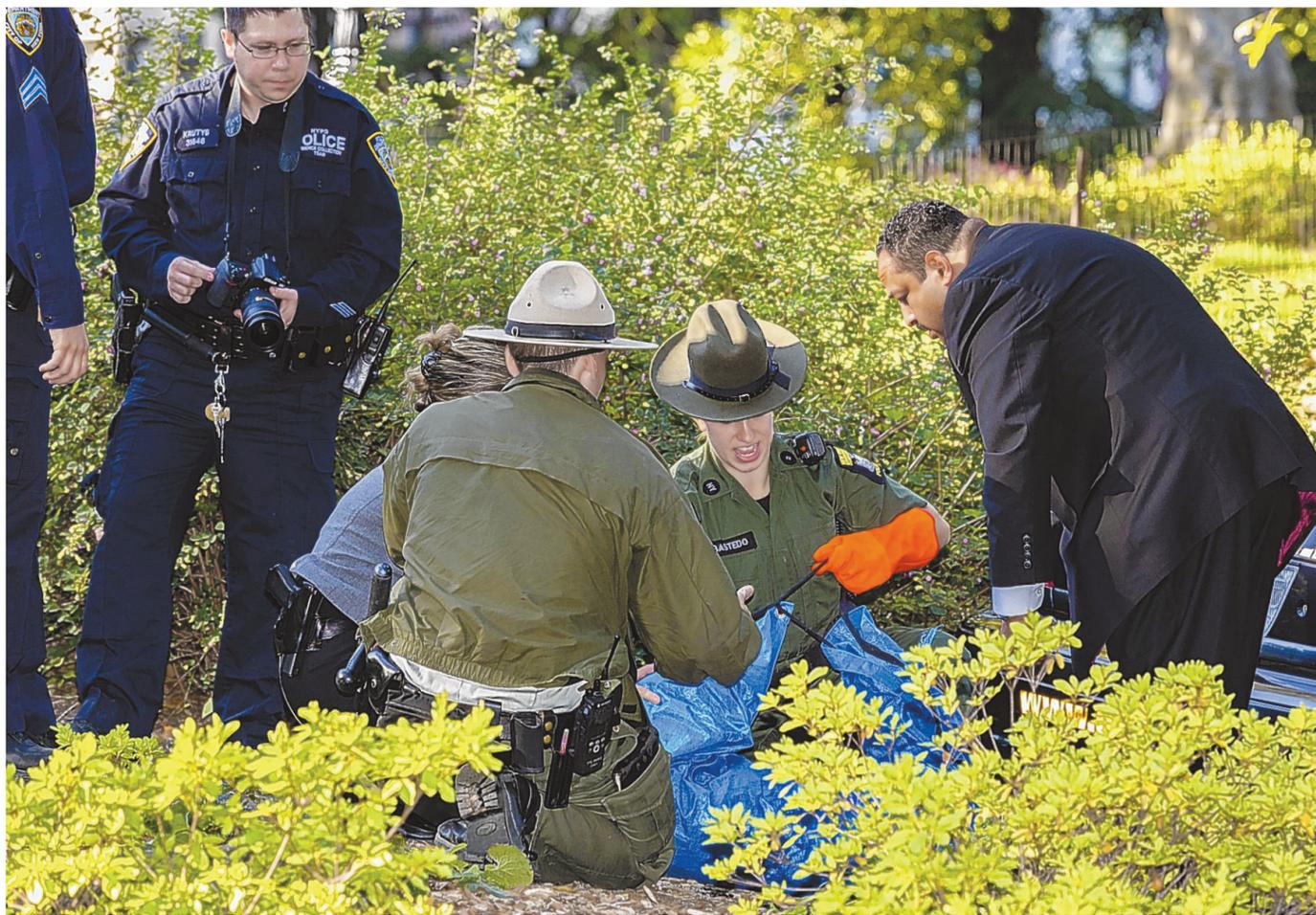
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# Politics



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

New York Police and New York State Environmental Conservation officers handle the body of bear cub that was found dead under bushes in Central Park on Oct. 6, 2014. Independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. admitted in a video that he left the bear in the park with a bicycle on top, sparking a mystery that gripped the city.

## CAMPAIGN 2024

# Kennedy admits staging 2014 death of roadkill bear cub

By **DAVE BOYER**

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

As if Robert Kennedy Jr.'s polling wasn't falling fast enough, now he's admitted to staging the death of a black bear cub in New York's Central Park.

The independent presidential candidate admitted in a video, recorded in an attempt to get ahead of an unflattering New Yorker article, that he picked up a roadkill carcass of a bear cub in October 2014 and ended up staging a crime scene in the park to make it look like a cyclist killed the bruin.

Initially, Mr. Kennedy told actress Roseanne Barr in the video posted on social media that he put the bear carcass in his vehicle, intending to take it home.

"I pulled over, I picked up the bear and put it in the back of my van," he said. "I was going to skin the bear, and it was in very good condition. And I was going to put the meat in my refrigerator. You can do that in New York — you can get



Kennedy

## Presidential candidate recorded video in attempt to get ahead of magazine article

a bear tag for a roadkill bear."

But Mr. Kennedy said he was on his way to dinner at a steakhouse in New York City, and the event went on longer than he expected. All the while, the bear carcass was still in his van.

By the end of the evening, he said, he and his friends hit upon another plan for the dead bear cub.

"I had an old bike in my car that somebody had asked me to get rid of, and I said, 'Let's go put the bear in Central Park and we'll make it look like he got hit by a bike,'" Mr. Kennedy recalled. "Everybody thought, 'That's a great idea,' so we did that. And we thought it would be amusing for whoever found it or something."

The bear was discovered the following morning by a woman walking in Central Park. The carcass was on top of an overturned bicycle.

The New York Police Department investigated and sent the bear carcass to a lab in Albany, which found the cause of death was "blunt force injuries consistent with a motor vehicle collision," according to The New York Times. The

story received widespread media coverage at the time.

Now, amid the presidential campaign, the bizarre tale is receiving national attention.

"I don't want to rush to judgment, but is RFK Jr. a looney?" actor and comedian Steve Martin posted on X. "There is an old saying, 'Sometimes the bear gets you, sometimes you find a roadkill bear, throw it in your van planning to eat it later that night but run out of time so you throw it in Central Park, put your own bike on the dead bear to make it appear to be a crime scene causing an expensive police investigation the next day.'"

The Democratic National Committee said the New Yorker story has accurately portrayed Mr. Kennedy as a "deeply troubled, reckless, and dangerous man."

"He doesn't think the rules apply to him and he refuses to consider the consequences of his actions," DNC spokesman Matt Corridoni said. "That is why he is willing to play the role of spoiler for Donald Trump in this election and why he has floated endorsing

Trump in exchange for a job in a Trump administration."

Democrats are concerned about a report that Mr. Kennedy's campaign manager is quoted in the New Yorker article saying that the post of health and human services secretary in a second Trump administration would be "incredibly interesting" to him.

There have been concerns among the camps of former President Donald Trump, the GOP nominee, and the Democrats that Mr. Kennedy would play a spoiler in the race.

Before President Biden dropped out of the race, Mr. Kennedy was polling around 15% nationally. But since Mr. Biden bowed out on July 21 and Vice President Kamala Harris took over at the top of the Democratic ticket, Mr. Kennedy's polling has fallen to about 6%.

That was before the dead bear cub story. The lengthy New Yorker article, which also covers Mr. Kennedy's drug addiction and sex scandals, includes a photo of him seated on the back bumper of his van with the bear carcass, his right hand in the bear's jaws as he mugs for the camera.

When presented with the photograph, Mr. Kennedy told the magazine: "Maybe that's where I got my brain worm."

## CALIFORNIA

# Clergy abuse victims rebuke Harris for not fighting for them

By **KERRY PICKET**

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Catholic clergy abuse victims in California strenuously objected when Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris described herself as a top-notch prosecutor who went after sex offenders during her time as San Francisco's district attorney.

Joey Piscitelli, 69, a clergy sex abuse victim and advocate for survivors of clergy sexual abuse, called Ms. Harris' depiction of her record as being tough on sex offenders "b\*\*\*\*\*."

"She was handed a room full of cases and boxes of names of sex offenders, and all that in the church right there under her nose," Mr. Piscitelli told The Washington Times.

"The priest that molested me in ministry with children under her nose in the city. I wrote her a letter and said, 'Hey, what about this guy? He's a rapist,'" he said. "He's with kids right now at the oldest Cathedral in San Francisco, right under your nose. What are you going to do? [She did] nothing."

Mr. Piscitelli said he was sexually molested by a priest more than 50 years ago at Salesian High School in Richmond, California. The abuse, he said, began when he was a freshman at

the school.

A jury awarded Mr. Piscitelli \$600,000 in 2006 from the priest and the Salesian Society, but that wasn't because of Ms. Harris' involvement.

Ms. Harris, who began her seven-year tenure as a San Francisco DA in 2004, refused to turn over personnel files of Catholic priests accused of sexual abuse within the San Francisco Archdiocese, according to her critics, which include San Francisco news outlets.

That's not the way Ms. Harris portrays her performance as a prosecutor and her qualifications to take on former President Donald Trump, the GOP nominee.

"As a prosecutor, I specialized in cases involving sexual abuse. Well, Trump was found liable for committing sexual abuse," Ms. Harris said at a Milwaukee rally on July 23. "I took on perpetrators of all kinds — predators who abused women, fraudsters who ripped off consumers, cheaters who broke the rules for their own gain. So, hear me when I say: I know Donald Trump's type."

The Washington Times reached out to the Harris campaign, but did not hear back.

Dan McNeveins, 65, who says he was molested by a priest when he was an

altar boy, said that when Ms. Harris talks about her record fighting sex offenders, he gets angry.

"She didn't do anything for survivors of Catholic priests," he told The Times. "I hope that in the last 20 years, Vice President Harris has reflected that she may have been on the wrong end of that equation and can change. I would like her to actually address the issue. She hasn't ever addressed what went on."

In 2010, San Francisco Weekly described how Ms. Harris refused to release the records to the paper when the outlet requested them in 2005.

Five years later, they followed up, and her office sent a statement saying: "District Attorney Harris focuses her efforts on putting child molesters in prison. We're not interested in selling out our victims to look good in the paper."

"When this case was brought under Terence Hallinan, prosecutors took the utmost care to protect the identity and dignity of the victims. That was the right thing to do then and it's the right thing to do now."

Mr. McNeveins and Mr. Piscitelli now help others as leaders at the California office of the Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests (SNAP).

According to SNAP, 211 clergy are

being sued for sex abuse offenses in the San Francisco Diocese, which includes San Francisco, Marin and San Mateo counties. The number of clergy there who have been accused or sued has reached 499.

Mr. Piscitelli handed out flyers in front of Ms. Harris' office in October 2005 demanding she and Cardinal William Levada, the former archbishop of San Francisco, "quit holding hands and remove clergy abusers from schools in San Francisco now!"

The flyer said: "Release your files and act like a DA who wants to protect children—and not a DA who wants to shield and protect child sex abusers!"

Mr. Piscitelli said many clergy abuse victims face obstacles including church officials who claim ignorance about an accused priest who may no longer be part of the diocese, be deceased, or that the statute of limitations on such crimes has expired.

In these situations, he said, the type of files Ms. Harris withheld are necessary to file civil suits.

"What was she gaining by withholding information from people who are in civil lawsuits? If she says, 'Well, I couldn't convict them, the statute had passed.' Okay. Why were you withholding it for people in civil lawsuits?"

## CAMPAIGN 2024

# Best bets for Trump are freedoms, economy

## Strategists prefer sticking to script

By **THOMAS BEAUMONT**

ASSOCIATED PRESS

One Republican strategist who has run campaigns against Donald Trump says he recognizes what the former president is doing against Vice President Kamala Harris, even as Mr. Trump swings back and forth between attacking her record and questioning her racial identity.

It's what he's done against other opponents.

"He figures out what their perceived weakness is and drills down on it," said Terry Sullivan, who was a senior adviser to Florida Sen. Marco Rubio's 2016 Republican presidential campaign. "He's spending a few weeks probing, and I think he needs to take that time."

Ms. Harris' entry into the presidential race after President Biden ended his reelection bid has changed basic assumptions about the campaign, as Democrats replaced an 81-year-old man with a fading ability to make his case with a 59-year-old woman who's drawing new enthusiasm. Mr. Trump's attacks on Ms. Harris' racial identity have caused some top Republicans to suggest Mr. Trump may be ignoring issues they see as favorable for him.

Marc Short, who was chief of staff to former Vice President Mike Pence, said he questions whether the Republican nominee will stick to the script his team prescribes.

"I think that there is a lot of time left. But I'm also not optimistic that you will see message discipline either," said Mr. Short, whose former boss renounced Mr. Trump after the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol. "It's hard to have confidence that there will be an orchestrated effort to highlight that because we will continue to do things like debating whether Harris is Indian American or African American."

Here's what top strategists think Trump should do.

In June, an AP-NORC survey found that about 4 in 10 American adults — and only about 1 in 10 Republicans — approved of the way Mr. Biden was handling the economy.

Most Republicans — 56% — say the outcome of the upcoming election is "extremely important" for the economy, according to an AP-NORC poll conducted in July. That's slightly higher than the 48% who say they feel the same way about immigration, another issue Mr. Trump has long prioritized.

"How many times have campaigns come down to, as Ronald Reagan said, 'Are you better off now than you were four years ago?'" said Mark Campbell, who managed Republican Glenn Youngkin's winning 2021 Virginia governor's race. "This year, the answer is a resounding no. But we haven't heard it put that simply yet, and they've had three weeks to say it."

One strategist argued that Mr. Trump needs to respond to the message Ms. Harris was building around protecting Americans' freedom — taking ownership of a word that Republicans often try to make a centerpiece of their campaigns.

Ms. Harris and other Democrats have campaigned on enshrining reproductive rights after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade two years ago. She's also brought up Mr. Trump's felony conviction in New York for participating in a hush-money scheme to influence the 2016 election — a case for which he faces possible prison time — and highlighted her background as a prosecutor and former attorney general. She has argued Mr. Trump is not just a threat to democracy but will take away the freedom to have an abortion and be safe from gun violence.

As if to put a fine point on the message, Ms. Harris' campaign walkout song is "Freedom" by Beyoncé.

Mr. Sullivan, the former Rubio senior adviser, said Mr. Trump had run a smart campaign up until Mr. Biden was replaced and cautioned against writing off his ability to find a new message.

By the end of the 2016 primary campaign, Mr. Trump had branded Mr. Rubio as "Little Marco" and knocked him out of the race with a rout in Mr. Rubio's native Florida.

## CAMPAIGN 2024

## Harris zeroes in on running mate as pick reveal nears

By Jeff Mordock  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Vice President Kamala Harris' search for a running mate entered its final hours Monday one day after interviewing the three top candidates.

Ms. Harris could announce her choice any time as she prepares for her first public appearance with the vice presidential pick Tuesday in Philadelphia.

The Harris campaign is expected to reveal the selection on social media.

On Sunday, Ms. Harris conducted final interviews with three top candidates — Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, Sen. Mark Kelly of Arizona and Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro — at her residence in Washington.

Ms. Harris spent Friday meeting with Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear is also said to still be in the mix.

Mr. Shapiro is the betting favorite to land the job, but progressives have been pushing her to choose Mr. Walz.

Young progressive and pro-Palestinian activists have criticized Mr. Shapiro, who is Jewish, for his strong support for Israel and handling of college protests of the war in Gaza.

He also has been criticized for promoting school voucher programs that send public tax dollars to private schools.

Mr. Shapiro could help Ms. Harris capture Pennsylvania and its 19 electoral votes, which is crucial to Democrats'

path to a White House victory.

Mr. Walz is a darling among progressives, but critics have complained about his delay in calling in the National Guard to contain the rioting in Minneapolis following the death of George Floyd in May 2020. He is also not as well known on the national stage as other contenders and Minnesota is already likely in the blue column.

He spent 12 years in Congress representing rural communities and knows how to relate to those voters, which could appeal to residents in the blue wall states of Wisconsin, Michigan, and Pennsylvania.

Mr. Kelly is a hawk on immigration, which could help shore up a weakness for Ms. Harris. His background

as a former Navy combat pilot, space shuttle pilot and the husband of former Rep. Gabby Giffords, who was almost killed in a 2011 shooting, brings star power and could blunt some of the male support for former President Donald Trump.

However, Democrats fear that if Mr. Kelly leaves his Senate seat, it could jeopardize control of the chamber. It is possible a Republican would win a special election in Arizona to finish Mr. Kelly's term.

He has also been criticized by the United Auto Workers union for his early opposition to a bill that would support labor unions. However, Mr. Kelly has recently backtracked and said he would support the bill.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vice President Kamala Harris is expected to make her first public appearance with her pick to be her presidential running mate Tuesday in Philadelphia.

## CAMPAIGN

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across the campaign, the Democratic National Committee, state Democratic parties and various fundraising committees.

Democratic voters are left to ponder how she secured the nomination without winning a single primary vote while Biden donors wake up to their money sitting in Ms. Harris' coffers.

Ms. Harris is bringing in a deluge of contributions in her own right.

As of Thursday, her campaign bank account had ballooned to \$377 million.

The campaign of former President Donald Trump filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission saying the transfer of those funds violated campaign finance laws. The complaint was filed against Mr. Biden, Ms. Harris, the Biden campaign and campaign treasurer Keanna Spencer.

"Kamala Harris is seeking to perpetrate a \$91.5 million heist of Joe Biden's leftover campaign cash — a brazen money grab that would constitute the single largest excessive contribution and biggest violation in the history of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971," the Trump campaign wrote in the complaint.

The core of Mr. Trump's argument is that Ms. Harris replaced Mr. Biden's name with hers rather than filing her own statement of candidacy. The complaint to the FEC contends that no provision in federal campaign law allows for the repurposing of one candidate's campaign for the use of another candidate.

In a statement, a Harris campaign spokesperson dismissed the FEC complaint as meritless.

"Republicans may be jealous that Democrats are energized to defeat Donald Trump and his MAGA allies, but baseless claims — like the ones they've made for years to try to suppress votes



Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission saying the vice president is "seeking to perpetrate a \$91.5 million heist" of campaign contributions from the opponent he anticipated.

and steal elections — will only distract them while we sign up volunteers, talk to voters and win this election," said spokesperson Charles Kretschmer Lutvak.

The transfer of money and assets is unprecedented in U.S. history. Federal law states that any "campaign depository" for a presidential candidate "shall be the campaign depository for that political party's candidate for the office of the vice president."

Some argue that means Ms. Harris is entitled to Mr. Biden's cash because she has been jointly listed in his campaign's FEC filings since she became his running mate in 2020.

Mr. Smith said that under the law, the Biden-Harris team must be formally nominated by their party before the money can be shifted. Under that interpretation, Mr. Biden wouldn't be able to transfer the donations and assets until

after the Democratic National Convention later this month.

"You can't say that because Harris was nominated to be Biden's vice president in 2020, that she is automatically on this committee," Mr. Smith said. "Biden could drop her from the ticket, she could challenge Biden in a primary and decide to quit being vice president and run for Senate in California. In all of those scenarios, she'd have to start her own campaign committee."

"She doesn't get to piggyback off Biden indefinitely," he said.

Trevor Potter, a Republican former chairman of the Federal Election Commission, disagreed. He said Ms. Harris was entitled to Mr. Biden's cash and campaign assets because she was part of his election committee.

"Specifically, because Biden and Harris share a campaign committee, the vice president and her running mate can



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Vice President Kamala Harris has embraced President Biden's transfer of field offices, campaign staff, contributions and even domain name, but a change of names on the Democratic Party's presidential ticket isn't so simple.

continue using the campaign's existing funds for the general election if she is on the Democratic ticket as either the presidential or vice presidential nominee," he said.

Daniel I. Weiner, director of the Brennan Center for Justice Elections & Government Program, authored an op-ed saying he interprets the law to favor Ms. Harris, but he acknowledged room for legal argument on whether that is correct.

He said the same law that allows Mr. Biden to transfer his assets to Ms. Harris hamstring her ability to solicit funds. Under the FEC rules, two candidates running under one ticket are subject to a single set of contribution limits. That means if wealthy donors max out their legal contributions to the Biden campaign, the Harris campaign cannot go back and solicit more money from them. If the Harris campaign were considered

separate from Mr. Biden's campaign, she would be able to ask these donors for more money.

Regardless of how the complaint shakes out, it's likely to have little impact on the election. The FEC is notoriously slow in resolving disputes.

Under the FEC's statute, it takes 60 days for its commissioners to act on a complaint, meaning the agency will not even touch the case until mid-October.

Complex cases such as this usually take one to five years to resolve, meaning voters would be lucky to have an answer before the 2028 election campaign.

The Trump campaign could file a federal court petition asking a judge to issue an injunction blocking Ms. Harris from receiving the funds, but Mr. Smith said that gambit would likely fail.

"What federal judge is going to issue an injunction so close to the election?" He said. "No judge is going to do that."

## TERROR

From page A1

routine for the Biden-Harris administration," said the report, prepared by the Republican staff of the House Judiciary Committee and released by Chairman Jim Jordan, Ohio Republican.

The number of terrorism suspects detected has been known, but what happened to them has been closely guarded by the Biden administration.

Republicans on Capitol Hill have been pressing to make the data public. The report says the data came from the Homeland Security Department in June.

The Washington Times has reached out to the department for comment.

In testimony on Capitol Hill, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas has acknowledged that some are being released and others detained.

"If an individual is on the terrorist screening dataset, and they pose a threat to national security or public safety, they are a priority for detention," he said in an April appearance before the House Homeland Security Committee.

The rate of border terrorism arrests has been down significantly in recent months, suggesting some changes in the pattern of new arrivals.

In June, the Border Patrol arrested three people whose identities triggered the watchlist. That was the lowest number in a single month since Homeland

Security began reporting the numbers in 2022.

Still, watchlist arrests don't tell the whole story.

The new report argues that "untold scores of potential terrorists" have entered the U.S. but weren't on the watchlist at the time they were first encountered.

"That is a bigger concern," FBI Director Christopher A. Wray told Congress late last month.

He pointed to the case of eight Tajik migrants. Authorities had to go out into communities and arrest them on immigration charges after belatedly concluding they were terrorist risks.

The new report said three of the Tajiks came into the U.S. thanks to a special

"parole" program created by the Biden administration. That program grants leniency to unauthorized migrants who preschedule their arrivals at border crossings using a smartphone app.

Four more of the Tajik migrants were arrested by Border Patrol agents and subsequently released. The remaining one was admitted through a border crossing despite not having used the smartphone app.

The new committee report said cases like that undercut Mr. Mayorkas' assurances.

"As DHS's release into the U.S. of potential terrorists illustrates, Secretary Mayorkas's statement is wrong and DHS's vetting of illegal aliens at the border is insufficient to uncover derogatory

information on potentially dangerous aliens," the staff report said.

Mr. Wray, in his testimony last month, said the danger of a terrorist being inserted into the U.S. is rising, thanks to the immigration system.

He said he is worried about "soft target" attacks like the one Islamic State terrorists pulled off in Russia this spring when they killed more than 140 people at a concert hall.

"I am increasingly concerned that foreign terrorists could seek to exploit vulnerabilities at our southwest border or at other ports of entry or other aspects of our immigration system to facilitate an attack here in the United States," Mr. Wray told the House Judiciary Committee.

## GOOGLE

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277-page ruling.

He said Google's dominance in the search market is evidence of its monopoly.

Google "enjoys an 89.2% share of the market for general search services, which increases to 94.9% on mobile devices," the ruling said.

The judge's decision represents a major setback for Google and its parent, Alphabet Inc., which steadfastly argued that its popularity stemmed from consumers' overwhelming desire to use a search engine so good at what it does that the word has become synonymous with looking things up online.

Google's search engine processes an estimated 8.5 billion queries per day worldwide, nearly doubling its daily volume from 12 years ago, according to a recent study released by the investment firm BOND.

Kent Walker, Google's president of global affairs, said the company intends to appeal Judge Mehta's findings.

"This decision recognizes that Google offers the best search engine, but concludes that we shouldn't be allowed to

make it easily available," he said.

For now, the decision vindicates antitrust regulators at the Justice Department, which filed its lawsuit nearly four years ago while Donald Trump was president, and has been escalating its efforts to rein in Big Tech's power during President Biden's administration.

"This victory against Google is an historic win for the American people," said Attorney General Merrick Garland.

"No company — no matter how large or influential — is above the law. The Justice Department will continue to vigorously enforce our antitrust laws," he said.

The case depicted Google as a technological bully that has methodically thwarted competition to protect a search engine that has become the centerpiece of a digital advertising machine, which generated nearly \$240 billion in revenue last year.

Justice Department attorneys argued that Google's monopoly enabled it to charge advertisers artificially high prices while enjoying the luxury of having to invest more time and money into improving the quality of its search engine — a lax approach that hurt consumers.

Judge Mehta's ruling focused on the

billions of dollars Google spends every year to install its search engine as the default option on new cellphones and other technological gadgets.

In 2021 alone, Google spent more than \$26 billion to lock in those default agreements, Judge Mehta noted in his ruling.

Google ridiculed those allegations, noting that consumers have historically changed search engines when they become disillusioned with the results they were getting. Yahoo, now a minor player on the internet, was the most popular search engine during the 1990s before Google came along.

Judge Mehta said the evidence at trial showed the importance of the default settings. He noted that Microsoft's Bing search engine has an 80% share of the search market on the Microsoft Edge browser.

The judge said that shows other search engines can be successful if Google is not locked in as the predetermined default option.

Still, Judge Mehta credited the quality of Google's product as an important part of its dominance. "Google is widely recognized as the best [general search engine] available in the United States," he said.

The Consumer Choice Center, a lobbying group that has fought other

attempts to rein in businesses, decried Judge Mehta's decision as a step in the wrong direction.

"The United States is drifting toward the anti-tech posture of the European Union, a part of the world that makes almost nothing and penalizes successful American companies for their popularity," said Yael Ossowski, the center's deputy director.

Judge Mehta's conclusion that Google has been running an illegal monopoly sets up another legal phase to determine what sorts of changes or penalties should be imposed to reverse the damage and restore a more competitive landscape.

The outcome could result in a wide-ranging order requiring Google to dismantle some of the pillars of its internet empire or prevent it from shelling out more than \$20 billion annually to ensure its search engine automatically answers queries on the iPhone and other internet-connected devices. After the next phase, the judge could conclude that only modest changes are required to level the playing field.

"Google's loss in its search antitrust trial could be a huge deal — depending on the remedy," said Emarketer senior analyst Evelyn Mitchell-Wolf.

"A forced divestiture of the search

business would sever Alphabet from its largest source of revenue. But even losing its capacity to strike exclusive default agreements could be detrimental for Google. Its ubiquity is its biggest strength, especially as competition heats up among AI-powered search alternatives," she said.

Regardless, she said, a drawn-out appeals process will delay any immediate effects for consumers and advertisers.

Lee Hepner, senior legal counsel for the American Economic Liberties Project, said the tenor of Judge Mehta's ruling indicates that the judge will prohibit Google from making default search deals and may even look at separating some of its lines of business.

The appeals process could take as long as five years, said George Hay, a law professor at Cornell University who was the chief economist for the Justice Department's antitrust division for most of the 1970s.

That lengthy process will enable Google to fend off the likelihood of Judge Mehta banning default search agreements, Mr. Hay said, but it probably won't shield the company from class-action lawsuits citing the judge's findings that advertisers were gouged with monopolistic pricing.

## MARKETS

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prosperity, or the Kamala crash & great depression of 2024.”

Sen. Tom Cotton, Arkansas Republican, posted on X: “If you think the economy is bad today, putting a San Francisco socialist in charge would make it much worse.”

Ms. Harris has been trying to calibrate her economic message as she takes over the Democratic campaign. “Bidenomics” has not sat well with voters who, despite a good employment picture for the past few years, have faced punishing price increases that canceled out wage gains.

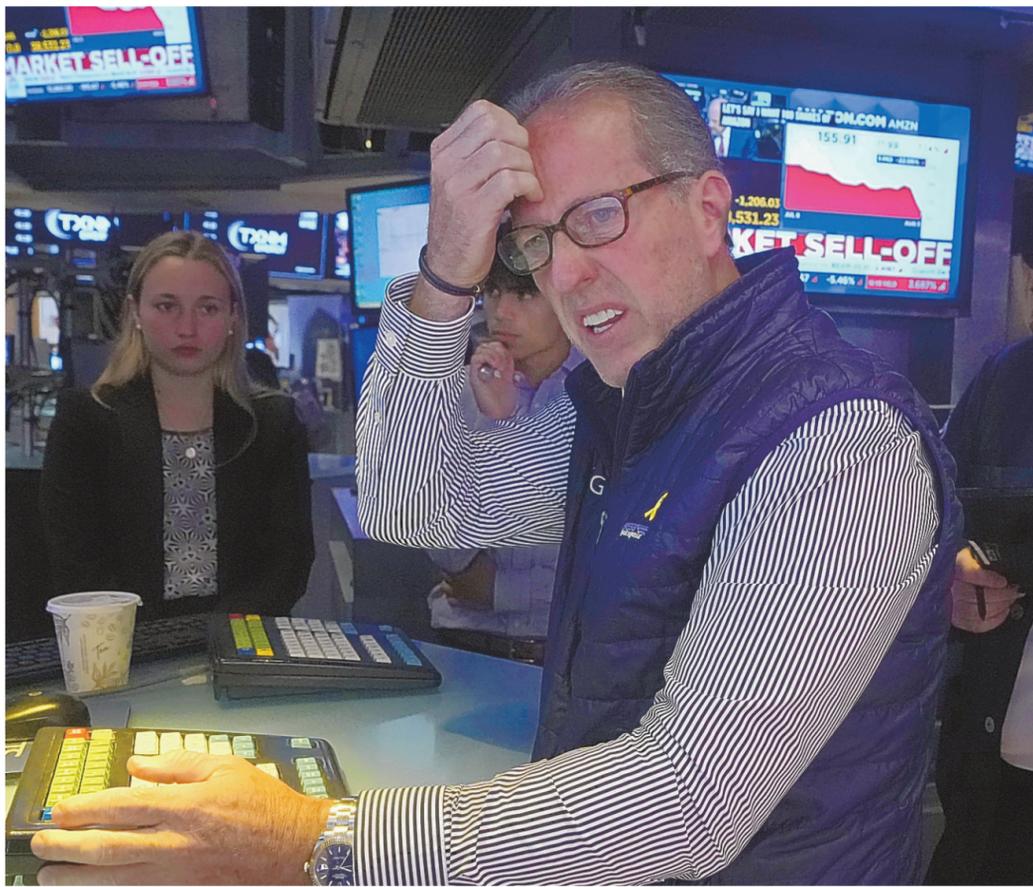
Sen. J.D. Vance of Ohio, the Republican vice presidential nominee, will hold a campaign event in Philadelphia on Tuesday hours before Ms. Harris introduces her running mate to Democratic voters in the city. The Trump campaign gave a preview of Mr. Vance's visit by saying, “The stock market is crashing because of weak and failed Kamala Harris’ policies. ... In weak, failed, and dangerously liberal Kamala Harris’ America, families are struggling to afford the basics and stay safe.”

The Trump campaign said Pennsylvania families have had to pay an average of \$958 more per month because of higher prices.

On Wall Street, some traders began wondering whether the damage was so severe that the Fed would have to cut interest rates in an emergency meeting before its next scheduled decision on Sept. 18. The central bank took no action on rates at its meeting last week.

“The Fed could ride in on a white horse to save the day with a big rate cut, but the case for an inter-meeting cut seems flimsy,” said Brian Jacobsen, chief economist at Annex Wealth Management. “Those are usually reserved for emergencies like COVID, and an unemployment rate of 4.3% doesn't really seem like an emergency.”

Some of Wall Street's recent declines may also be air coming out of a stock market that has ballooned to dozens of record highs this year, in part on a frenzy around AI technology and hopes



Nearly everything on Wall Street was tumbling Monday as fear about a slowing U.S. economy worsened and set off another sell-off for financial markets around the world. Customers using online brokerage firms were further worried by outages.

for coming cuts to interest rates. Critics have been saying for a while that the stock market looked expensive after prices rose faster than corporate profits.

“Markets tend to move higher like they're climbing stairs, and they go down like they're falling out of a window,” said J.J. Kinahan, CEO of IG North America. He attributed much of the recent volatility to euphoria about AI subsidies and “a market that was ahead of itself.”

Professional investors pointed to the Bank of Japan's move last week

to raise its primary interest rate from nearly zero. Such a move helps boost the value of the Japanese yen, but it also could force traders to scramble out of deals for which they borrowed money at virtually no cost in Japan and invested it elsewhere around the world.

In some positive economic news Monday, a report said growth for U.S. service businesses was slightly stronger than expected. According to the Institute for Supply Management, growth was led

by businesses in the arts, entertainment and recreation industries, along with accommodations and food services. Treasury yields also pared their drops after the better-than-expected data.

Others pointed to second-quarter annualized growth of 2.8% in the U.S., which was much stronger than expected.

For most of the year, investors worldwide drove stock markets higher, convinced that central banks were successfully, if haltingly, getting inflation under control. They were buoyed by a

healthy U.S. economy and the promise of artificial intelligence.

By June, Nvidia, the leader in AI chipmaking, had joined Apple and Microsoft as \$3 trillion companies. In mid-July, the S&P 500, Nasdaq composite and Japan's Nikkei 225 had risen to record highs. Investors thought the high interest rates implemented by the Federal Reserve were taming inflation without causing a sharp slowdown in the U.S. economy, the world's largest.

That confidence has taken a hit the past few days. Investors are listening to warnings that Nvidia and other Big Tech stocks have become too expensive and that massive spending on AI might not turn into profits for a while.

As the markets plummeted Monday, several online brokerage firms, including Charles Schwab, Fidelity and Vanguard, appeared to be down for thousands of users.

User reports appeared to peak around and just before 10 a.m., data from outage tracker Downdetector showed. Some frustrated customers online said that they were unable to log in or access their account balances.

“Due to a technical issue, some clients may have difficulty logging in to Schwab platforms,” Charles Schwab wrote on social media platform X. “Please accept our apologies as our teams work to resolve the issue as quickly as possible.”

By midday, Schwab confirmed that the issue had been resolved.

A Fidelity spokesperson told The Associated Press via email that the company was aware that some customers were experiencing “intermittent issues” earlier in the day but said that had been resolved.

Vanguard did not return a request for comment.

At Charles Schwab's peak, users reported nearly 15,000 outages around 9:50 a.m., per Downdetector. Fidelity and Vanguard had 3,800 and 2,900 outages, respectively, closer to 10 a.m. User reports appeared to fall notably for all three platforms about an hour later.

• *Stephen Dinan contributed to this article, which is based in part on wire service reports.*

## DRONE

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agencies, police departments and large numbers of commercial drone users say the idea that the U.S. or allied countries could fill the gap in a short period is flatly unrealistic.

“We're an American company and we support American [drone] manufacturers,” Jeremy Schneiderman, CEO of consulting firm Drone Nerds, told AgFunderNews.com. “But our job is to provide our customers with the best solution to get their spraying done. Today those solutions happen to be non-American solutions, and we would be doing a disservice to our customers by bringing them products with fewer features, that are less reliable and are three times the price.”

Government agencies and private-sector companies use DJI drones for surveillance operations, land management, tracking wildfires and other missions. On farms, the DJI drones can apply pesticides and herbicides more effectively and with more precision than traditional crop-dusting techniques, advocates say.

DJI officials called the Senate's apparent decision to drop the drone ban language from its version of the NDAA a “positive development” but said the fight isn't over.

“The lawmakers driving this legislation continue to reference inaccurate and unsubstantiated allegations regarding DJI's operations, and have amplified xenophobic narratives in a quest to

support local drone manufacturers and eliminate market competition,” DJI said in a company blog.

### Government links

The close links between major Chinese companies and the communist regime in Beijing have amplified U.S. fears of DJI's market dominance. Some lawmakers argue that security concerns should trump any temporary disruption to American drone supply markets.

“Congress must use every tool at our disposal to stop Communist China's monopolistic control over the drone market and telecommunications infrastructure and build up America's industrial capacity,” Rep. Elise Stefanik, New York Republican, said in March when she introduced the bill.

The provision in the Senate committee's NDAA draft requires a Defense Department task force to review counter-drone activities and develop a strategy for counter-drone technology. It also provides more funding for developing designs and manufacturing techniques for low-cost drones and an artificial intelligence program for the systems.

DJI and U.S. commercial drone users warn that the Countering CCP Drones Act blocks new DJI products from entering the U.S. and could lead the Federal Communications Commission to revoke authorization of Chinese-made drones already in use.

“If this passes, U.S. operators would no longer be able to access new DJI drones, and their existing drone fleets may even need to be grounded,” the

company said in a statement after the bill was introduced.

Supporters of the bill say the provision focuses on the market in the future and fears of federal bans on Chinese-made drones already in use are overblown.

Proponents also cite a 2017 report by the Homeland Security Department's investigative arm that assessed with “moderate confidence” that DJI was providing U.S. critical infrastructure and law enforcement data to Beijing. The agency “further assessed [d] with high confidence the company is selectively targeting government and privately owned entities within these sectors to expand its ability to collect and exploit sensitive U.S. data.”

“If America is to prevail in this era of great power competition, the U.S. government cannot be using drones manufactured by our adversaries,” said Rep. Robert Wittman, Virginia Republican.

The legislation would add DJI to an FCC “covered list,” effectively blocking the company's drones from running on communications infrastructure in the U.S.

### Drones and decoupling

The clash provides a window into the intensifying debate over whether and how to “decouple” or “de-risk” the American and Chinese economies. The two nations are engaged in a fierce economic and military rivalry but annually trade hundreds of billions of dollars in goods and services.

The Trump and Biden

administrations have moved to curb or prevent Chinese companies in telecommunications, computer chips, electric vehicles and other cutting-edge technologies from having unfettered access to the U.S. market.

DJI argues it is the market leader not because of its government's clout or financial backing but because it created the commercial and consumer drone segment with the 2013 release of its DJI Phantom model.

“Since then, we have helped spur the emergence of today's vibrant U.S. drone ecosystem and have invested heavily in robust safety and security initiatives along the way,” the company said. “This is why operators continue to rely on our products today.”

Public safety agencies that rely on drones have contacted the Senate Armed Services Committee to oppose the Chinese drone restrictions. They say the act would compromise their ability to respond to emergencies.

A statement by advocacy groups, including the Airborne Public Safety Association and the Law Enforcement Drone Association, said relying on “unproven alternatives” to established Chinese drone technology would be impractical and dangerous.

“Simply put, we have not reached parity with China's drone technology,” the groups said.

U.S. agricultural interests were so concerned about a ban or near ban on Chinese drones that several rival companies formed a coalition to lobby Congress.

Critics of the drones accused DJI of collecting vast amounts of sensitive data, including high-resolution images of critical U.S. infrastructure and facial recognition technology. The company insists its drones don't collect photos or videos by default.

Some analysts consider DJI a security threat despite the popularity of its drones in the consumer and commercial sectors. Irina Tsukerman, a New York-based geopolitical analyst, said intelligence reports point to a “high possibility” that Chinese technology in drones and other types of technology could be used for espionage.

“Collection of private and public data could assist Chinese efforts in achieving technological and military dominance against the U.S. and could also be used to target American citizens and industries in other areas,” she told The Associated Press.

It wasn't clear when the House and Senate versions of the 2025 NDAA would be reconciled. Before negotiations can begin, the full Senate must vote on the Armed Services Committee draft.

Chinese officials appear to be enjoying the Americans' dilemma.

“I believe the [Senate's] action wasn't merely a goodwill gesture; rather, it reflects the reality that there hasn't been a suitable alternative found in the realm of drones to replace Chinese products,” Zhou Mi, a senior research fellow at the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation, recently told the government-linked Global Times news website.

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# Nation

## LOUISIANA

# State AG eyes dismissal of lawsuit against Ten Commandments law

By **SARA CLINE**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**BATON ROUGE, LA.** | Louisiana's attorney general announced Monday that she is asking a federal court to dismiss a lawsuit that seeks to overturn the state's new law requiring the Ten Commandments to be displayed by Jan. 1 in every public school classroom.

The suit was filed in June by parents of Louisiana public school children with various religious backgrounds who contend the law violates First Amendment language forbidding government establishment of religion and guaranteeing religious liberty.

Proponents of the law argue that it is not solely religious but that the Ten Commandments have historical

Says case is premature, plaintiffs can't prove 'actual injury'

significance to the foundation of U.S. law.

As students in Louisiana prepare to return to school later this month, state officials presented large examples of posters featuring the Ten Commandments that Attorney General Liz Murrill argues "constitutionally comply with the law."

The Republican said she is not aware of any school districts that have begun to implement the mandate, as the posters "haven't been produced yet."

Ms. Murrill said the court brief being filed, which was not immediately available, argues that "the lawsuit is premature and the plaintiffs cannot prove that they have any actual injury."



Murrill

Ms. Murrill pointed to more than a dozen posters on display during Monday's press conference to support her argument that the displays can be done constitutionally, saying that they also show the Ten Commandments'

"That's because they don't allege to have seen any displays yet and they certainly can't allege that they have seen any display of the Ten Commandments that violates their constitutional rights," she added.

historical and cultural significance.

Some of the posters featured quotes referencing the Ten Commandments from such recent figures as Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Martin Luther King Jr., and House Speaker Mike Johnson.

Other posters took a more irreverent approach, even using memes.

One example was a poster that included a photo from the 2004 film "Mean Girls," where a main character played by Rachel McAdams says, "Why are you so obsessed with me?" The meme was surrounded by news headlines about the lawsuit filed against the new mandate.

Another display featured the Ten

Commandments next to the lyrics from the "Ten Duel Commandments," a song from Lin-Manuel Miranda's Tony-award winning musical "Hamilton."

"Each one of these posters illustrates something that we believe represents a constitutional application of the law," Ms. Murrill said.

Based on the law's language, "each public school governing authority" will decide exactly what their posters will look like. The Ten Commandments must be displayed on a poster or framed document at least 11 inches by 14 inches (28 by 36 centimeters) where the commandments are the central focus and "printed in a large, easily readable font." In addition, each poster must be paired with the four-paragraph context statement.



TAMPA BAY TIMES VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tropical Storm Debby made landfall as a hurricane early Monday near Steinatchee, Florida, and forecasters caution residents than record-setting rain could lead to potentially catastrophic flooding. Some areas have received 10 to 12 inches of rain.

## WEATHER

# Debby wallops Florida; 4 dead as storm threatens Southern cities

By **JEFF MARTIN AND CHRISTOPHER O'MEARA**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**HORSESHOE BEACH, FLA.** | Tropical Storm Debby slammed Florida with torrential rain and high winds, contributing to at least four deaths in the state as it turned menacingly toward the Eastern Seaboard's low-lying regions and threatened to flood some of America's most historic Southern cities.

Record-setting rain was expected to cause flash flooding, with up to 30 inches possible in some areas, the National Hurricane Center said.

The potential for high water threatened Savannah, Georgia, and Charleston, South Carolina. Up to 18 inches was forecast in central and north Florida.

A flash flood emergency was issued into Monday evening for the Lake City area, where up to a foot of rain had fallen and more was expected.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis warned that just because the storm is moving into Georgia, it doesn't mean the state won't continue to see threats as waterways north of the border fill up and

flow south.

"It is a very saturating, wet storm," he said in an afternoon briefing at the state's emergency operations center.

"When they crest and the water that's going to come down from Georgia, it's just something that we're going to be on alert for not just throughout today, but for the next week," he said.

Debby made landfall along the Gulf Coast of Florida early Monday as a Category 1 hurricane. It has since weakened to a tropical storm and is moving slowly, covering roads with water and contributing to at least five deaths.

A truck driver died on Interstate 75 in the Tampa area after he lost control of his tractor trailer, which flipped over a concrete wall and dangled over the edge before the cab dropped into the water below.

Sheriff's office divers found the driver, a 64-year-old man from Mississippi, in the cab 40 feet below the surface, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

A 13-year-old boy died Monday morning after a tree fell on a mobile home southwest of Gainesville, according to

the Levy County Sheriff's Office.

And in Dixie County, just east of where the storm made landfall, a 38-year-old woman and a 12-year-old boy died in a car crash on wet roads Sunday night. The Florida Highway Patrol said a 14-year-old boy who was a passenger was hospitalized with serious injuries.

In southern Georgia, a 19-year-old man died Monday afternoon when a large tree fell onto a porch at a home in Moultrie, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported.

Nearly 200,000 customers remained without power in Florida and Georgia on Monday afternoon, down from a peak of more than 350,000, according to PowerOutage.us and Georgia Electric Membership Corp.

Mr. DeSantis said some 17,000 linemen were working to restore electricity. He warned residents in affected areas to stay off the roads until conditions are safe.

Airports were also affected. More than 1,600 flights had been canceled nationwide, many of them to and from Florida airports, according to FlightAware.com.

## KANSAS

# Prosecutors say they'll charge former police chief over newspaper raid

## Report: Journalists committed no crime

By **JOHN HANNA**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**TOPEKA, KAN.** | Two special prosecutors said Monday that they plan to file a criminal obstruction of justice charge against a former central Kansas police chief over his conduct following a raid last year on his town's newspaper.

In a lengthy report summarizing the findings of their investigation, the special prosecutors, Sedgwick County District Attorney Marc Bennett and Riley County Attorney Barry Wilkerson, note that the staff of the newspaper that was raided, the Marion County Record, committed no crimes.

It wasn't clear whether they planned to charge former Marion Police Chief Gideon Cody with a felony or a misdemeanor, and either is possible. The prosecutors also hadn't filed their criminal case as of Monday.

It could be days before they file it because they were working with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, which stepped in at the request of its Kansas counterpart.

There was no immediate response to a voicemail left at a possible cellphone number for Mr. Cody, and it wasn't clear who might be representing him in the potential criminal case. Attorneys defending Mr. Cody in federal lawsuits that were filed over the raid did not immediately reply to a message seeking comment.

The prosecutors detailed events before, during and after the Aug. 11, 2023, raid on the Record and the home of its publisher, Eric Meyer. The report suggested that Marion police, who were led at the time by Mr. Cody, conducted a poor investigation that led them to "reach erroneous conclusions" that Mr. Meyer and reporter Phyllis Zorn had committed identity theft or other computer crimes.

But the prosecutors concluded that they have probable cause to believe that Mr. Cody obstructed an official judicial process.

They said two pages of a written statement from a business owner in September 2023 were not turned over to investigators about six weeks after the raid. Mr. Cody had accused Mr. Meyer and Ms. Zorn of identity theft and other computer crimes related to the business owner's driving record to get warrants for the raid.

The report also makes a passing reference to text messages between Mr. Cody and the business owner after the raid. The business owner has said that Mr. Cody asked her to delete text messages between them, fearing people could get wrong ideas about their relationship, which she said was professional and platonic.

"The findings will be incorporated into charges which will be sought in Marion County District Court," the special prosecutors wrote in their report.

Mr. Bennett and Mr. Wilkerson concluded that neither Mr. Meyer nor Ms. Zorn committed any crimes in verifying information in the business owner's driving record through a database available online from the state. Their report suggested Marion police conducted a poor investigation to "reach erroneous conclusions."

The raid sparked a national debate about press freedoms focused on Marion, a town of about 1,900 people set among rolling prairie hills about 150 miles southwest of Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Cody resigned as chief in early October, weeks after officers were forced to return materials seized in the raid.

Mr. Meyer's 98-year-old mother, Joan Meyer, who co-owned the paper and lived with him, died the day after the raid from a heart attack. Mr. Meyer attributed her death to the stress of the raid.

## WASHINGTON

# Longtime AG, sheriff who helped catch serial killer seek governor's seat

By **HALLIE GOLDEN**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**SEATTLE** | Washington state's longtime attorney general and a former sheriff known for his work hunting down the Green River Killer are vying to become the next governor of a Democratic stronghold that hasn't had an open race for the state's top job in more than a decade.

Democrat Bob Ferguson, who has served as attorney general since 2013, will face former U.S. Rep. Dave Reichert in Tuesday's primary elections in a race that has featured weeks of intense sparring between the two frontrunners in a field of more than two dozen candidates.

Mr. Ferguson has framed Mr. Reichert, a Republican, as a two-faced candidate whose more moderate rhetoric during this campaign does not align with statements he has made in private or his actions in Congress. Meanwhile, Mr. Reichert has painted Mr. Ferguson as a candidate who wouldn't change anything about the state, while providing

a continuation of "one-party rule."

Under Washington's primary system, the top two vote-getters in Tuesday's races advance to the November election, regardless of party. Experts predict Mr. Ferguson will face Mr. Reichert in November.

Military veteran Semi Bird is also a key figure in the race after being endorsed by the Washington State Republican Party. But he has become a polarizing figure amid accusations of mischaracterizing his military service, as well as a guilty plea to bank larceny in 1993 for putting his father's name and Social Security number on a credit application. Mr. Bird said he has not been convicted of a crime since then and regrets what he did.

Democrat Mark Mullet, a state senator from Issaquah, has garnered attention as a moderate candidate who would bring the perspective of a small-business owner.

The success of a Republican candidate in the governor's race will depend on their ability to build crossover appeal to independent voters and moderate

Democrats, said Sandeep Kaushik, a Democratic political consultant with Sound View Strategies.

"The only way a Republican can win a statewide race in Washington state is if they convince voters in the middle of the state, who lean blue, that they're a different kind of Republican and willing to meet those voters halfway, willing to break with MAGA, break with the Republican Party," Mr. Kaushik said. "Reichert has done none of that, so far as I can see."

The campaign between Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Reichert has consistently focused on abortion. Mr. Ferguson's team often references Mr. Reichert's history of voting for a nationwide ban on abortion starting at 20 weeks of pregnancy as evidence of him being "wildly out of touch with the majority of Washingtonians."

Abortion has long been legal in Washington until viability, a determination left up to the judgment of a health care provider, and after that in cases where the pregnant individual's health or life is threatened.

Mr. Reichert has pushed back on Mr. Ferguson's characterization and said his only plan for the state's abortion law if elected governor is to enforce and support it. He accused Mr. Ferguson of trying to scare women into not voting for him.

Mr. Reichert said as governor he would prioritize public safety, referencing his 33 years and two terms as sheriff at the King County Sheriff's Office and the dozens of sheriffs who have endorsed him.

He was the first King County detective assigned to the case of the Green River Killer, named for the waterway where the first bodies were found in 1982. Gary Ridgway, who killed 49 women, was arrested and convicted in 2003 during Mr. Reichert's second term as sheriff.

Mr. Reichert said he also would focus on curbing homelessness, as the Seattle area has one of the nation's highest rates of homelessness. He suggested moving people from the streets to state-owned land, including McNeil Island, which has a facility for sexual predators.

"You tell me which one is more ridiculous: Living under a freeway in tents

or maybe making a nice, warm, comfortable place on McNeil Island or Evergreen College," he told The Associated Press.

Mr. Reichert was endorsed by state Democratic leadership members including U.S. Senate President Pro Tempore Patty Murray and Gov. Jay Inslee, the longest-serving governor in office in the country, who is not seeking a fourth term. Mr. Ferguson points to his record as attorney general, including reaching multimillion-dollar settlements with major opioid entities and standing up to former President Donald Trump.

But Republican state Rep. J.T. Wilcox said people in Washington state may be looking for a major leadership change after three terms of Inslee.

"Presidents usually leave office not at a high point, but at a point when people are sort of ready for them to be gone," Mr. Wilcox said. "I think that that may have happened a little bit with Governor Inslee. Twelve years, people feel like, 'OK we've had all this, I'm getting tired of all the same rhetoric, maybe it is time for a change.'"

## RELIGION

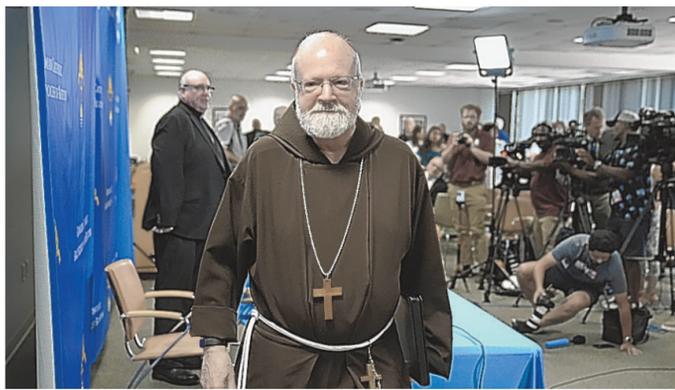
## O'Malley, pope's adviser on clergy sexual abuse, quits Boston post

By Nick Perry, Patrick Whittle  
and Holly Ramer  
Associated Press

**BOSTON** | Pope Francis on Monday accepted the resignation of Cardinal Sean O'Malley as archbishop of Boston and named the bishop of Providence, Rhode Island, Richard Henning, to replace him as leader of one of the nation's most important Catholic archdioceses.

The Vatican announcement didn't mention Cardinal O'Malley's other main role as Francis' main adviser on fighting clergy sexual abuse as head of the pope's Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, suggesting he would remain in that capacity until a new commission leader is named.

St. John Paul II had tapped Cardinal O'Malley to take over in Boston in 2003 at the height of the clergy sexual abuse scandal that had exploded there following an investigation by The Boston Globe newspaper. Revelations of years of abuse and cover-ups by the church led to the downfall of then-Archbishop Cardinal



Cardinal Sean O'Malley (front), Pope Francis' main adviser on sexual abuse by clergy, is stepping down as archbishop of Boston. Providence, Rhode Island, Bishop Richard Henning (left) will succeed him in the leadership role in Boston.

Bernard Law, who resigned in disgrace in December 2002.

"When I arrived it was a time of great crisis and of great pain because of the

terrible scourge of sexual abuse," Cardinal O'Malley told a news conference as he reflected on the changes the church has seen in his 40 years as a bishop. "But

despite all the challenges we've had I'm full of hope."

At age 80, Cardinal O'Malley is five years beyond the normal retirement age for bishops. His 59-year-old successor, Bishop Henning, from Rockville Centre, Long Island, has been bishop of Providence since last year.

In terms of clergy abuse, the torch in Boston is being passed from a man whose contemporaries were the accused to one whose peers were the victims.

"When these crimes and sins were committed, I was also a child. I'm grateful to God that I was not affected by it personally, but people in my generation were," Bishop Henning said at the news conference. "Those survivors, they deserve a listening heart. In some ways they have as much to proclaim to us about the gospel as we do to them."

Cardinal O'Malley called the arrival of a new archbishop "a time of renewal and hope" and described Bishop Henning as "someone who transmits hope to restless hearts."

"Archbishop Bishop Henning is a

joyful pastor who seeks to serve Christ," he said.

The Archdiocese of Boston is the fourth largest archdiocese in the U.S., serving more than 1.8 million Roman Catholics. It had operating expenses of more than \$350 million in fiscal 2023, and its schools serve more than 46,000 students.

Cardinal O'Malley will be remembered for his advocacy and support for families experiencing homelessness and victims of human trafficking, as well as his leadership in the fight against climate change, Massachusetts Gov. Maura Healey said in a statement.

"I greatly admire his deep faith and his empathy and compassion for all," Ms. Healey said.

Bishop Henning said he was "deeply shocked and surprised" to be chosen.

"I am very well aware that I have a lot to learn," Bishop Henning said. "My first job, really, is just to be a listener."

Francis has long expressed his esteem for Cardinal O'Malley and selected him as a founding member of his core cardinal advisers, known as the C9.

## NEW YORK

## Kennedy fights ballot lawsuit accusing him of residency lie

**ALBANY** | Independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. appeared Monday in a New York court to fight a lawsuit alleging he falsely claimed to live in New York as he sought to get on the ballot in the state.

Mr. Kennedy sat at his attorneys' table, occasionally jotting down notes, as the civil trial began in the state capital of Albany. Under state election law, a judge is set to decide the case without a jury.

The lawsuit alleges that Mr. Kennedy's nominating petition falsely said his residence was in New York's northern suburbs while he actually has lived in Los Angeles since 2014, when he married "Curb Your Enthusiasm" actor Cheryl Hines.

The suit seeks to invalidate his petition. The case was brought by Clear Choice PAC, a Democratic super PAC.

His campaign has said Mr. Kennedy has enough signatures to qualify in 42 states. His ballot drive has faced challenges and lawsuits in such states as

North Carolina and New Jersey.

Mr. Kennedy's New York ballot petition lists his residence as a home that a friend owns in Katonah, a tony suburb about 45 miles north of midtown Manhattan. But the lawsuit claims that the candidate "has no meaningful or continuous connections to the property" and has spent "vanishingly little time, if any."

— Associated Press

## ARIZONA

## Trump lawyer Ellis agrees to cooperate in election case

**PHOENIX** | Former President Donald Trump's campaign attorney Jenna Ellis, who worked closely with Rudy Giuliani, will cooperate with Arizona prosecutors in exchange for charges being dropped against her in a fake electors case, the state attorney general's office announced Monday.

Ellis has previously pleaded not guilty to fraud, forgery and conspiracy charges in the Arizona case. Seventeen other people charged in the case have pleaded not guilty to the felony charges — including Mr. Giuliani,

brings opportunities and with it personal growth," she wrote.

Experts on the immigration security side of the debate said the virtual office is worrying because it increases chances for fraud in a program already ripe for bogus applications.

"In a '100% virtual' program, fraud will be rampant, especially marriage fraud," said Rosemary Jenks, policy director at the Immigration Accountability Project. "It's easy to produce fake marriage certificates and other documentary 'proof' of long-term residence. It's a whole lot harder to fake a long-term marriage in person."

As Mr. Biden described the program in June, it would apply to illegal immigrants who have been in the U.S. for at least 10 years and were married to a U.S. citizen by the time of the program's announcement. Illegal immigrant children of the spouses also would be covered.

They would be granted "parole in place," which offers a preemptive defense against deportation and a work permit, bringing many benefits of tentative lawful status. The spouses would be allowed to apply for full legal status from within the U.S., abrogating the

requirement to return home to collect a visa.

BRIEFLY  
THE NATION

Trump presidential chief of staff Mark Meadows and 11 Republicans who submitted a document to Congress declaring Mr. Trump had won Arizona.

"Her insights are invaluable and will greatly aid the State in proving its case in court," Attorney General Kris Mayes said in a statement.

Last year, Ellis was charged in Georgia after she appeared with Mr. Giuliani at a December 2020 hearing hosted by state Republican lawmakers at the Georgia Capitol during which claims of election fraud were made.

She had pleaded guilty in October to one felony count of aiding and abetting false statements and writings. The agreement in the Arizona case requires Ellis to provide truthful information to the Attorney General's Office and testify honestly in proceedings in any state or federal court.

— Associated Press

## ILLINOIS

## Deputy who killed Massey says her religious rebuke was threat

**SPRINGFIELD** | The deputy sheriff who fatally shot Sonya Massey in her Illinois home last month said he believed that when she unexpectedly said, "I rebuke you in the name of Jesus," that she intended deadly harm.

"I interpreted this to mean she was going to kill me," Sean Grayson wrote in his field report on the incident, which was released Monday.

The now-fired deputy added that when he drew his pistol and Massey ducked behind a counter that separated them, he moved around the obstacle fearing that she was going to grab a weapon.

Mr. Grayson, a 30-year-old Sangamon County Sheriff's Office deputy, faces first-degree murder, aggravated battery and official misconduct charges in the death of the 36-year-old Springfield woman on July 6 which has drawn nationwide protests over the killing of Black people by police.

Mr. Grayson has pleaded not guilty. His attorney, Daniel Fultz, declined to

comment Monday.

Massey's family has said that she struggled with mental health issues.

— Associated Press

## COLORADO

## Funeral home owners ordered to pay \$950 million

**DENVER** | The Colorado funeral home owners who allegedly stored 190 decaying bodies and sent grieving families fake ashes were ordered by a judge to pay \$950 million to the victims' relatives in a civil case, the attorney announced Monday.

The judgement is unlikely to be paid out since the owners have been in financial trouble for years, making it largely symbolic.

The owners, Jon and Carie Hallford, did not acknowledge the civil case or show up to hearings, said the attorney representing families, Andrew Swan.

The Hallfords, who own Return to Nature Funeral Home in Colorado Springs, about an hour south of Denver, face criminal charges in separate cases.

— Associated Press

## SPOUSE

From page A1

close to the start date.

"We don't have clear details yet," said one activist in Florida whose group plans to operate clinics to help applicants.

One detail is clear: USCIS is creating a "100% virtual" office to handle the applications.

An internal email late last month said the agency was rushing to recruit immigration officers, assistants and supervisors for the new virtual office, known as Waivers and Temporary Status, or WATS.

The email from Connie Nolan, associate director of USCIS service center operations, confirmed that training for the background check unit won't begin until Aug. 19 — the date the program is supposed to start taking applications. Some positions won't even be reassigned until a week later, according to the email.

USCIS didn't respond to repeated inquiries for this report, but Ms. Nolan acknowledged chaotic times at the agency.

"We know there has been a lot of changes in the past couple of years and probably more to come. Change

was tied to politics and was "half-baked at the time the president announced it."

He said the spousal program was intended to mollify immigrant rights groups upset about Mr. Biden's announcement of a tougher border policy two weeks earlier.

"This was the spoonful of sugar that made the asylum medicine go down," he told The Times.

He said rushing the announcement also means Homeland Security can start accepting applications, which will make it tougher for a potential Trump administration to unwind the program, both legally and politically.

"The question becomes whether Trump is going to want to make spouses of U.S. citizens the hill he wants to die on," said Mr. Arthur, now at the Center for Immigration Studies.

Mr. Biden announced the spousal program on June 18. Three days later, the Supreme Court issued a ruling in State Department v. Munoz. The justices ruled that U.S. spouses don't have a "fundamental liberty interest" in having their partners admitted to the U.S.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor dissented from the decision but stated in her ruling that marriage "is not an automatic ticket

to a green card."

"A married citizen-noncitizen couple must jump through a series of administrative hoops to apply for the lawful permanent residency that marriage can confer," she wrote. She said that includes "the risk" that when the noncitizen spouse departs, they may not be able to reenter the U.S.

"Ironically, the longer the noncitizen spouse has lived in the United States, the more difficult and uncertain the process to adjust to lawful status can become," Justice Sotomayor wrote.

Josh Blackman, a constitutional law professor at South Texas College of Law, said in his review of the case that he expects Justice Sotomayor's opinion will be used in legal challenges to Mr. Biden's program.

Mr. Biden announced a separate program in June for illegal immigrants who earned degrees from U.S. colleges and who had job offers.

They are supposed to apply for a work visa from abroad, but leaving the U.S. risks not being allowed back in because they didn't have legal permission to be in the country. The new program allows them to obtain a quick waiver to be allowed back.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor dissented from the decision but stated in her ruling that marriage "is not an automatic ticket



## Why you need dental insurance in retirement.

Many Americans are fortunate to have dental coverage for their entire working life, through employer-provided benefits. When those benefits end with retirement, paying dental bills out-of-pocket can come as a shock, leading people to put off or even go without care.

Simply put — without dental insurance, there may be an **important gap** in your healthcare coverage.

### Medicare doesn't pay for dental care.<sup>1</sup>

That's right. As good as Medicare is, it was never meant to cover everything. That means if you want protection, you need to purchase individual insurance.

### Early detection can prevent small problems from becoming expensive ones.

The best way to prevent large dental bills is preventive care. The American Dental Association recommends checkups twice a year.

### Previous dental work can wear out.

Even if you've had quality dental work in the past, you shouldn't take your dental health for granted. In fact, your odds of having a dental problem only go up as you age.<sup>2</sup>

### Treatment is expensive — especially the services people over 50 often need.

Consider these national average costs of treatment ... \$222 for a checkup ... \$190 for a filling ... \$1,213 for a crown.<sup>3</sup> Unexpected bills like this can be a real burden, especially if you're on a fixed income.

<sup>1</sup> Medicare & You, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2024. <sup>2</sup> "Aging changes in teeth and gums", medlineplus.gov, 4/17/2022. <sup>3</sup> American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute, 2020 Survey of Dental Fees, Copyright 2020, American Dental Association.

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- ▶ Look for coverage that helps pay for major services. Some plans may limit the number of procedures — or pay for preventive care only.
- ▶ Look for coverage with no deductibles. Some plans may require you to pay hundreds out of pocket before benefits are paid.
- ▶ Shop for coverage with no annual maximum on cash benefits. Some plans have annual maximums of \$1,000.

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# World

## BRITAIN

# Starmmer: 'Standing army' of police to tackle rioting

## PM blames anti-migrant lawlessness on misinformation on social media

By **BRIAN MELLEY AND DANICA KIRKA**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**LONDON** | British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said Monday that a "standing army" of specialist police would be set up to deal with rioting and that the justice system would be ramped up to handle hundreds of arrests after violent disorder rocked cities across the nation over the past week.

Mr. Starmer, who has been on the job just barely a month, convened an urgent meeting after lawlessness he blamed on "far-right thuggery" that was driven in part by misinformation on social media that whipped up anger over a stabbing rampage at a dance class that killed three girls and wounded 10 people. Authorities said that false rumors spread online that the suspect was a Muslim asylum-seeker led to attacks on immigrants and mosques.

"Whatever the apparent motivation, this is not protest. It is pure violence and we will not tolerate attacks on mosques or our Muslim communities," Mr. Starmer said. "The full force of the law will be visited on all those who are identified as having taken part in these activities."

On Sunday, angry mobs attacked two hotels used to house asylum seekers,

breaking windows and lighting fires before police dispersed the crowds and residents were evacuated. Dozens of police officers have been hospitalized for injuries in the past six days after being struck with bricks, bottles and large wooden posts.

More than 375 people have been arrested in the mayhem so far and more are expected, the National Police Chiefs' Council said.

Many made court appearances Monday and found themselves facing at least several weeks behind bars awaiting their next court hearing.

Deputy District Judge Liam McStay in Belfast Magistrates' Court refused bail for two men who had participated in a march that trashed businesses and set a supermarket on fire in the capital of Northern Ireland. He said he couldn't allow that to be repeated and "visited on other people."

"The events at the weekend were absolutely disgraceful: a concerted and deliberate attempt to undermine public order and to then domineer the community and there were racist elements to it," Judge McStay said. "The message has to be if you allow yourself to become involved in these matters for whatever reason, then you will face the consequences."



British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said a "standing army" of specialist police and a ramped up justice system would be set up to handle hundreds of arrests of rioters who attacked immigrants and Mosques following a stabbing attack.

Mr. Starmer's plan to beef up the criminal justice system and deliver quick justice faces significant challenges as courts are already backed up and prisons are so overcrowded that plans were already in the works to release inmates early, said Cassia Rowland, a senior researcher at the Institute for Government think tank.

"That's not a problem you can fix overnight and it's going to be difficult, I think, for the system to cope with the influx of demand that we're likely to see as a result of this disorder," Ms. Rowland said.

Mr. Starmer has dismissed calls to reconvene Parliament to deal with the crisis or send in the army. His office said police can handle the disorder.

In the meeting with ministers and top law enforcement officials, Mr. Starmer said social media companies have not done enough to prevent the spread of misinformation that has fueled far-right violence and vowed that anyone who stokes the disorder — online or on the streets — could face prison, a spokesperson said. Some of that false and misleading information has come from foreign states, officials said.

## MIDDLE EAST

# 'Several' U.S. troops injured in Iraq base rocket attack

By **MIKE GLENN**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The Defense Department confirmed Monday that "several" U.S. personnel were injured Monday in what authorities said appeared to be a rocket attack against American and coalition forces at Al-Asad Airbase in western Iraq.

The base has been a frequent target for Iraqi Shiite militia groups that have long protested the American troop presence in the country and have close ties to the regime in neighboring Iran.

Countries all over the region have been bracing for a new round of violence after suspected strikes last week by U.S. ally Israel killed a senior Palestinian Hamas official visiting Tehran and a top commander of Lebanon's Iran-allied Hezbollah movement in Lebanon.

"Base personnel are conducting a post-attack damage assessment," a senior Pentagon official told The Washington Times. "We will provide updates as more information becomes available."

The condition of the U.S. personnel wasn't known later Monday. It also wasn't clear if any of the injured Americans were hospitalized after the rocket

## Israeli military says local Hezbollah commander was killed in drone strike

attack. No group had stepped up to claim responsibility for the attack.

Iranian and Hezbollah officials have vowed revenge against Israel after the last week's assassinations, and the Biden administration dispatched new military forces to the region over the weekend in anticipation of a possible regional war.

U.S. military personnel officially withdrew from Iraq in 2011 but returned three years later to assist in the fight against the Islamic State (ISIS). Their mission is primarily focused on training and advising Iraqi security forces, but their presence is a constant source of political and security tension inside Iraq.

Separately, Hezbollah said it launched a drone attack early Monday on northern Israel that the Israeli military said wounded two Israeli troops. The Iranian-backed Hezbollah said it targeted a military base in northern Israel in response to "attacks and assassinations" by Israel in several villages in southern Lebanon. The attack did not appear to be the more

intense retaliation that many are braced for from Iran and its allied militias.

Israel and Hezbollah have exchanged near-daily strikes for the past 10 months during the war in Gaza. But last week's assassinations of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Iran's capital and Hezbollah commander Fouad Shukur in Beirut sent regional tensions soaring.

The head of Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard threatened Israel on Monday over the assassination of Haniyeh, warning that Israel was "digging its own grave" with its actions against Hamas.

The Israeli military later said it had killed a local Hezbollah commander Monday in a drone strike on south Lebanon. The Israeli army said the Monday evening strike in the southern village of Ebaa killed Ali Jamaledine Jawad whom it described as a local commander with Hezbollah's elite Radwan Force.

In Washington, President Joe Biden and Jordanian King Abdullah II spoke

Monday and discussed the possibility of an "immediate" cease-fire and hostage release deal involving Israel and the Palestinians in order to "de-escalate regional tensions," the White House said in a statement.

At almost the same time, Iran's state news agency reported that the secretary of Russia's Security Council, Sergei Shoigu, the former defense minister, had arrived in Tehran for talks on bilateral and international issues. Russia's state Tass and RIA Novosti news agencies reported that Mr. Shoigu was scheduled to meet with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian; secretary of the Supreme National Security Council, Ali Akbar Ahmadian; and chief of the Iranian military's General Staff, Mohammad Bagheri.

And in yet one more sign of the concern over what may come next, a U.S. defense official says the head of the U.S. Central Command, Gen. Eric Kurilla, has traveled to the Middle East region.

The official wouldn't say where specifically Gen. Kurilla was, but added that he "often visits the region to work and consult with regional partners."

• Staff writer Mike Glenn contributed to this report from Washington.

## BANGLADESH

# Unrest spurs PM to flee as protesters storm her residence

By **JULHAS ALAM AND KRUTIKA PATHI**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**DHAKA, BANGLADESH** | Bangladesh's prime minister resigned and fled the country Monday, after weeks of protests against a quota system for government jobs descended into violence and grew into a broader challenge to her 15-year rule. Thousands of demonstrators stormed her official residence and other buildings associated with her party and family.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's departure threatens to create even more instability in the densely populated nation on India's border that is already dealing with a series of crises, including high unemployment, corruption and the impacts of climate change. Amid security concerns, the main airport in Dhaka, the capital, suspended operations.

After the embattled leader was seen on TV boarding a military helicopter with her sister, the country's military chief, Gen. Waker-uz-Zaman, sought to reassure a jittery nation that order would be restored — though experts warned the road ahead would be long. He said he met with opposition politicians and civil society leaders and would seek the president's guidance on forming an interim government.

Hundreds of thousands poured into the streets to celebrate Ms. Hasina's resignation, waving flags and marching



Protesters celebrate at the Parliament House premise after news of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's resignation in Dhaka, Bangladesh on Monday. Ms. Hasina fled the country after weeks of protests against a quota system for government jobs.

down avenues. But others attacked symbols of her government and party, ransacking and setting fires in several buildings.

"This is not just the end of the tyrant Sheikh Hasina, with this we put an end to the mafia state that she has created," declared Sairaj Salekin, a student protester, on the streets of Dhaka.

Protests began peacefully last month as frustrated students demanded an end to a quota system for government jobs that they said favored those with connections to the prime minister's Awami League party. But amid a

deadly crackdown, the demonstrations morphed into an unprecedented challenge to Ms. Hasina, highlighting the extent of economic distress in Bangladesh, where exports have fallen and foreign exchange reserves are running low.

Gen. Waker-uz-Zaman promised that the military would launch an investigation into the crackdown that led to some of the country's worst bloodshed since the 1971 war of independence and fueled outrage against the government. He added that he ordered security forces not to fire on crowds.

"Keep faith in the military, we will

investigate all the killings and punish the responsible," he said.

The military wields significant political influence in Bangladesh, which has had more than 20 coups or coup attempts. But it was not clear if Ms. Hasina's resignation or the military chief's calls for calm would be enough to end the turmoil.

Nahid Islam, a top student coordinator, told reporters late Monday that the movement would propose an outline for the new interim government — and they would not accept any other solution.

Crowds also ransacked Ms. Hasina's family's ancestral home-turned-museum where her father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the country's first president and independence leader, was assassinated. They torched major offices of the ruling party and the country's two leading, pro-government TV stations, both of which were forced to go off air.

Ms. Hasina, meanwhile, landed in a city in India on the border with Bangladesh, according to military officials. It was not clear where she would go next.

The 76-year-old was elected for a fourth consecutive term in a January vote that was boycotted by her main opponents. Thousands of opposition members were jailed in the lead-up to the polls, and the U.S. and the U.K. denounced the result as not credible, though the government defended it.

## BRIEFLY

THE WORLD

### GAZA

#### U.N. relief agency fires nine for ties to Oct. 7 attack

The United Nations on Monday fired nine employees of UNRWA, its Palestinian relief agency, after an internal probe concluded they may have taken part in the Oct. 7 Hamas rampage into southern Israel that killed about 1,200 people — mostly civilians — and resulted in hundreds of others taken hostage.

The U.N.'s Office of Internal Oversight Services said it completed its investigation into 19 UNRWA staffers alleged to have taken part in the attacks launched from the Gaza Strip. There was no evidence of involvement in one of the cases and insufficient evidence in nine others to warrant termination of employment, UN officials said Monday.

Israel has long accused the relief agency of harboring terrorists in its midst, and said the cases dealt with Monday addressed only a tiny fraction of the problem. Ambassador Gilad Erdan, Israel's envoy to the U.N., called the investigation a disgrace and said it was "too little, and too late."

"Israel has provided the U.N. with precise details of over 100 UNRWA employees who are members of the terrorist organization Hamas. Despite the cooperation and information that Israel passed on to the U.N., the conclusions of the investigation are another insult to the U.N., which still refuses to recognize the reality," Ambassador Erdan posted Monday on X.

— Mike Glenn

### NORTH KOREA

#### Kim personally delivers missiles to units at front

**SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA** | North Korea marked the delivery of 250 nuclear-capable missile launchers to frontline military units at a ceremony where leader Kim Jong-un called for a ceaseless expansion of his military's nuclear program to counter perceived U.S. threats, state media said Monday.

Concerns about Mr. Kim's nuclear program have grown as he has demonstrated an intent to deploy battlefield nuclear weapons along the North's border with South Korea and authorized his military to respond with pre-emptive nuclear strikes if it perceives the regime's leadership as under threat.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said the launchers were freshly produced by the county's munitions factories and designed to fire "tactical" ballistic missiles, a term that describes systems capable of delivering lower-yield nuclear weapons. North Korea has been expanding its lineup of mobile short-range weapons designed to overwhelm missile defenses in South Korea, while also pursuing intercontinental ballistic missiles designed to reach the U.S. mainland.

Mr. Kim's intensifying weapons tests and threats are widely seen as an attempt at pressuring the U.S. to accept North Korea as a nuclear power and to end U.S.-led sanctions imposed on North Korea over its nuclear program.

— Associated Press

### NIGER

#### Pentagon hands over major base in country

**DAKAR, SENEGAL** | The U.S. handed over its last military base in Niger — one of two crucial hubs for American counterterrorism operations in the country — to local authorities, the Pentagon and Niger's Ministry of Defense announced in a joint statement on Monday.

The handing over of Airbase 201 in the city of Agadez came after the U.S. troops withdrew earlier this month from Airbase 101, a small drone base in Niger's capital of Niamey. U.S. troops have until Sept. 15 to leave the Sahel country following an agreement with Nigerien authorities. In March, Niger's ruling junta ended an agreement that allowed U.S. troops to operate in the West African country. Niger had been seen as one of the last nations in the restive region that Western nations could partner with to beat back growing jihadi insurgencies.

Niger's ouster of American troops following a coup last year is forcing troops to abandon the critical base that was used for counterterrorism missions in the Sahel, a vast region south of the Sahara desert where groups linked to al Qaeda and the Islamic State operate.

— Associated Press

## ENTERTAINMENT

## Feckless 'Instigators' botch Boston heist

## Stream 'Opus,' 'Jazz Moms,' Hoffman retrospective

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Netflix's "The Umbrella Academy" premieres its final season and a Boston heist movie starring Matt Damon and Casey Affleck are some of the new television, films and music headed to a device near you.

## Movies

A poorly planned heist goes terribly wrong in "The Instigators" (Friday on Apple TV+), a loosely amiable Boston-set caper starring Matt Damon and Casey Affleck. The movie, directed by Doug Liman ("Go," "The Bourne Identity"), returns Mr. Damon and Mr. Affleck to familiar hometown terrain. They play a despondent pair who try to steal money from a corrupt mayor (Ron Perlman) but end up on the run, with a therapist (Hong Chau) in tow.

Jeff Nichols ("Mud," "Take Shelter," "Loving") extends his survey of classically American dramas with "The Bikeriders," a chronicle of a Chicago motorcycle club in the 1960s. In the film (Friday on Peacock), Austin Butler and Tom Hardy star as riders with an anti-authoritarian streak who help found the Vandals, but watch as their club grows beyond their control. In a male-populated film, though, Jodie Comer, as the heavily accented narrator, is closer to the main character.

This month, the Criterion Channel is running two overlapping series: one of movies directed by Paul Thomas Anderson, one of films starring Philip Seymour Hoffman. Hoffman was a mainstay in Mr. Anderson's films from the start (he steals "Hard Eight" with one scene) and a central presence in films such as "Magnolia," "Punch-Drunk Love" and "The Master." The Hoffman series includes plenty of other highlights, too; look especially for



Streaming this week are "American Godfathers: The Five Families," narrated by "Sopranos" actor Michael Imperioli; "The Instigators," about a heist gone wrong; and the movie docuseries "Hollywood Black."

the exquisitely tender 2010 drama "Jack Goes Boating." The Anderson series includes an exclusive streaming of the director's radiant 2021 coming-of-age tale "Licorice Pizza," which poignantly starred Hoffman's son, Cooper.

## Music

Ryuichi Sakamoto's "Opus" — the posthumous album and documentary of the same name — was captured while the Japanese film composer was dying of cancer. Across 20 songs, Sakamoto performs a collection of his biggest songs on piano, like the memorable themes for Bernardo Bertolucci's "The Last Emperor" and "The Sheltering Sky." The album also includes the first recorded version of "Tong Poo," from his early days with techno-pop trio Yellow Magic Orchestra.

On Friday, Colombian reggaetonero J Balvin will release a new full-length project, "Rayo." Across 15 tracks, he's promised an album that hits like a house party — just in time for the hottest summer month of the year. "Rayo" is stacked with good time collaborations — reggaeton superstar Fie, regional Mexican musician Carín Leon, Bad Gyal, Zion, Dei V, Ryan Castro, Blessd and Luar La L among them. The previously released singles, "Gaga" with SAIKO, "Polvo de tu Vida" with

Chencho Corleone, and "En Alta" with Quevedo, Omar Courtz and YOYNGCHIMI, embody that spirit. At his party, everyone is invited.

Also on Friday, "Not Not Jazz," a documentary following the avant-garde, acid jazz-fusion band Medeski, Martin & Wood, becomes available to stream via video on demand. The film follows the improvisational trio as they endeavor to record a new album at the Allaire Studio in Woodstock, New York. It is a peek behind the curtain of their processes, and a celebration of music that is far too often underserved.

## Series

The dramatic world of "Dance Moms" returns with a new coach, dancers and, of course, invested moms. In "Dance Moms: A New Era," mothers hover as eight girls are trained by instructor Glo Hampton, aka Miss Glo, to compete nationally. The original "Dance Moms" ran for eight seasons and featured breakout stars Jojo Siwa and Maddie Ziegler. It also introduced the world to coach Abby Lee Miller, who was often criticized for being too harsh on her students. "Dance Moms: A New Era" debuts Wednesday.

Netflix's "The Umbrella Academy" premieres its final season on

Thursday. The show follows a family of adopted superheroes — who were stripped of their powers in season three — who must work together to stop the apocalypse. Megan Mullally, Nick Offerman and David Cross are new faces in season four alongside regulars that include David Castaneda, Tom Hopper and Elliot Page.

A four-part docuseries adapts historian Donald Bogle's 2019 book called "Hollywood Black" for MGM+. Executive produced by Forest Whitaker, the series examines the history of cinema through the Black perspective. Creatives including Ryan Coogler, Ava DuVernay, Issa Rae, LaKeith Stanfield, Gabrielle Union and Lena Waithe are interviewed. "Hollywood Black" premieres Sunday, Aug. 11.

Michael Imperioli, who played Tony Soprano's protege Christopher on "The Sopranos," can't shake the mob. He's the executive producer and narrator of a three-part docuseries on five Italian American families who were selected by Charles "Lucky" Luciano in 1931 to rule the organized crime world. "American Godfathers: The Five Families" debuts Sunday, Aug. 11, on The History Channel. It will also stream on The History Channel app, history.com and major TV video-on-demand platforms.

## Online romance prompts existential questions

**DEAR ABBY:** I met a man from another country through the internet last year. In the beginning, we talked every day via video chat. We share much in common. We never have a problem keeping our conversations going, and we pick up on each other's emotions and needs without even trying.

Our communication is less frequent now that our relationship is maturing. With this newfound freedom from the phone, I'm starting to question how wise it is to continue pursuing a future together. Although we have never met in person, I feel he is trustworthy and absolutely wonderful, and I would even go so far as to say he's my soulmate.

The questions that are always in the back of my mind, though, are: Am I crazy for thinking this is the real deal? Is it too good to be true? And if I don't pursue this further, am I missing my only opportunity for a lasting love? — MATCHED IN MICHIGAN

**DEAR MATCHED:** This is not your "only" opportunity for lasting love. Whether this is the real deal or too good to be true remains to be seen. Because you found this match online, you need to be cautious. If it's possible, arrange to visit him in his country, which will give you the opportunity to meet his family and friends and observe his living situation. If he is genuine, he should welcome it. If he is hesitant, however, regard it as a significant red flag.

**DEAR ABBY:** My older sister and I are educated professionals in our late 40s. We reside in different states. Our father's cognitive function and mobility

are deteriorating, so my parents sold their large home in another state to downsize and move to a senior community near me. The area in which I live is affordable. Living near me is a logical choice, since I am attentive and reliable, and I have often assisted them and my in-laws in the past.

My sister has chosen to view their parents' move as their choosing me over her. Initially, she stopped speaking to me. When I texted and asked why I hadn't heard from her, she said my texts "weren't high on her list of priorities." In another exchange, she told me she hoped my husband, who is being treated for a heart condition, dies before he can vote. Then, she stopped speaking to our parents. During their last email exchange, she told my mother to cry on the shoulder of the "daughter she chose."

My sister has treated me similarly in the past, but she has never before shut out our parents. She used to call them often, and they miss talking to her. I'm not sure reconciling is an option, but it is difficult to witness her being so cruel during this time of extreme stress. What are your thoughts? — SIBLING DRAMA IN GEORGIA

**DEAR DRAMA:** Your sister's attempts to punish you and your parents for the decision they made has only reinforced that they made the correct one. I am sorry she has been so successful in inflicting pain on all of you because none of you deserve her over-the-top reaction. By shunning you, she has succeeded only in isolating herself from those who care for her.

ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION

## Khanin claims hard-fought U.S. Open in Norfolk

It was a fight to the finish as grandmasters from Russia and China topped the leaderboard at the 124th U.S. Open, which wrapped up play in Norfolk, Virginia, with a scintillating final round and playoff Sunday.

Unlike so many big-time Swiss events these days, both top-board games between the players at 7-1 ended decisively Sunday evening.

DAVID R. SANDS  
CHESS

Russian GM Semen Khanin downed U.S. GM Fidel Corrales and Chinese GM Zhou Jianchao won a hard-fought struggle with veteran New Jersey GM Mackenzie Molner. Khanin then defeated Zhou in a blitz armageddon playoff game to claim the prestigious title.

Unfortunately for Molner and Corrales, their losses left them a half-point behind two other American finishers in the race for a coveted berth in the next U.S. national championship tournament. Wisconsin GM Awonder Liang grabbed the spot as the top American finisher by winning another blitz playoff over Missouri GM Varuzhan Akobian after the two finished at 7½-1½.

Nearly 400 players competed in the weeklong tournament, which also featured a number of scholastic and side events.

Zhou's battle with Molner was everything you want to see in a last-round pairing with titles and prize money on the line. In a popular Symmetrical English line, Molner as Black offers — and Zhou accepts — a pawn that may or may not be poison after 9. Qb3 Bg7? (Qc8 10. Ng5 Ne6 11. d3 Bg7 also offers good play for both sides) 10. Qxb7 Bd7 11. Qb3!, smartly getting the queen out of Dodge before the exits are blocked.

After 14. Rb1 Ned4 15. Nxd4 Nxd4 16. Qd1 Be6, Black has two very nice bishops, a well-posted knight, a lead in development



Zhou-Molner after 24...Bc4

and good pressure along the b-file, a substantial positional return on the investment of a pawn. But what looks like a little bit of impatience will cost Black as Zhou finds some nice tactics to untangle his position and ultimately seize the initiative. Thus: 18. axb4 Qd6! (Black puts a foot wrong for the first time in the game; with moves like 18...Bg4 19. Re1 Qd7, he can keep building up the pressure) 19. e3! Nb5 (Nf5 20. d4 Rfd8 21. Ne4, blocking off Black's fianchettoed bishop and holding on to the gambited pawn) 20. Ne4 Qd3 21. Bb2 Rfd8 22. Bxg7 Kxg7 23. Rb2 Qa3 24. Qb1 Bc4 (see diagram; White tenaciously clings to the extra pawn, but it seems Black's pressure is only growing; Zhou, however, now finds a move that abruptly turns the tables) 25. Nc5!!

Black might have been better advised to refuse the offered exchange, as 25...Bxf1? 26. Bxf1 leaves him facing the very nasty threat of 27. Rb3, trapping the queen. The Black knight must be sacrificed to save Her Majesty — 26...Nd4 27. exd4 Rxd4, and now White finds another stunner: 28. Qe1! (good but less convincing was 28. Rb3 Rdx4 29. Rxb4 Qxb4 30. Qal+ Kg8 31. Qe5 Rd8 32. Qxe7 Rxd2), abandoning the rook on b2 to begin an unexpected attack on the Black king. Black restores nominal material equality after 28...Qxb2 29. Qe5+ Kh6 30. Qxb8 Rxb4, but his king is left in a highly precarious situation from which there will be

no escape.

Zhou brings home the point with another nice tactical flourish: 31. Qf8+ Qg7 (Kh5 32. Be2+ Rg4 33. Qxf7 is just winning) 32. Qxe7! (trading queens just lets Black escape with a better game; now the threat is 33. Qg5 mate) Qd4 33. Ne6!, and Black resigned as 33...fxc6 (Qe5 34. Qf8+ Kh5 35. Ng7+ Kh6 36. Ne8+ Kh5 37. Be2+! Qxe2 38. Nf6 is a neat mate) 34. Qf8+ Qg7 (Kh5 35. Be2+ wins again) 35. Qxb4 leaves White up a full piece.

■■■

Virginia master Tyson Brady did the Old Dominion proud with a superb 7-2 result, losing only to Zhao and landing in a 10-way tie for sixth with a slew of higher-rated players.

A sample of his strong play was a Round 8 win over fellow Virginian expert Siddhant Nair from the White side of Sicilian Dragon Yugoslav Attack. Black in this line relies heavily on his Dragon bishop on g7 to control the position, and this game instructively shows the perils that can result when that key piece leaves the board.

With the kings castled on opposite wings, White hustles to generate a kingside attack while Black looks to counterpunch in the center and on the other flank. In retrospect, the game is effectively decided by the sequence 12. Bd4 Nxc3! (e5 13. Be5 Re8 14. Ne4 Be6 15. h4 may be a trifle better for White, but at least the beautiful fianchettoed Black bishop remains on the battlefield) 13. Qxc3 Bh6+ 14. Be3 (forcing a trade, as Black's queen is also attacked) Bxe3+ 15. Qxe3 Qa5? (too passive; 15...Qb6! 16. Qg5 [Qxe7 Be6 17. Qa3 Rad8 18. Bd3 c5 19. g4 Rd4, and at the minor cost of a pawn, Black gets good piece activity and a real initiative on the queenside).

With Black's kingside dark squares fatally weak and Black's attack taking too long to materialize, White's game practically plays itself from here on out: 16.

Bc4 (developing a piece while protecting a2) Ba6 17. Bb3!, and now opening pretty much any line on the kingside will be nearly impossible for Black to defend. Nair never gets a chance to get back in the game: 20. h5 Qb6 21. Qg5 Kg7? (losing, but White is still dominating in lines like 21...Re8 22. hxg6 fxc6 23. f4 Qe3+ 24. Kbl Qe4 25. Qh4 h5 26. Re1 Qf5 27. Re5 Qf7 28. a3) 22. hxg6 hxg6 23. Qe5+ (Black's fortress cannot hold; also strong was 23. Bxe6! fxe6 24. Qe7+ Kg8 25. Qxe6+ Kf8 26. Rh8+, with mate in a few moves) f6 (Kf8 24. Qf6 Qe3+ 25. Kbl Qh6 26. Qxd8+ [and not 26. Rxb6? Rd1 mate] Kg7 27. Rxb6) 24. Qxe6, and the mating net draws ever tighter.

The h-file proves its usefulness one last time in the finale: 24...Qc7 25. Qh3! Qf4+ 26. Kbl, and Black resigned not needing to see lines such as 26...Kf8 (Bc4 27. Qh7+ Kf8 28. Qh8+ Ke7 29. Rh7+ Kd6 30. Qxd8+) 27. Qe6 Qc7 28. Qxf6+ Ke8 29. Rh8+ Kd7 30. Qe6 mate.

**Zhou-Molner, 124th U.S. Open, Norfolk, Va., August 2024**

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. Nc3 Nc6 4. g3 d5 5. exd5 Nxd5 6. Bg2 Nc7 7. a3 g6 8. h4 Bg4 9. Qb3 Bg7 10. Qxb7 Bd7 11. Qb3 Rb8 12. Qc2 Ne6 13. 0-0-0 14. Rb1 Ned4 15. Nxd4 Nxd4 16. Qd1 Be6 17. b4 cxb4 18. axb4 Qd6 19. e3 Nb5 20. Ne4 Qd3 21. Bb2 Rfd8 22. Bxg7 Kxg7 23. Rb2 Qa3 24. Qb1 Bc4 25. Nc5 Bxf1 26. Bxf1 Nd4 27. exd4 Rxd4 28. Qe1 Qxb2 29. Qe5+ Kh6 30. Qxb8 Rxb4 31. Qf8+ Qg7 32. Qxe7 Qd4 33. Ne6 Black resigns

**Brady-Nair, 124th U.S. Open, Norfolk, Va., August 2024**

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6 6. Be3 Bg7 7. f3 Nc6 8. Qd2 0-0 9. 0-0-0 10. exd5 Nxd5 11. Nxc6 bxc6 12. Bd4 Nxc3 13. Qxc3 Bh6+ 14. Be3 Bxe3+ 15. Qxe3 Qa5 16. Bc4 Ba6 17. Bb3 e6 18. h4 Rfd8 19. Rxd8+ Rxd8 20. h5 Qb6 21. Qg5 Kg7 22. hxg6 hxg6 23. Qe5+ f6 24. Qxe6 Qe7 25. Qh3 Qf4+ 26. Kbl Black resigns

• David R. Sands can be reached at 202/636-3178 or at dsands@washingtontimes.com.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 6).** Now more than any other year, you draw boundaries that allow you to work on what makes you happy. You'll either do the work you can smile through, or you'll decline. More highlights: You'll love working on new problems because in working for solutions, you'll come up with incredible experience, excellent money and the esteem of your friends, colleagues and partners. Cancer and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 8, 4, 40 and 15.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** This day is a dance. Parts go off as though intricately choreographed, and other parts are passionately unbridled. Your sense of what's required is intuitive, and your timing is superb.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** You may not think of last year as strength training, but you'll notice you're stronger, solid in your footing and moving with confidence. This progression transforms past struggles into a foundation for greater success.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You appreciate and are inspired by the interesting ways people around you have changed through their commitments. You'll double down on one of your goals as you see how this will keep you growing as a person.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Complaints are an outlet for those who feel powerless to impact a situation. That's not you. You know you're bigger than the problem, which is why you skip the complaining and go straight to action.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You are building yourself better than ever. Sometimes, it means disassembling your own internal structures, debunking certain stories you've told yourself or giving them a different spin. The remodel celebrates the best in you.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** The challenges you faced and overcame have built resilience and skill. What once seemed daunting is now

**HOLIDAY MATHS**  
**HOROSCOPE**

easily achievable because of all you did to boost your confidence and competence. You're ready to scale

up once more.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** You'll solve five problems before lunchtime. Your productivity is owed to the efficiency of excellent listening and following directions well. A step-by-step guide will lead you exactly where you want to go.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You wouldn't normally point out the nice things you do for others, but there are those who could use a wake-up call on that matter because they are starting to take you for granted. Removing yourself from a situation so they will miss you will also do the trick.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** People want to work with you, which is a compliment and testament to your talent and cooperative style. Let any win you get along these lines — a choice assignment, recognition, better compensation — grow your confidence. Opportunities are coming.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Since all humans will make mistakes, there is no point in trying to overcome this inevitability. There's also no point in fearing it. The worthy aim here is in developing the resilience to recover quickly and keep going.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** A good life is not the same as a comfortable life. Those who believe happiness and comfort should be constant are often the hardest to satisfy. Favor falls on those who don't fret over minor discomforts. Living right is better than living easy.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You'll work fast so you can love slow. People need your attention. Make time to sit together, listen and be present with your loved ones. Let them know they matter, not through words alone but through the gift of your undivided time.

CREATORS.COM

# Region

## WEST VIRGINIA

### Justice fights to keep historic hotel Greenbrier heads to auction amid governor's Senate bid

By Leah Willingham  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**CHARLESTON, W.VA.** | West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice, a Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, is in a fight to keep his iconic Greenbrier hotel.

A legal notice announcing a public auction for the luxury resort near White Sulphur Springs due to unpaid debts was publicized in the West Virginia Daily News last week — only the latest development in the Justice family's financial woes.

Mr. Justice, who owns dozens of companies and whose net worth was estimated by Forbes magazine at \$513 million in 2021, has been accused in court claims of being late in paying millions of dollars he owes in debts for family businesses and fines for unsafe working conditions at his coal mines.

He began serving the first of his two terms as governor in 2017, after buying The Greenbrier, which has hosted U.S. presidents and royalty, out of bankruptcy in 2009. The PGA Tour held

a tournament at the resort from 2010 until 2019.

His family also owns The Greenbrier Sporting Club, a private luxury community with a members-only "resort within a resort."

That property was scheduled to be auctioned off this year in an attempt by Carter Bank & Trust of Martinsville, Virginia, to recover more than \$300 million in business loans defaulted by the governor's family, but a court battle between the Justice family and the bank delayed that process.

Wednesday's notice said the auction involves 60.5 acres — including the hotel and the adjacent parking lot — and is scheduled for 2 p.m. Aug. 27 at the Greenbrier County Courthouse in Lewisburg.

A spokesperson for Mr. Justice said the impending auction is not a state government matter, and the governor's office wouldn't comment. Campaign staff did not return an email from The Associated Press.

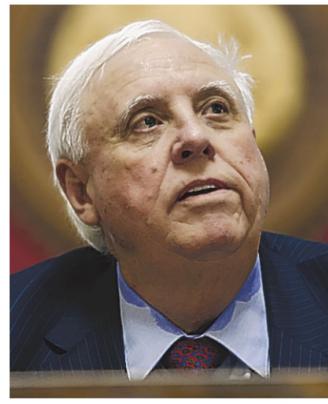
In a statement to West Virginia

MetroNews, Mr. Justice's attorney Bob Wolford accused lender JPMorgan Chase Bank of aligning with the Democrats "to undermine the next Republican Senator from West Virginia."

The statement said the Justice family originally secured a \$142 million loan in 2014 from JPMorgan Chase and that only \$9.4 million in debt remains after payments made as recently as June of this year. On July 1, the governor was notified by JPMorgan Chase that it had sold Mr. Justice's loan to Beltway Capital Management, which declared in default.

A U.S. Senate financial disclosure report filed by Mr. Justice on July 13 — after the loan was sold to Beltway — identified The Greenbrier debt to be between \$25 million and \$50 million.

"Let me be clear that the Greenbrier will not be sold, and the Justice family will take all necessary action to ensure that there will not be any adverse impact on their ownership of the Greenbrier or the Greenbrier's operations and the ability of the Greenbrier to continue to provide world class service for its guests



West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice, a Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, wants to keep his historic Greenbrier hotel near White Sulphur Springs.

will be uninterrupted," Mr. Wolford told MetroNews.

West Virginia Democratic Party officials said in a statement that the resort's foreclosure is not the result of a political stunt, as the Mr. Justice family's attorney contends.

"It is a direct consequence of his own financial incompetence," they said.

JP Morgan Chase declined to comment.

## NEW JERSEY

### Damage prevention rules come under fire Businesses resist 'managed retreat'

By Wayne Parry  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**TOMS RIVER, N.J.** | New Jersey officials are defending proposed building rules designed to limit damage from future storms and steadily rising seas in coastal areas, countering criticism that the state aims to force people away from the Jersey Shore by making it harder and more expensive to build or rebuild there.

Lawmakers from both parties held a hearing on Thursday in Toms River, one of the communities hit hardest by Superstorm Sandy in 2012, to discuss the state's Protecting Against Climate Threats initiative and respond to criticism of the proposal from business interests.

Mandated by an 2020 executive order from Democratic Gov. Phil Murphy, the proposed rules are designed to account for rising seas and a changing climate in making land use decisions near the ocean, bays and rivers in an effort to limit damage from future storms.

The rules would extend the jurisdiction of flood control measures further inland, require buildings to be constructed 5 feet higher off the ground than current rules call for, and require elevating roads in flood-prone areas.

They are to be published soon in the New Jersey Register, and subject to public comment before taking effect later this year.

Other states and cities are considering or doing similar climate-based updates to development rules or acquisition of flood-prone properties, including North Carolina, Massachusetts, Fort Worth, Texas, and Nashville, Tennessee.

Nick Angarone, New Jersey's chief resilience officer, said proposed rules are necessary to "be clear-eyed about what is happening right before us."

He said New Jersey ranks third in the nation in flooding claims paid by the federal government at \$5.8 billion since 1978.

Mr. Angarone and others cited a Rutgers University study projecting that sea levels in New Jersey will rise by 2.1 feet by 2050 and 5.1 feet by the end of the century. By that time, he said, there is a 50% chance that Atlantic City will experience what is known as "sunny-day flooding" every day.

The New Jersey Business and Industry Association pushed back hard against the rules and the study on which they are based, warning that the initiative is the start of a much-debated "managed retreat" from the shoreline that some scientists say needs to happen but that is anathema to many business groups.

"It will significantly harm the economy of our shore and river communities, and is premised on the policy that people and businesses should be forced to retreat from the coast," said Ray Cantor, an official with the group and a former adviser to the Department of Environmental Protection under Republican Gov. Chris Christie.

"We do believe that we need to consider sea level rise in our planning efforts," Mr. Cantor said. "However, this rule is based on flawed scientific assumptions and will force a retreat from the Jersey Shore and coastal communities."

Rutgers defended its projections as consistent with 2021 sea-level projections for Atlantic City of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, "a trusted, highly credible, heavily reviewed source of information for climate change."

Mr. Cantor claimed the new rules will create "no-build zones" in parts of the shore where it will simply be too costly and onerous to comply with the new requirements.

State officials vehemently denied that claim, saying the rules aim only to lessen the amount of damage from future storms that residents and businesses must deal with. They created a website aimed at "myths" about the new rules, making clear that nothing would prevent the rebuilding of storm-damaged structures and that there would not be any "no-build zones."

Tim Dillingham, executive director of the American Littoral Society, said governments should start discouraging new construction in areas that repeatedly flood.



Advocates argued the mandate of writing accurate dates on the exterior Pennsylvania voting ballot enveloped unfairly results in otherwise valid votes being thrown out.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Dispute over dates on mail-in ballots back in courts

By Mark Scoloro  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**HARRISBURG, PA.** | A technical requirement that Pennsylvania voters write accurate dates on the exterior envelope of mail-in ballots was again the subject of a court proceeding last week as advocates argued the mandate unfairly leads to otherwise valid votes being thrown out.

A five-judge Commonwealth Court panel heard on Thursday about two hours of argument in a case that was filed in May, even though the date requirement has been upheld both by the state Supreme Court and the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The case was brought by the Black Political Empowerment Project, Common Cause and allied advocacy groups against the secretary of state and the elections boards in Philadelphia and Allegheny County, which includes Pittsburgh. They argued that enforcing the date requirement infringes upon voting rights and that none of the prior cases on the topic directly ruled whether it runs afoul of the state constitution's Free and Equal Elections Clause.

The number of potentially invalid

### Advocates argue mandate infringes on rights, valid votes being thrown out

ballots at stake is a small fraction of the electorate, in the range of 10,000 or more across Pennsylvania in prior elections, and those voters tend to be comparatively older.

Democrats have embraced voting by mail much more than Republicans since it was widely expanded in Pennsylvania in 2019 — months before the COVID-19 pandemic — as part of a legislative deal in which Democrats got universal mail-in voting while GOP lawmakers obtained an end to straight-ticket voting by party.

More than a third of ballots cast in this year's state primary election were by mail, according to the lawsuit.

Judge Patricia McCullough, a Republican on the panel, asked what authority Commonwealth Court has over the legislatively enacted rule.

"Can this court just come in and change the law because it wasn't the best thing they should have written or we don't think it has a purpose? Is that a grounds for us to change or declare

something to be invalid?" Judge McCullough asked.

John M. Gore, a lawyer for the state and national Republican Party groups that are fighting the lawsuit, said the court would only have grounds to do so if the procedure was "so difficult as to deny the franchise." He argued to the judges that the dating requirement is not so onerous that it denies people the right to vote.

The dates serve as a backstop, Mr. Gore said, providing evidence about when ballots were completed and submitted. The mandate also "drives home the solemnity of the voter's choice" to vote by mail, and could help deter and detect fraud, Mr. Gore said.

County elections officials say they do not use the handwritten envelope dates to determine whether mail-in votes have been submitted in time.

Mail-in ballots are generally post-marked, elections officials process and time-stamp them, and the presence of the ballots themselves is enough

evidence to show that they arrived on time to be counted before the 8 p.m. Election Day deadline.

Among the issues before the court panel is whether throwing out a portion of the 2019 voting law would trigger a provision under which the entire law must also be thrown out.

Mail-in ballots, and the dating requirement in particular, have spawned several legal cases in Pennsylvania in recent years. Earlier this year, the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the mandate for accurate, handwritten dates, overturning a district judge's decision.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled two years ago that mail-in votes may not count if they are "contained in undated or incorrectly dated outer envelopes." The justices had split 3-3 on whether making the envelope dates mandatory under state law would violate provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which states that immaterial errors or omissions should not be used to prevent voting.

During the April primary, redesigned exterior envelopes reduced the rate of rejected ballots, according to state elections officials.

## NORTH CAROLINA

### County to lose top two election officials ahead of balloting

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**ELIZABETH CITY, N.C.** | A North Carolina county will soon lose its top two election administrators mere weeks before the first general election ballots go out to voters.

The elections board in Pasquotank County, along the Virginia border about 170 miles northeast of Raleigh, last week accepted the resignation of Deputy Director Troy White, The Daily Advance of Elizabeth City reported.

Mr. White's departure is effective Aug. 16, the same day that the resignation of Director Emma Tate takes effect. Ms. Tate's upcoming departure was made public last month.

Ms. Tate, who has served as permanent director since early 2020, told the newspaper that she decided to resign "for a multitude of reasons."

"I just decided it was time to move on," she added.

Mr. White declined to comment about the reasons for his resignation after last Tuesday's board meeting that confirmed his departure.

The departures emphasize a turnover problem among local election directors over the past presidential election cycle in North Carolina and other states.

Pasquotank County has about 31,000 registered voters, compared with nearly 7.6 million recorded statewide. While

in-person early voting for the Nov. 5 election begins Oct. 17, county boards will begin sending absentee ballots to those who have requested them on Sept. 6.

"Obviously, this is a difficult situation with fewer than 100 days before the election and a little more than a month before absentee ballots must be sent out," said Patrick Gannon, spokesman for the State Board of Elections. The state board will help the county as it works to fill the positions as soon as possible, he added.

In recent weeks, the five-member Pasquotank County board worked out with the state board how many early voting sites in the county would be

open this fall.

In April, state elections Executive Director Karen Brinson Bell described to a General Assembly elections oversight committee staffing concerns within the state's 100 counties. She said at the time that there had been 60 director changes since 2019, and that this year would mark the first presidential election in a permanent director's role for at least 28 county directors.

Ms. Brinson Bell cited in part an environment in which "election professionals have faced continued hostility, harassment, substantial changes in their workload and the demands on them."

## Who's afraid of Kamala Harris?

Calling her 'fearless' could be biggest lie ever told

If you have to lie in politics, you might as well make it the biggest lie you can think up.

"Donald Trump is running scared and trying to back out of the debate he already agreed to," according to Vice President Kamala Harris' campaign.

Of course, a campaign spokesman made this statement, not Ms. Harris herself. Letting her say it herself without a teleprompter in front of reporters would put her entire campaign at risk. She might even — danger of all dangers — start cackling like a hyena after she said it.

The campaign spokesman continued: "We're happy to discuss further debates after the one both campaigns have already agreed to."

This, of course, is a lie. The debate the Trump campaign agreed to on Sept. 10 — moderated by hostile reporters from ABC News — was made with the Biden campaign. The

Biden campaign is no more. And ABC News has only come further unhinged in its vitriol toward Mr. Trump since the Biden and Trump campaigns reached their agreement on debates.

Mr. Trump so thoroughly trounced President Biden in their June 27 debate that Mr. Biden was promptly ushered into forced retirement after a 50-year political career.

Again, tell us, who is afraid? And of whom?

Democratic politicians and the big-money bagmen who control the party became so deeply unnerved by that first debate against Mr. Trump that they cashiered a sitting president, tossed aside the entire Democratic primary cycle and installed a new nominee.

Set aside the unprecedented corruption, dishonesty and hypocrisy of such a move. Think of the deep fear that must have motivated such a massively humiliating public immolation.

Now, Democrats are stuck with Kamala Harris — at least for the moment.

And no matter how obediently the political press strives to prop her up, and no matter how much the political press hates Donald Trump, Ms. Harris remains even worse than Mr. Biden.

First, she is the most deeply unpopular American vice president in the history of public polling. That is a mathematical fact.

Second, she is so terrible at the art of politics and campaigning that she flamed out of the Democratic primary cycle four years ago after entering the race as the odds-on favorite to win. She had the backing of the entire political media and yet has failed to earn a single delegate in the Democratic primary.

Third, as bad as her polls and her political skills are, her record is even worse. No major party candidate in American history has racked up a greater, more painful record of disastrous policies than Kamala Harris.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vice President Kamala Harris

Her two-week honeymoon — thoroughly faked and pumped up by a groveling press and their juiced polls — has demonstrated why voters dislike Ms. Harris.

All her lying, flip-flopping and obfuscation cannot reverse her clear record of wars abroad, intentionally open borders, heinous crimes committed by illegal aliens she ushered into the country, high gas prices and punishing inflation.

Now Democrats are running Ms. Harris as a friend to working Americans and defender of law and order — like she just arrived on the scene and is somehow not responsible for all the misery Americans feel personally and see all around them.

"Fearless," they call her — even as her campaign scrambles to play the clock out as long as possible before submitting to a debate or even an interview with her fawning press.

"Let the future begin," they say, as if Ms. Harris were not the very hand from the past four years that crafted the nation's current malaise.

Democrats know they have the worst hand possible in this election. Their only ace is an obedient, fawning press that will do anything to help them win. Their strategy is to start banking as many votes as possible before allowing their current puppet to face Mr. Trump in a debate or answer any questions without a teleprompter.

But yeah, "fearless."

Charles Hurt is the opinion editor at The Washington Times.

## Harris is the original Soros prosecutor

Vice president has a liberal, soft-on-crime history

By Jay Town

It came as no surprise that within hours of Kamala Harris being coronated by the Democratic Party machine, George Soros and his son Alex were among the first to declare their support for the vice president.

Ms. Harris was the original "Soros prosecutor" — before Soros prosecutors were uncool.

Mr. Soros and his PACs have spent hundreds of millions of dollars supporting liberal, soft-on-crime causes, including district attorney races, all over the United States. Larry Krasner in Philadelphia. Alvin Bragg in Manhattan. George Gascon in Los Angeles. Kim Foxx in Chicago. And scores more. All are insults to law and order. All are insults to law enforcement. All are insults to public safety. And the cities they serve are fraught with crime, violence and lawlessness.

The Soros prosecutor seeks only to get into power with Mr. Soros' money, then serves by refusing to prosecute criminals, selectively enforcing laws for political purposes, insisting that criminals be immediately released from custody regardless of public safety concerns and seeking to cut funding to police departments.

Ms. Harris, the original Soros prosecutor, forged the blueprint for Mr. Soros to undermine America's justice system. The self-proclaimed progressive prosecutor had a troubled tenure in the law, drafted Mr. Soros' designs for promoting soft-on-crime lawyers and put them in positions to take a wrecking ball to the justice system. Through her legal and political career, she was inconsistent on criminal justice issues, refused to fight for victims of violent crime, fought for cashless bail and used the justice system for her political benefit.

After graduating from the 82nd best law school in the country and failing the bar exam, Ms. Harris began her career in the Alameda County, California, District Attorney's Office (now occupied by Soros prosecutor Pam Price). The self-proclaimed "career prosecutor" is

anything but, having stood in front of a jury on her cases only a handful of times. Rather than going to trial like real career prosecutors, Ms. Harris spent most of her time sitting on boards, handling motions and misdemeanors and dating politician Willie Brown.

Always seeking more political power, Ms. Harris ran for San Francisco district attorney in 2002, and with Mr. Brown's support, she won. On Ms. Harris' watch, the homicide rate in San Francisco was at all times higher than the

The Soros prosecutor blueprint requires constant advancement, which Ms. Harris did when she was elected California attorney general in 2010. On her watch as state AG, like when she was district attorney, California's homicide rate outpaced the nation's in her first three years as attorney general and was never significantly under the national homicide rate. Ms. Harris also defied Supreme Court orders and fought to keep nonviolent offenders locked up in prisons that were so crowded and unsafe that the court ruled

they violated the Eighth Amendment at its 200% capacity.

Ms. Harris never tried a case as the district attorney or attorney general. She has spent twice as much time running for office as she did as a line prosecutor.

Once Ms. Harris reached the U.S. Senate, she again shifted with the political winds and advocated ending cash bail. She advocated cutting police funding. She supported funding groups that were posting bail for lawless rioters out of jail in the summer of 2020 who would then go on to commit murder, rape and other offenses. She said illegal immigrants are not "illegal." Soft on crime. Soft on consequences. Soft on victims.

Now, she is running for president, posing as a seasoned prosecutor, which rang as hollow then as it does now.

Kamala Harris' career is littered with a lack of respect for equal justice under law, with considerations of politics over her oath. Much the way Ms.

Harris ran San Francisco and California into the cesspool that it is in now, her career path provided George Soros the building blocks to design a plan to destroy the justice system in America's great cities. Mr. Soros did not have to look very hard for a blueprint to ruin America's criminal justice system.

He needed only to follow Kamala Harris' career.

Jay Town is a career prosecutor, U.S. Marine, former U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Alabama and current vice president and general counsel at Gray Analytics Inc.



ILLUSTRATION BY LINAS GARSYS

homicide rates of both California and the nation. When a gang member murdered a San Francisco police officer, Ms. Harris refused to pursue the death penalty despite the uproar by the police department and the late Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who criticized Ms. Harris for her selective refusal.

When an illegal immigrant and MS-13 gang member slaughtered a man and his two sons, Ms. Harris refused to seek capital punishment, calculating politics over justice. Despite the rising, untenable violence in her city, Ms. Harris selectively focused instead on threatening parents with jail if their kids were truant.

## Israel's future is America's future

Our shared enemies will become stronger if Middle East ally is defeated

By Newt Gingrich

Americans are largely focused on the 2024 election, for good reason, but the future history of our civilization is currently being written in the Middle East.

The Israeli military is committed to urban warfare against Hamas in the Gaza Strip. Israel is also engaged in selective strikes against Hamas and Hezbollah leaders in Lebanon and Iran — and punitive strikes against the Houthis in Yemen.

At the same time, Iranian leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei is threatening retaliatory strikes against Israel.

Israel has the most successful, high-tech society in the region. It has remarkable tactical and operational military capabilities. It has applied advanced science and technology to challenges such as missile defense. But it seems to lack strategic vision and focus. In the long run, winning each day is necessary — but not sufficient.

This insight hit me in 1984 when Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick invited me to dinner at the U.N. ambassador's residence, which was in the Waldorf Astoria. Irving Kristol was also there.

Kristol was a great intellectual and one of the founders of the neoconservative movement.

I asked him if he thought Israel would exist in 100 years. He thought about it for a moment and responded: "A hundred years? I know that Israel's here today. I think that is good. If you



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» see GINGRICH | B4

## COMMENT &amp; ANALYSIS

## Media campaigns for Harris

Democrats 'save democracy' by hiding their candidate from public view

Kamala Harris is a historic presidential candidate. She's the first major-party nominee to earn the nomination without first having a single unscripted conversation with the press or public since President Biden withdrew. Apparently, she was anointed the Democratic Party's leader on some sort of Zoom call over the weekend.

Left-aligned media commentators who prattle about "saving democracy" conspicuously ignored the lack of voter participation in the vice president's elevation to presidential nominee. The Democratic Party faithful were never offered an opportunity to weigh her policies and record of achievement against other viable contenders, or provide any input at all.

Over the next 90 or so days, Ms. Harris is likely to continue the low-profile strategy. After all, it worked for Mr. Biden. The president secured his position while hiding in a basement under the cover of COVID. He ducked traditional, open-ended speaking events that might have shed light on where he stood on the issues.

Democratic strategists realized policy discussions just get in the way of the exercise of power. Rather than stoop to asking for the support of the rabble, the Democratic elite know they can count on corporate-owned media outlets, Big Tech censorship and millions of uninvited foreigners to hand them victory in November.

Allowing Ms. Harris to speak could undermine the plan. We had a glimpse of that on Friday, when the vice president was given a few seconds in the spotlight while standing next to Mr. Biden at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland.

"This is an extraordinary testament to the importance of having a president who understands the power of diplomacy and understands the strength that rests in understanding the significance of diplomacy and strengthening alliances," she said.

Few people have the gift of saying nothing in so many words. Her newfound popularity wouldn't last if she had to explain her positions without a teleprompter.

That's why Ms. Harris mustered single-digit support in her bid for the nomination four years ago. Mr. Biden asked her to join his administration only because he was out to fill a quota. "I commit that I will, in fact, appoint a — pick a — woman to be vice president," he said in a Democratic primary debate. Mr. Biden further limited his options to Black women.

Even the people closest to Ms. Harris aren't fans. The group Open the Books reviewed payroll records to find 43 of 47 people who worked on her vice presidential staff bolted for the exit within three years. Her habit of creating hostile work environments stretches back to her days as California's top prosecutor, where she reportedly ordered everyone to address her as "General" while standing at attention.

No wonder party strategists are desperate to keep her from talking — especially about her track record. As vice president, she has failed to secure the border. As a senator, she failed to pass a single bill into law.

That's fortunate, considering her legislative ideas were extreme. She introduced bills imposing federal rent control, sticking warning labels on every product and prohibiting Federal Reserve banks from appointing leaders without first meeting an interview quota of "at least one individual reflective of gender diversity and one reflective of racial or ethnic diversity."

With the world on the brink of war and our economy on the brink of recession, Americans deserve to hear directly from the candidates what they intend to do about it. The public shouldn't allow corporate media outlets and Zoom calls to make the choice for them.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Reconsider boxing in general

"What is a woman? Olympics wrestles with gender uproar after female boxer exits fight" (web, Aug. 1) details the recent Olympic boxing match in which Angela Carini conceded to Imane Khelif after only 46 seconds. Ms. Carini felt extreme pain in her nose after being punched.

Men should not be allowed to compete in women's sports. Ms.

Khelif could have caused permanent damage to Ms. Carini if the bout had continued and she had not conceded.

Yet there is a larger issue here: Why is anyone allowed to box at all? Kids are not allowed to fight in school, on playgrounds or anywhere else. Assault and battery by adults is a criminal offense. Yet society allows adults to jump into

a boxing ring and pummel each other — and people pay to watch the spectacle.

What is the redeeming social value of boxing? It is violent, dangerous and evil. In a civilized society, there ought to be a law against it.

DIANE ISABELLE REINKE  
Silver Spring, Maryland

## Harris personifies Peter Principle

"The Peter Principle," by Laurence J. Peter and Raymond Hull, caught the attention of many when it was published in 1969. Its premise is that employees are promoted based on their success in previous jobs until they reach a level at which they are no longer competent, as skills in one job do not necessarily translate to another.

Doesn't this sound eerily like the executives in the Biden administration? Aided and abetted by an allegiance to diversity, equity and inclusion, blatantly incompetent policymakers have risen to the top, showing that the Peter Principle is alive and well.

Just two examples are

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, whose egregious lack of leadership is well documented. By far the most flagrantly incapable policymaker, however, is Vice President Kamala Harris, who now wants to be our next president.

Ms. Harris' first big job when President Biden was elected was "border czar." Since she was given the assignment, however, millions of illegal immigrants have crossed our border. Her supposed quest to address "root causes" was a flop. During her tenure, ultraliberal initiatives she has championed include banning fracking, achieving a net-zero

electrical grid by 2035, ending fossil fuels and supporting a bill that would have given illegal aliens the right to free lawyers.

The Peter Principle inspired Scott Adams, creator of the cleverly funny comic strip "Dilbert," to develop a similar concept called the Dilbert Principle, which holds that incompetent employees are promoted to management positions to get them out of the workflow.

Ms. Harris' gross ineptness is breathtaking, but this is no laughing matter. She is dangerous and deadly serious. God help us.

RON PHIPPS  
Annapolis, Maryland

## Focus on the sport

Olympic medal winner and WNBA legend Sue Bird recently explained that she relies more on the "eye test" than individual statistics or team record — which is why she chose the Indiana Fever's Caitlin Clark over Chicago Sky's Angel Reese as this year's WNBA Rookie of the Year.

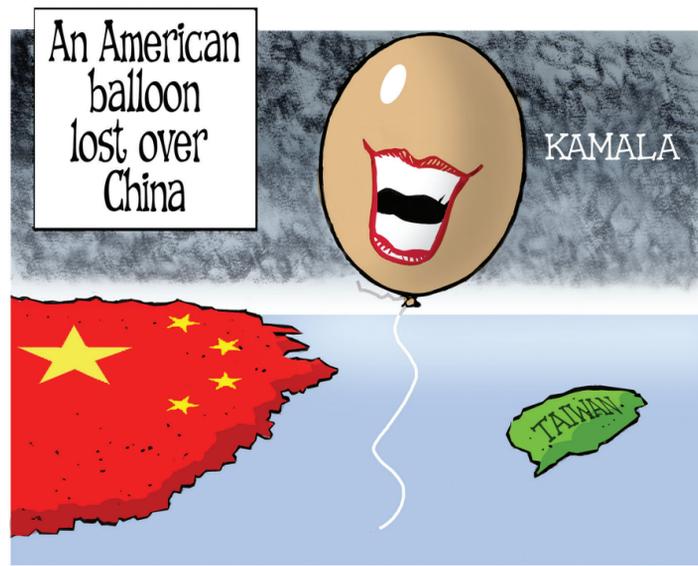
Joseph Zucker's Aug. 4 "Bleacher Report," however, says that "one

downside to Bird's metric is that any 'eye test' is bound to favor a dynamic high-volume scorer and playmaker over a power forward who excels in doing dirty work inside. But there are certainly other factors that point to Clark as the slight favorite right now."

If our recent Olympic controversies — French pole vaulter Anthony Ammirati's crotch-related mishap,

commentator Bob Ballard's sexist remarks about women and criticism of gymnast Simone Biles' hair, to name a few examples — are any indication, the next shoe to drop will be the NAACP calling Ms. Bird's choice racist.

RICK KNIGHT  
Henrico, Virginia



## Secret Service makes me nervous

Agency is more interested in protecting itself than protecting Trump

By Cal Thomas

In 1962, composer Irving Berlin debuted his final musical, "Mr. President." The show has a silly little song that contains the lyric "The Secret Service makes me nervous."

I thought of that song after the real Secret Service failed to protect former President Donald Trump at a rally three weeks ago in Butler, Pennsylvania. The bureaucracy seems to be putting more effort into protecting agency management than it did Mr. Trump.

We've heard the reports of how the assailant, Thomas Crooks, was spotted by some rallygoers as much as 90 minutes before he fired eight rounds, wounding Mr. Trump and two others and killing retired fire chief Corey Comperatore. A Secret Service sniper, the first to be deployed at these rallies, shot and killed Crooks. The blame game started soon after.



Missouri Republican, whether anyone at the agency had been fired, Mr. Rowe reverted to the standard bureaucratic shuffle that the investigation was continuing, and he didn't want to take any action that might cause harm to an innocent person. Senators from both parties were outraged at his response, as they should have been. They also expressed shock that Crooks had flown a drone over the area on the day of the shooting, and apparently, no one found that unusual.

The video recorded by a rally attendee who was sitting behind Mr. Trump shows Crooks making his way across the roof of a building to a position where he would have a clear shot. Earlier, several rallygoers shouted at police that someone was on the roof, but neither the Secret Service nor local law enforcement responded. One officer said he started to climb up on the roof, but when Crooks pointed his weapon at him, he retreated. Various people blamed a breakdown in

communication between the Secret Service and local police. It makes one long for the days of walkie-talkies.

Some in Congress and conservative media are suggesting the Biden administration's emphasis on diversity, equity and inclusion may have lowered standards for applicants to the Secret Service. A look at the agency's website might give credence to that argument. It lists various categories for recruitment and includes outreach to African Americans, Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, Indigenous people, the Federal Women Program, the LGBTQ community, people with disabilities including disabled veterans, the Office of the Ombudsman and the Inclusion and Engagement Council. It says nothing about merit.

Three years ago, The Washington Post reported: "The morale of Uniformed Division (UD) officers, who guard the White House, is so bad that a new study by a National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) panel said job satisfaction and employee engagement are at a 'concerning level of risk' related to a 'crisis in UD work-life balance.'"

NBC News recently reported: "Former Secret Service officials say it can be difficult to get experienced agents to remain on the job."

It's enough to make us all nervous.

Readers may email Cal Thomas at [caeditions@tribpub.com](mailto:caeditions@tribpub.com). Look for Cal Thomas' latest book, "A Watchman in the Night: What I've Seen Over 50 Years Reporting on America" (HumanixBooks).

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# Raised by hate

*A spiritual battle is taking place across our nation*

By Jack Brewer

**O**n June 28, 1914, 19-year-old Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand, triggering one of the deadliest conflicts in world history: World War I.

Last month, we became dangerously close to another young man changing the course of world history through his attempted assassination of Republican presidential front-runner and former President Donald Trump. Whatever your political beliefs may be, it is paramount that we understand the impact we are having on our nation's youth. Proverbs 22:6 tells us the same, saying, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

This 20-year-old attacker was 11 years old when Mr. Trump first came down the escalator at Trump Tower and spent the next years being flooded with rhetoric about how our republic was on the verge of collapse through the Trump presidency.

Donald Trump, the dictator, the fascist, the threat to democracy, the racist, the second coming of Hitler. Insert any despicable pejorative you can think of, and you would match both the rhetoric and tone of the Democratic Party and the mainstream media for the past eight years when discussing Mr. Trump. Words have power, and in Butler, Pennsylvania, we witnessed the consequences of those words. The attempt on Mr. Trump's life is the culmination of nearly a decade of extreme rhetoric from the Democrats — echoed by their allies in the mainstream media — who essentially raised a killer and pointed him directly at Donald Trump, the father, husband and presidential candidate.

Some in the media and across the political spectrum have suggested that it is too soon to begin discussing the rhetoric that preceded

this event. But I endeavor to hold people accountable, and accountability starts at the top. Last December, President Biden posted on X: "Trump poses many threats to our country: The right to choose, civil rights, voting rights, and America's standing in the world. But the greatest threat he poses is to our democracy. If we lose that, we lose everything."

Even more recently, Mr. Biden posted a

America for this kind of violence," yet refused to address the part his rhetoric may have played in this event.

Moreover, it is not just Mr. Biden who bears responsibility for this violence. Others in elected office, such as Rep. Maxine Waters, who encouraged her supporters to harass Trump allies and recently accused Mr. Trump of being on a "mission to destroy democracy," are worthy of condemnation as well. Others outside of political office have echoed the same militant rhetoric, such as MSNBC personality Joy Reid, who just a few weeks ago stated defiantly that she would "vote for Biden in a coma to avoid Hitler in the White House."

Studies examine the impact of social media on the minds of our youth, so why pretend or ignore how this rhetoric — that was published and amplified across social media — is radicalizing our nation's youth? Unfortunately, I believe there are more extremists and unstable people lurking, waiting for the opportunity to etch their nation into history as the person who stopped America's decline into fascism — as suggested by the Democratic Party and the media.

Though their words in the physical realm bear much of the blame, an underlying spiritual battle is also taking place across this nation. It was Christ's hand that saved Mr. Trump, and his survival is nothing short of a miracle. The unfolding of events is as unlikely as divine intervention. We all must repent if we are to align ourselves with righteousness and truly defend our country and our future.

As is told to Christ's people in Malachi 4:6, "He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction." It is time to save our children, our country and our future.

Jack Brewer is an evangelical philanthropist and chairman of the America First Policy Institute's Center for Opportunity Now.



ILLUSTRATION BY GREG GROESCH

video with the caption "Donald Trump is the greatest threat to our democracy." Contrast those statements with Mr. Biden's recent news conference in which he said he had spoken with Mr. Trump and stated that "there is no place in

## The importance of symbols

Harris chose to party with her sorority sisters instead of showing support for Israel

By Gerard Leval

**I**n politics, symbols and symbolic behavior play a vital role. Often, symbols and symbolic comportment are even more important than actual substance. History provides us with a multitude of examples.

There is perhaps no more striking or pertinent example than what happened in France in 1875. After the election of a royalist president and National Assembly, the assembly voted to convert the nation from an interim republic to a monarchy and offered the throne to the grandson of France's last Bourbon king. The Comte de Chambord was invited to return to the vacant throne of France as Henry V. He readily accepted.

As a condition of his acceptance, however, he insisted that France reject the revolutionary tricolor flag that had been France's banner and a powerful symbol of France since the French Revolution and Napoleonic era in the late 18th and early 19th centuries and readopt the Bourbon dynasty flag of fleurs-de-lis on a white background. While the royalist assembly was prepared to restore the monarchy and have a Bourbon become king, it seemed unable to accept eliminating the tricolor banner. The assembly voted to reject Chambord's condition.

Chambord, clearly neither the most brilliant man nor the most astute politician, stubbornly insisted on his condition. He had to have his Bourbon flag, or he would not ascend the throne. The reason for his insistence has remained unclear; perhaps he was playing to his royalist base, or possibly he did not understand the true feelings of the French people. Faced with Chambord's foolish condition, regardless of the reason, the National Assembly withdrew its offer of the throne, and France became a republic, which it has remained to this day, with only a short and tragic interlude during World War II.

This is a particularly dramatic example of a symbol altering the course of history, but there are so many others. British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's effete outfit and accompanying umbrella as he appeased Hitler remain a symbol of national weakness. The raising of the flag on Mount Suribachi at the Battle of Iwo Jima is a symbol of national bravery. President George W. Bush standing atop the ruins of the World Trade Center in September 2001 symbolizes our national resilience.

Such symbols abound, sometimes by their presence and sometimes by their absence. And we have just been confronted with a prominent example of the role of symbolic behavior by omission by one of our national leaders.

Amid an existential struggle with barbaric enemies, the leader of the only democracy in the Middle East was invited to come to Washington to address a joint session of Congress. It is, of course, traditional for the vice president of the United States to sit directly behind the honored guest (and next to the speaker of the House of Representatives) during such a special

address. The tradition had been virtually unbroken for generations. When Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu went before the joint session, however, the seat behind him was occupied not by the vice president but rather by Sen. Ben Cardin, Maryland Democrat.

Where was the vice president? Why was she not sitting behind the Israeli prime minister as he pleaded the case of his beleaguered nation before members of Congress?

Kamala Harris was in Indianapolis. She was partying with her sorority sisters, who had gathered for their annual convention.

The symbolism of choosing to attend a sorority convention over fulfilling a traditional obligation and welcoming the leader of one of our most important and long-suffering allies could not be missed. Ms. Harris seemingly chose to stand on principle and to demonstrate that principle in a powerfully symbolic way.

But what exactly was that principle? Ms. Harris did not articulate it. It can be deduced, however. It was most likely a play to placate her progressive base, which has been serving up a heavy dose of anti-Israel propaganda, antisemitism and anti-Americanism. Those supporters cannot fathom a strong Israel defending itself against barbaric behavior by Hamas and its followers.

The vice president, now the likely candidate of the Democratic Party for president, apparently felt that she could not alienate those reprehensible supporters. She has seemingly not grasped the significance of snubbing the prime minister of Israel and the perception that this generated throughout the Middle East as well as in our own country.

Whatever the reason, the symbolism of Ms. Harris' absence from the well of the House of Representatives stands out as a memorable and deeply regrettable act. She has demonstrated a stubborn, unstatesmanlike willingness to subjugate her official responsibilities to a perceived electoral benefit. She has placed her own welfare over the welfare of our nation and of an important ally.

Just as the Comte de Chambord's foolish insistence on his family's flag undermined his opportunity to lead his nation and disqualified him from mounting the French throne, Kamala Harris' foolish absence from the joint session of Congress may now, in my view, disqualify her from leading our nation.

Her actions have also demonstrated the shallowness of her thinking. They have highlighted the weakness of her understanding of international imperatives and demonstrated that she lacks an awareness of the importance of symbols and symbolic behavior as critical components of leadership. Hopefully, a majority of the American people will fully appreciate the symbolism of the moment and respond accordingly.

Gerard Leval is a partner in the Washington office of a national law firm. He is the author of "Lobbying for Equality: Jacques Godard and the Struggle for Jewish Civil Rights During the French Revolution," published by HUC Press.

## University presidents must step up or step aside

*Learning environment cannot thrive without safety and security*

By Ken Tashjy

**T**he spring of 2024 will go down in history as a semester of disgrace and disorder for many U.S. higher education institutions, and the blame lies squarely on the shoulders of their presidents.

Many campus leaders passively stood by while student protesters and outside agitators threatened and intimidated students, set up illegal encampments, barricaded buildings, blocked campus access and clashed with police. Campus protests were permitted to rage unchecked for weeks, jeopardizing student safety and security and effectively shutting down many institutions.

This was unacceptable. With a new academic year soon upon us and the likelihood of further disruptive protests, college and university presidents must either step up this fall to preserve the teaching and learning environment or step aside.

For over 21 years, I served as chief legal counsel for 15 public institutions of higher education. I counseled more than 50 college presidents on their legal duties and responsibilities as their chief operating officer. Principal among them, every president must maintain a safe and secure learning environment for their students and employees.

A learning environment cannot thrive in the absence of safety and security. Nothing else can follow without these essentials — no teaching and learning, no open debate and discussion, no free inquiry or intellectual curiosity, no academic freedom.

Effective presidential leadership requires conveying a clear and unmistakable message that teaching and learning are the institution's primary purpose, and any conduct that interferes with achieving that purpose will not be tolerated.

By failing to quell the protests, these presidents subjected their institutions to significant liability, including potential civil rights violations for the harassment, threats and intimidation suffered by many students and breach of contract claims for failing to deliver the educational benefits and services students were promised and paid for in high tuition and fees.

In addition to mounting lawsuits, colleges and universities face increased calls for greater congressional oversight and cuts in their federal funding.

What we witnessed this spring on so many campuses was anything but strong presidential leadership. The presidents of Columbia University, the University of California at Los Angeles, Portland State University, Rutgers University and Northwestern University, to name a few, conveyed weakness and capitulation, which elevated and prioritized the demands of the mob over the academic interests, safety and security of most of their students.

None of these presidents should be considered for a Profile in Courage Award in the near future. By coddling protesters and acquiescing to their demands, these presidents gained little more than a temporary cessation of hostilities while exposing their institutions to significant liability.

Further, their inaction undermined campus safety and security, discredited institutional policies, weakened administrative authority and validated the protesters' disruptive and illegal tactics, ultimately offering incentive for future unrest.

It didn't need to be that way. Their timid and anemic responses starkly contrast to the strong leadership exhibited by the University of Florida's then-president, Ben Sasse.

First, Mr. Sasse affirmed the protesters' constitutionally protected rights to engage in free speech and peaceful protests. Second, he clearly identified what activities were not permitted in a peaceful protest. Third, he refused to negotiate with protesters. Fourth, law enforcement made arrests only after several days of warning protesters that they would be arrested if they failed to follow the university's rules. Nine protesters were arrested, and the protests fizzled out.

Mr. Sasse conveyed a clear and unmistakable message to protesters: I respect your rights to engage in free speech and peaceful protest, those rights have limits, there are consequences for exceeding those rights and I will enforce our rules if you fail to heed my warnings.

Presidents should review Mr. Sasse's actions as a case study in leadership in the face of agitation on their campus come fall. If they do not, they place their institution in great legal peril.

College presidents who continue to cower and capitulate to protesters, permitting a breach in campus safety and security and the hijacking of the teaching and learning environment, should be shown the door.

Higher education is at a crossroads. We need institutional leaders who prioritize and promote a safe and secure learning environment for all while serving as a bulwark against the mob and its radical objectives. Anything less is unacceptable.

Ken Tashjy is a Campus Reform Higher Education fellow, former general counsel for over 20 years for 15 higher education institutions, an attorney and a former adjunct instructor at Suffolk University.



ILLUSTRATION BY LINAS GARISY

# Desperate Biden pursues 'court reform'

*A boneheaded idea to consolidate and maintain power*

By Jeremy Dys

**C**ourt-packing has always been a brazen attempt by leftists to overthrow our court system and undermine judicial independence. President Biden's lame-duck proposal mainstreaming partisan demands from the far left to exercise raw power over a separate but equal branch of our government reveals much about the political moment.

Reeling from a torrid month of political gaffes, a poor debate performance, policy losses at the Supreme Court and a momentum-shifting and tragic threat to former President Donald Trump's life, President Biden announced in a prime-time address — the first after his ouster from the top of the Democratic Party ticket — that he intends to use the final months of his now lame-duck presidency to “call for Supreme Court reform,” something he asserted is “critical to our democracy.”

He followed that address with an opinion piece in *The Washington Post* seeking to impose overtly

presented to free representatives of the free people of America,” here we are, staring down such measures again.

By thwarting Roosevelt's political power grab, the 75th Congress hoped subsequent generations would inherit “an independent Court, a fearless Court, a Court that will dare to announce its honest opinions in what it believes to be the defense of the liberties of the people” rather than a court acting “out of fear or sense of obligation.”

Years later, then-Sen. Joe Biden asserted that Roosevelt “clearly had the right” to seek a reorganization of the federal judiciary, declaring the New Deal president “was legally, absolutely correct.” Whatever that means.

“But it was a bonehead idea,” he concluded. “It was a terrible, terrible mistake to make.”

Surely, it was both boneheaded and a “terrible mistake,” but Mr. Biden went beyond rhetorician to historian, noting that Roosevelt's efforts “put in question, for an entire decade, the independence of the most significant body ... in this country, the Supreme Court of the United States of America.”

He was off in his count by only a few decades. The generations that followed the 1937 Democrats

quickly forgot their prior commitment to an independent judiciary, leading ultimately to President Biden launching the Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States soon after taking the oath of office. That commission concluded its work with an extensive report, but neither President Biden nor notable Senate Democrats vocally supportive of an overhaul of the judiciary did more than engage in escalating rhetoric against the conservative justices of the Supreme Court.

But ruling Democratic elites have done nothing but talk about court reform and criticize judges who cannot (or will not) push back. To suggest that Mr. Biden's proposal is a transparent pursuit of raw political power would suggest that he retains political power. More likely, Mr. Biden is desperate to save his political legacy while perhaps rallying the most liberal voters to turn out in

November.

That could be dismissed as another day in politics, but for the fact that he has nothing to lose. What possible motivation does Mr. Biden — with no hope of a second term — have to moderate leftist demands for the judiciary's reorganization?

“Legally,” he would have every incentive to pursue an ethics code or term limits and pack the court, diminishing its judicial independence so that one party — his party — could rule the nation for decades to come.

It would still be a “bonehead idea,” but with the last safeguards of the nation's civil liberties subordinated to raw leftist power, who would be allowed to care?

*Jeremy Dys is senior counsel for the First Liberty Institute, a nonprofit law firm dedicated to defending religious freedom. Learn more at FirstLiberty.org.*

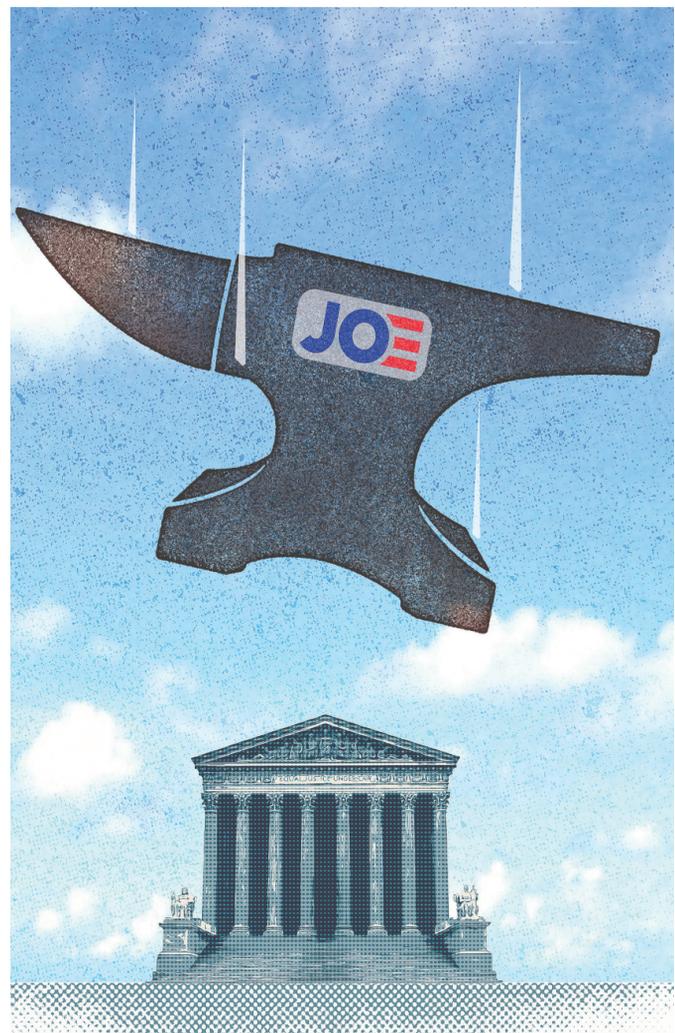


ILLUSTRATION BY GREG GROESCH

partisan demands targeting the Supreme Court's conservatives — an act of pure political revenge that threatens the civil liberties of all Americans.

Transforming the Supreme Court into another partisan body would destroy the constitutional order and threaten our civil liberties. Past generations of Americans knew this all too well, and Mr. Biden once knew it, too.

In 1937, Democrats rebuffed President Franklin D. Roosevelt's efforts to manipulate the court to suit his own political ends. Presented with various reforms styled the “Reorganization of the Federal Judiciary,” the Senate Judiciary Committee labeled Roosevelt's efforts a “needless, futile, and utterly dangerous abandonment of constitutional principle.”

Though the Senate Democrats at the time hoped such court reforms would be so “emphatically rejected that its parallel will never again be

## Gingrich

From page B1

tell me that Israel's here tomorrow, I think that will be good. I have no idea about 100 years. But I like the fact that today Israel is here.”

At the time, I thought it was a pragmatic response. Kristol had lived through the Holocaust, Israel's war of independence and the wars it fought in 1956, 1967 and 1974. Israel was still there — and had grown more powerful, wealthier and more secure.

Yet being here today doesn't answer the question of long-term survival. That takes strategic planning, which must occur at three levels.

The first level is immediate. A country must be adequately secure and prepared to fight this year. It must have the necessary equipment to survive a crisis. If any of these requirements is not met, there is an immediate problem to solve.

The second level considers the next 15 years. What are the indicators of potential danger? What would overwhelm those indicators? Is the

country prepared to make the investments, restructuring and planning to achieve survival?

The third level of survival is long-term survival. Is the country managing its environment over time so that it is more likely to survive than be overwhelmed?

All three layers must be covered simultaneously. Two out of three is not enough — and anything less is a potential crisis.

The most elegant example of strategic planning is the American effort, which started with World War I and continued through the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Americans fought World War I. Then our leaders studied and thought about it for 20 years. We fought in World War II and were then confronted by the Soviet Union. We brought to bear everything we learned in a lifetime of fighting. We invented the Cold War and produced National Security Council Paper 68, the most important historic strategic

planning document in modern times. I recommend that everybody read it. This April 15, 1950, document clearly provided an explanation of the world in which we were living.

Essentially, American leaders said that the creativity of a free people is so much more productive and inventive than the activities of a totalitarian state

that, over time, the West would inevitably drown the Soviet Union. They believed that the key was to contain the Soviets long enough for the imbalance between the two systems to become overwhelming. That strategy finally succeeded in 1991. It's astonishing to read NSC 68 and think about the intervening years.



By Deroy Murdock

**D**irty voter rolls yield dirty elections. Alas, America's voter files are filthy. The good news is that a high-tech security expert has carved a pristine path out of this dump. Will Republicans be smart enough to follow it before Democrats steal the White House again?

Jay Valentine is vice president of operations with Fractal Computing. He and his company developed eBay's anti-fraud systems and created the anti-terrorist software behind the Transportation Security Administration's no-fly list. They protect Geico and State Farm from insurance cheats and the power grid from hackers.

Mr. Valentine and Fractal have harnessed their technical prowess to help citizens cleanse the Augean stable that is America's election system. Republican honest-vote advocates are battling the Democrats' quiet but effective ballot-creation machine. Thousands of GOP lawyers and election observers have volunteered to patrol precincts and oversee tabulation stations in November.

That might be too late.

Election rolls are littered with dead, relocated and phantom “voters,” ineligible foreign citizens, even illegal aliens. Unless Republicans intervene immediately, these people will receive mass-mail ballots. Democratic ballot traffickers will harvest, complete and submit them on behalf of “voters” who are unqualified to pick America's president and other leaders.

As deadlines loom, Republicans must shift from today's retail method of voter-roll cleanup (scrutinize suspicious voters individually) to Fractal's wholesale strategy: Compare voter rolls with property tax records and challenge fishy or phony addresses where hundreds of thousands of phantom “voters” are registered illegally.

Using this technique, swing-state activists confirm that their election records reek of irregularities — or worse:

Georgia (16 Electoral College votes): According to Fractal, 538,876 phantom “voters” include 114,817 tied to invalid addresses, per the Postal Service, and 68,983 who are registered, despite living permanently outside the Peach State.

In Norcross, Georgia, 65 voters were registered at Jones Recreational Vehicle Park. Although the park limits stays to two weeks, Mr. Valentine said, lodgers have “cast ballots for many, many years” — including 2020.

Georgia's records include 1,641 people listed as age 110-plus. At least 25 share a birth date: Jan. 1, 1800. These 224-year-olds might need special care to cast their mail-in ballots.

Nevada (six electoral votes): In Washoe County (Reno) between Feb. 14 and Aug. 19, 2022, 37 voters claimed to live in public parks. This cohort nearly septupled to 248. Casino-dwelling registrants climbed from 51 to 295. Parking lot-based voters grew from 728 to 1,479.

“Our thesis is that we should not mail ballots to people in parking garages,” Mr. Valentine declared. “We don't think that's a hard case to make.”

North Carolina (16 electoral votes): Among 432,299 phantom “voters,” 159,520 are registered at invalid addresses and 91,264 have moved away.

Pennsylvania (19 electoral votes): Fractal identifies 1,420,435 phantom “voters” in the Keystone State. These include 323,524 rental-building residents without recorded apartment numbers. Postal workers often leave their mail-in ballots in lobbies, where they lie about, get discarded or otherwise succumb to theft and abuse. Another 346,505 are registered at invalid addresses. And 262,488 are registered in Pennsylvania despite shipping out.

Wisconsin (10 electoral votes): As of March 19, voter rolls included 22,973 men and women with

# GOP ballot-fraud foes should fight fishy addresses

*Cleaning up dirty voting rolls*

the same phone number in the 262 area code. This included 225 active voters. The balance of voters is inactive — both living and dead. Among them, 11 voters registered in 1927.

“The problem is that Wisconsin keeps records with 50% of the voters on inactive status. Nobody else does anything close to that,” Mr. Valentine lamented. “They can, and do, move voters from inactive, to active, vote them, and move them back to inactive.”

“We here in Wisconsin are running registration list data almost daily in different suspect municipalities and tracking the growth in registrations,” one Fractal user told me. “We see the names and addresses and run those against other data to flag phan-

tom voters. We never contact any voter. We challenge the county clerks who send out phantom ballots. If they know we are watching, they will be less likely to mail out shady ballots, because they don't want to get in trouble.”

Mr. Valentine, Fractal and the watchdogs whom they assist do not target individual voters. This is inefficient and ineffective. Instead, they identify fishy or fake venues rife with “registered voters.”

“Addresses do not have rights,” Mr. Valentine explained. “Addresses do not have lawyers.”

They report these problematic addresses to election officials so that ballots are neither mailed to nor accepted from these places. If someone genuinely calls a vacant lot home, he can visit the polls and ask to vote. But mail-in ballots should not reach that spot

and, quite likely, land in the hands of Democratic evildoers.

Unlike the GOP's antiquated techniques, Fractal's software promotes such voter-roll hygiene.

“Quantum tech is like the MRI and CAT scan seeing what the X-ray misses,” Mr. Valentine explained. Fractal quantum technology performs 200 million calculations per second. “We are reconciling government voter rolls with government property-tax records. These government records should agree with each other.” When they conflict, Fractal's klaxons squawk.

“We can see people aggregating at ineligible locations, like industrial buildings, across time,” he added. “In my first snapshot, I might have 10 voters. And then I have 50 voters. And then I have 300 voters in a place with no bedrooms. And that's how we find illegal-ballot mills.”

Mr. Valentine reckons that each swing state has at least 500,000 phantom “voters” controlled all but exclusively by Trump-loathing Democrats and left-wing nongovernmental organizations. Mr. Valentine estimates that for \$7 million, he could deploy teams of election-integrity sleuths to isolate ineligible properties and halt mail-in ballots destined for those addresses.

For a fraction of most campaign budgets, Mr. Valentine and Fractal Computing could level the playing field for former President Donald Trump and Republicans in Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin.

If Democrats truly believe in Vice President Kamala Harris and their cause, they should relish a fair fight.

*Deroy Murdock is a Manhattan-based Fox News contributor.*

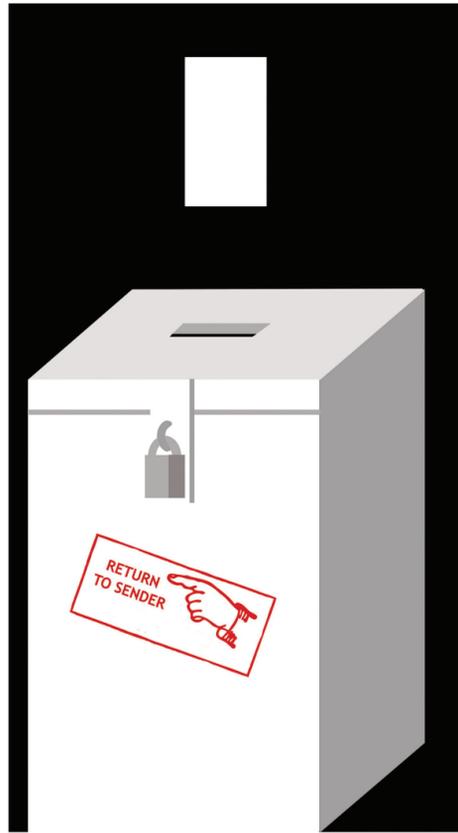


ILLUSTRATION BY HUNTER

this is policy, not a slogan — a rational America should take that seriously.

When Iranian proxies are targeting Americans abroad, we can't ignore that.

If Israel is defeated, our shared enemies will become stronger — and they will continue attacking us. They will not be appeased or sated.

Israel's survival requires precisely the strategic planning efforts that America needs. We cannot focus solely on winning kinetic wars or the immediate threats in front of us (although they are important). We must focus on winning the cultural, political and economic arguments at home and abroad — and we must do so decisively.

We must be at least as tough as our opponents, because they will wipe us out if given the chance.

Make no mistake: Our civilization is at stake. We must be prepared to defend it with all the intensity it deserves.

*For more commentary from Newt Gingrich, visit Gingrich360.com. And subscribe to the “Newt's World” podcast.*

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IN ADDITION, IDENTIFICATION OF ALL BIDDERS SHALL BE ANNOUNCED, A BRIEF SUMMARY OF EACH BID RECEIVED SHALL BE READ, AND THE PRESIDING OFFICER SHALL INQUIRE IF ANY FURTHER BIDS ARE OFFERED IN OPEN SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, 301 KING STREET, SECOND FLOOR, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, 22314 ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 AT 7 P.M. EASTERN TIME. AT THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 MEETING, THE PRESIDING OFFICER SHALL DECLARE THE BIDDING CLOSED AND THE PRESIDING OFFICERS SHALL REFER THE BIDS RECEIVED TO THE CITY MANAGER AND/OR CITY STAFF TO EVALUATE, REVIEW, AND CONSIDER IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE TERMS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE INVITATION TO BID, INCLUDING THE SELECTION OF, AND NEGOTIATION OF A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT OR SIMILAR DOCUMENT WITH A RESPONSIVE BIDDER. AS SOON THEREAFTER AS PRACTICABLE, THE CITY MANAGER AND/OR STAFF WILL RECOMMEND THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER AND PRESENT THE NEGOTIATED FRANCHISE AGREEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL. THE CITY RESERVES THE RIGHT IN THE CITY MANAGER'S SOLE DISCRETION TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, TO TERMINATE NEGOTIATIONS AT ANY STAGE OF THE SELECTION PROCESS, AND TO READVISE THE ORDINANCE WITH OR WITHOUT MODIFICATIONS.

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Gloria Sitton, CMC  
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Run Dates: July 30th, 2024  
August 6th, 2024

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COIN REVENUE COLLECTION  
DCKA-2024-B-0093

The District of Columbia Government (the "District"), pursuant to the Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 ("PPRA"), issues a public notice of its Invitation for Bids ("IFB") seeking a qualified contractor to perform asset management services to collect, count, process, and deposit the revenue from its coin collection operations from parking meters citywide.

The District contemplates awarding a requirements contract with firm-fixed price and firm-fixed unit price options. This firm-fixed price contract shall be solicited as locally funded, open market with an 35% Certified Business Enterprise/Small Business Enterprise (CBE/SBE) subcontracting goal. Contracts more than \$250,000 shall perform at least 35% of the dollar volume. Bidders will be evaluated in accordance with the IFB and all applicable laws and regulations.

Solicitation Start Date: August 06, 2024  
Questions Due Date: August 23, 2024  
Response to Questions: August 28, 2024  
Bid Closing/Due Date: September 05, 2024

The IFB documents and any amendments or updates to the IFB will be available on the District Department of Transportation Access Portal (DTAP) website, <https://dtap.ddot.dc.gov> and <https://contracts.ocp.dc.gov/solicitations>. Bidders interested in responding must submit questions and bids in accordance with the instructions set out in the IFB Section L. All inquiries concerning this solicitation must be submitted in writing in accordance with the instructions set out in the IFB.

Bids will be accepted electronically as detailed in the solicitation documents.  
August 6, 2024  
AD#85965

#### I DREAM PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

##### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

##### Interim Director of Operations

RFP for Operations Support: I Dream Public Charter School invites all interested and qualified independent contractors to submit proposals for Interim Director of Operations services to be completed over the 2024 - 2025 school year.

Submission deadline is 5:00 PM Eastern Time on Friday, August 16, 2024. To request full scope and/or seek additional information, please email:

Janine Gomez  
Executive Director  
[jgomez@idreampcs.org](mailto:jgomez@idreampcs.org)

Specify "RFP for Interim DOO" in the subject line. No phone inquiries or late responses please.

August 2,5,6, 2024  
AD#85764

### Legal Notices

#### SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIVIL DIVISION

TARA O'HARE,  
Plaintiff,

v.

2024 CAB 2280  
Judge Carl E. Ross  
Next Event: September 27, 2024  
Initial Scheduling Conference

MARIA CRISTINA MARCANTONIO Deceased's unknown heirs, devisees, and personal representatives and any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, grantees, assigns, or successors in right, title, and interest to Real Property located at 928 Perry Place, NE, Washington, DC 20017, known for tax assessment purposes as Square: 3820, Lot: 0050,

AND

UNKNOWN OWNERS of Real Property located at 928 Perry Place, NE, Washington, DC 20017, known for tax assessment purposes as Square: 3820, Lot: 0050, the unknown Owner's heirs, devisees, and personal representatives and any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, grantees, assigns, or successors in right, title, and interest.

Defendants.

#### ORDER

This matter comes before the Court upon Plaintiff's Motion for Service by Publication, filed on April 17, 2024. Plaintiff requests that this Court authorize her to serve Defendants through publication pursuant to D.C. Code § 13-341.

The object of the above-captioned matter is to quiet title to the identified property from claims asserted by the heirs or any other successors of Maria Cristina Marcantonio or any other Unknown Owners. If judgment is entered in favor of the Plaintiff, all other persons who do not appear in this action will be prevented and foreclosed from claiming any right, title, or interest in the identified property. The "Subject Property" which is the subject of this Order is described as follows:

Lot numbered Fifty (0050) in Square numbered Thirty-eight Hundred and Twenty (3820) in the subdivision of lots made by Charles H. Tompkins and Lida H. Tompkins, a part of a tract of land called "Turkey Thicket," as per plat recorded in the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia in Liber 108 at folio 40.

Commonly known As: 928 Perry Place, NE, Washington, DC 20017  
Square: 3820, Lot: 0050

The purpose of this publication is to identify and serve any unknown heirs or devisees.

ACCORDINGLY, it is by the Court this 28th day of May 2024, hereby

ORDERED that Plaintiff's Motion for Service by Publication GRANTED; and it is further

ORDERED that Plaintiff will post the Notice, attached to this Order, in accordance with the terms contained in D.C. Code § 13-341(b)(1), publishing notice no less than twice a month, for a period no less than three months; and it is further

ORDERED that the remote initial scheduling conference is CONTINUED to Friday, September 27, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in virtual courtroom 200; and it is further

ORDERED that any person claiming an interest in the Lot or in this action must cause their appearance to be entered herein during or before the Remote Initial Scheduling Conference on Friday, September 27, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. The Remote Initial Scheduling Conference will be held in Virtual Courtroom 200. An interested party's failure to enter an appearance at or before the Remote Initial Scheduling Conference will cause the above-captioned matter to proceed as in case of default.

SO ORDERED.

/s/ Carl E. Ross  
Judge Carl E. Ross

Copies to Parties.

Run Dates: July 29, 31, August 6, 13, September 3, and 10, 2024

AD#85445

#### THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

##### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) SOLICITATION NO: 49-2024

##### OFFICER PATROL GPS TRACKING SOFTWARE SYSTEM

The District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) requires licensed, qualified professionals to provide an Officer Patrol GPS Tracking Software System in response to this solicitation.

SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS will be available beginning Monday, August 5, 2024, on DCHA's website at [www.dchousing.org](http://www.dchousing.org) under "Business" and "Solicitations".

PROPOSAL RESPONSES ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 12:00 NOON.

Email LaShawn Mizzell-McLeod, Contract Specialist at [LMMCLEOD@dchousing.org](mailto:LMMCLEOD@dchousing.org) with copy to [business@dchousing.org](mailto:business@dchousing.org) for additional information.

August 6, 2024

Ad#85998

#### I DREAM PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

##### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

##### Human Resources Services

I Dream PCS located in Washington DC invites proposals for full-cycle human resources support. Submission deadline is 5:00 PM Eastern Time on August 16, 2024.

To request full scope and/or seek additional information, please email:

Janine Gomez  
Executive Director  
[jgomez@idreampcs.org](mailto:jgomez@idreampcs.org)

August 2,5,6, 2024  
AD#85766

#### VIRGINIA IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

IN RE: SURPLUS FUNDS DERIVED FROM THE FORECLOSURE SALE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2901 STOCKHOLM WAY WOODBRIDGE, VA 22191

Case No. CL24-6420

BEVERLY FREEMAN

Respondent.

#### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this suit is to interplead surplus funds into the Court's custody and allow potential claimants to file claims for the funds derived from the sale of real property known as 2901 Stockholm Way, Woodbridge, VA 22191.

It is hereby ORDERED that Beverly Freeman appear in the Circuit Court of the County of Prince William, Virginia to protect her interest in this matter on or before September 16, 2024; and it is further ORDERED that this Order of Publication be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Washington Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Prince William, Virginia. The Washington Times shall send a Certificate of Publication and the bill to: BWL Law Group, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, Virginia 23229. Enter this 26th day of July, 2024.

Jacqueline C. Smith, Esq.  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: Susan Freche  
Deputy Clerk

I ASK FOR THIS  
Equity Trustees, LLC  
By Counsel

Jessica S. Tate  
VSB No. 84468  
Supervising Attorney  
BWL Law Group, LLC  
8100 Three Chopt Road,  
Suite 240  
Richmond, VA 23229  
(804) 521-6133 (telephone)  
(804) 521-6153 (facsimile)  
[Jessica.Tate@bwl-law.com](mailto:Jessica.Tate@bwl-law.com)  
Date: July 23, 2024

July 30, 2024  
August 6, 13 & 20, 2024  
AD#85836

BUY OR SELL  
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[washingtontimes.com](http://washingtontimes.com)

The Washington Times

August 2,5,6, 2024  
AD#85764

Legal Notices  
DC & Maryland Virginia  
202-636-4953 703-425-0903

The Washington Times



Legal Notices

Public Notice – Environmental Regulation

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of stormwater into water bodies throughout urbanized areas across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: August 6, 2024 to September 12, 2024

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4 - VA0092975) Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT: Virginia Department of Transportation, 1401 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219 SYSTEM NAME: VDOT MS4

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Department of Transportation has applied for a reissuance of a permit for the public Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The applicant proposes to release stormwater from the MS4 into water bodies located in urbanized areas across the Commonwealth of Virginia including the Potomac River, Rappahannock River, York River, James River, Roanoke River, Tennessee and Big Sandy River, and New River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. VDOT proposes to implement a collective series of programs to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the given storm sewer system to the maximum extent practicable in a manner that protects water quality of nearby streams, rivers, wetlands, and bays. For specific information regarding discharges from the MS4 to watersheds in the Commonwealth of Virginia, please contact Robert Hill at robert.hill@deg.virginia.gov to obtain a copy of the draft permit and fact sheet.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by hand-delivery, by e-mail or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Mr. Robert Hill, Office of VPDES Permits, 1111 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218; E-mail: robert.hill@deg.virginia.gov. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

Run Dates: August 6th, 2024 August 13th, 2024

AD#85957

Trustee Sales: Montgomery Co.

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC 1099 WINTERSOON ROAD, SUITE 301 LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090 www.cgd-law.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 8830 PINEY BRANCH ROAD, UNIT #609 AND 8830 PINEY BRANCH ROAD, UNIT #603 SILVER SPRING, MD 20903

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated April 26, 2005 and recorded in Liber 29828, Folio 650, among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of \$117,575.45, and an interest rate of 8.750%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

August 14, 2024 AT 11:15AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE property more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property being sold is a condominium unit and all common elements appurtenant thereto.

Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" subject to any conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of \$9,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash accepted) required at time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court, with interest at the note rate from date of sale to settlement. If settlement is delayed for ANY reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of date of auction. Transfer and recordation taxes, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten days of ratification, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of sale, the Trustee may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of defaulting purchaser, who agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs if a motion to resell the property has been filed, purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such motion, and agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail to the address provided at time of sale. If the Trustee cannot convey insurable title, or the loan servicer determines that the sale should not have occurred, the sale shall be null and void, and purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of deposit without interest. This property will be sold subject to the IRS right of redemption for a period of 120 days after the sale.

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees Tidewater Auctions, LLC (410) 825-2900 www.tidewaterauctions.com

Washington Times, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13 CGD File #:458540 Ad#85346



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The Washington Times

Trustee Sales: Montgomery Co.

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC 1099 WINTERSOON ROAD, SUITE 301 LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090 www.cgd-law.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 674 COBden PARKWAY ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated October 28, 2022 and recorded in Liber 66483, Folio 107, among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of \$220,000.00, and an interest rate of 21.600%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

August 21, 2024 AT 11:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE property more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.

Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" subject to any conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of \$22,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash accepted) required at time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court, with interest at the note rate from date of sale to settlement. If settlement is delayed for ANY reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of date of auction. Transfer and recordation taxes, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten days of ratification, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of sale, the Trustee may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of defaulting purchaser, who agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs if a motion to resell the property has been filed, purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such motion, and agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail to the address provided at time of sale. If the Trustee cannot convey insurable title, or the loan servicer determines that the sale should not have occurred, the sale shall be null and void, and purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of deposit without interest. This property will be sold subject to one or more prior liens, the amount(s) of which will be announced at the time of sale.

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees Tidewater Auctions, LLC (410) 825-2900 www.tidewaterauctions.com

Washington Times, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20 CGD File #:460863 Ad#85590

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC 1099 WINTERSOON ROAD, SUITE 301 LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090 www.cgd-law.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 11201 LONG PINE TRAIL POTOMAC, MD 20854

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated March 17, 2019 and recorded in Liber 57281, Folio 306, among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of \$699,000.00, and an interest rate of 4.000%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

August 21, 2024 AT 11:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE property more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.

Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" subject to any conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of \$74,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash accepted) required at time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court, with interest at the note rate from date of sale to settlement. If settlement is delayed for ANY reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of date of auction. Transfer and recordation taxes, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten days of ratification, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of sale, the Trustee may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of defaulting purchaser, who agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs if a motion to resell the property has been filed, purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such motion, and agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail to the address provided at time of sale. If the Trustee cannot convey insurable title, or the loan servicer determines that the sale should not have occurred, the sale shall be null and void, and purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of deposit without interest.

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees Tidewater Auctions, LLC (410) 825-2900 www.tidewaterauctions.com

Washington Times, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20 CGD File #:460988 Ad#85436

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC 1099 WINTERSOON ROAD, SUITE 301 LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090 www.cgd-law.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 24 MARTINS LANE ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated March 17, 2023 and recorded in Liber 66936, Folio 280, among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of \$641,400.00, and an interest rate of 21.500%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

August 7, 2024 AT 11:15AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE property more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.

Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" subject to any conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of \$39,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash accepted) required at time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court, with interest at the note rate from date of sale to settlement. If settlement is delayed for ANY reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of date of auction. Transfer and recordation taxes, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten days of ratification, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of sale, the Trustee may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of defaulting purchaser, who agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs if a motion to resell the property has been filed, purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such motion, and agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail to the address provided at time of sale. If the Trustee cannot convey insurable title, or the loan servicer determines that the sale should not have occurred, the sale shall be null and void, and purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of deposit without interest.

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees Tidewater Auctions, LLC (410) 825-2900 www.tidewaterauctions.com

Washington Times, 7/23, 7/30, 8/6 CGD File #:461765 Ad#84880

Trustee Sales: Montgomery Co.

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC 1099 WINTERSOON ROAD, SUITE 301 LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090 www.cgd-law.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 674 COBden PARKWAY ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated September 2, 2022 and recorded in Liber 66225, Folio 1, among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of \$250,000.00, and an interest rate of 21.600%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

August 21, 2024 AT 11:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE property more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.

Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" subject to any conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of \$25,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash accepted) required at time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court, with interest at the note rate from date of sale to settlement. If settlement is delayed for ANY reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of date of auction. Transfer and recordation taxes, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten days of ratification, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of sale, the Trustee may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of defaulting purchaser, who agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs if a motion to resell the property has been filed, purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such motion, and agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail to the address provided at time of sale. If the Trustee cannot convey insurable title, or the loan servicer determines that the sale should not have occurred, the sale shall be null and void, and purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of deposit without interest. This property will be sold subject to one or more prior liens, the amount(s) of which will be announced at the time of sale.

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees Tidewater Auctions, LLC (410) 825-2900 www.tidewaterauctions.com

Washington Times, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20 CGD File #:460920 Ad#85591

Trustee Sales: Fairfax Co.

Trustee's Sale 14550 Oakmere Dr, Centerville, VA 20120 (Parcel Id: 0443 04 0375)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated 11/01/2005, in the original principal amount of \$353,000.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Fairfax County, Virginia on 11/10/2005, as Instrument No. 2005046291.001, in Book 17945, Page 2004, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on 09/04/2024 at 12:00 PM, Fairfax Circuit Court, at the front of the courthouse, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030, the property designated as:

LOT 375, SECTION 10, SULLY STATION, AS THE SAME APPEARS DULY DEDICATED, PLATTED AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 6872 AT PAGE 450 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$35,300.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense.

For More Information Contact:

Western Progressive - Virginia, Inc Regus Arlington Ballston, 4250 N Fairfax Drive, Suite 600 Office Number 675 Arlington VA 22203 Telephone #: 866-960-8299 Fax #: 866-960-8298 Email: TrusteeQuote@altisource.com

Run Dates: July 30th, 2024 August 6th, 2024

AD#84911

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 8632 VILLAGE SQUARE DRIVE, UNIT 16/8632, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22309.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated August 16, 2012, in the original principal amount of \$141,600.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Fairfax County, Virginia, in Book 22505 at Page 0433 as Instrument No. 2012037767.002. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Fairfax County, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA, on September 4, 2024, at 11:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: UNIT 8632, VILLAGE SQUARE, THE VILLAGES, SECTION 1-C, AS PER MASTER DEED RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 4058 AT PAGE 503, OF THE LAND RECORDS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AS AMENDED IN DEED BOOK 4536 AT PAGE 189, AND DEED BOOK 4536 AT PAGE 195. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwvsales.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 Three 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.bwvsales.com. VA-352856-2.

July 30, 2024 August 6, 2024

AD#85057

Trustee Sales: Fairfax Co.

TRUSTEE SALE 5531 Shipley Ct, Centerville, VA 20120 Fairfax County

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$307,500.00, dated September 23, 2013 recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Fairfax County, Virginia, in Document No. 2013041949.002, in Book No. 23401, at Page 0525 and modified in Document No. 2020035268.004, in Book No. 26196, at Page 0359 and modified in Document No. 2023023990.001, in Book No. 27919, at Page 1127, at the request of the holder of the Note, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the entrance to the Fairfax County Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, on September 3, 2024 at 11:30 AM the property described in said deed, located at the above address and briefly described as:

Lot 24, Section 3, Sequoia Farms, with any improvements thereon

Subject to any and all covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust, if any, affecting the aforesaid property.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH: A deposit of \$20,000.00 or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, cash or certified check will be required at the time of sale, but no more than \$10,000.00 of cash will be accepted, with settlement within fifteen (15) days from the date of sale. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation that the borrower did not file for protection under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code prior to the sale which affects the validity of the sale, as well as to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, the sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Pursuant to the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, we advise you that this firm is a debt collector attempting to collect the indebtedness referred to herein and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.

SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C., Substitute Trustee

This is a communication from a debt collector.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C. (893200) 448 Viking Drive, Suite 350 Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452 757-457-1460 - Call Between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or visit our website at www.siwpc.net

July 30th, 2024 August 6th, 2024

AD#85698

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 6122 EMMETT GUARDS COURT, FAIRFAX STATION, VA 22039.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated June 22, 2005, in the original principal amount of \$585,500.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Fairfax County, Virginia, in Book 17511 at Page 0666 as Instrument No. 2005027777.006. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Fairfax County, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA, on September 11, 2024, at 11:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LOT 412-A, SECTION FOUR, FAIRFAX STATION, AS SHOWN ON A PLAT OF RESUBDIVISION RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 5327 AT PAGE 453, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwvsales.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 Three 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.bwvsales.com. VA-363438-1.

August 6th, 2024 August 13th, 2024

AD#85255

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 7614 RANGE ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22306.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated May 12, 2005, in the original principal amount of \$480,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Fairfax County, Virginia, in Book 17285 at Page 1345 as Instrument No. 2005019317.013. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Fairfax County, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA, on September 4, 2024, at 11:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LOT 87, "SECTION 3 AND RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 49, SECTION 2, KIRKSIDE", AS THE SAME APPEARS DULY DEDICATED, PLATTED AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 2364 AT PAGE 258 AND SUPPLEMENTED BY SUPPLEMENTAL DEED OF DEDICATION RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 2383 AT PAGE 546, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwvsales.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 Three 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.bwvsales.com. VA-355593-2.

July 30, 2024 August 6, 2024

AD#85059

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Trustee Sales: Fairfax Co.

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE SALE 4001 Guinea Road, Annandale, VA 22003

By virtue of the power and authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated January 24, 2006 and recorded January 31, 2006 in Book 18180 Page 0905 Instrument Number 2006003985.005 in the Clerk's Office for the Fairfax County Virginia Circuit Court, Virginia, securing a loan which was originally \$750,000.00. The appointed SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, Commonwealth Trustees, LLC will offer for sale at public auction at the front of the entrance of the Fairfax County Circuit Court Courthouse located at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030.

August 30, 2024 at 11:00 AM

Improved real property, with an abbreviated legal description of the following described property, to wit:

Being part of Lot Number Seven (7), of the Division of Land of Ashton C. Jones, et. al., as recorded in Deed Book V-11 at Page 63 and shown on plat attached thereto made by Walter Ralph, C.L.S. and more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point in the center of Guinea Road at its intersection with the Southerly side of Little River Turnpike (as widened to 60') then with the center of said road, S 21 degrees 07' W. 167.22' to a point; thence with new division line through the residue of the Bennett Property, S 80 degrees 25' 30" E. 278.22' to a pipe on the easterly side of said Lot 7 and the westerly line of Lot 6, thence with said line N. 11 degrees 56' E. 63.98' to a pipe on the southerly side of Little River Turnpike (as widened), thence with said Pike N. 80 degrees 25' 30" W. 252.52' to beginning, containing 1.00 acres;

Less And Except that portion of said tract conveyed to the Commonwealth of Virginia, in Deed Book 1603 at Page 527 and platted in State Highway Plat Book 2, at Page 311, and containing 0.06 Acres, More or Less, reference being made to the same for a more particular description therein. AND as more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

TERMS OF SALE: The property will be sold "AS IS," WITHOUT REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND AND SUBJECT TO conditions, restrictions, reservations, easements, rights of way, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust to be announced at the time of sale. A deposit of \$20,000 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required at the time of sale, in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price, with interest at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date said funds are received in the office of the SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale. In the event of default by the successful bidder, the entire deposit shall be forfeited and applied to the costs and expenses of sale and Substitute Trustee's fee. All other public charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred

Trustee Sales: Fairfax Co.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 1764 WESTWIND WAY, UNIT 102, A/R/T/A 1764 WESTWIND WAY, UNIT 102A, MCLEAN, VA 22102. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated August 26, 2005, in the original principal amount of \$242,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Fairfax County, Virginia, in Book 17746 at Page 0687 as Instrument No. 2005037899.001. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Fairfax County, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA, on September 4, 2024, at 11:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, TO WIT: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND TOGETHER WITH ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: TOWNHOUSE NO. 102-A, THE WESTERLIES, A CONDOMINIUM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DECLARATION OF A MASTER DEED RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 3519 AT PAGE 425, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND AMENDED BY DEED OF CORRECTION RECORDED AMONG THE AFORESAID COUNTY RECORDS IN DEED BOOK 3525 AT PAGE 224. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwwsales.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 Three 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-354436-3.

July 30, 2024 August 6, 2024

AD#85100

Trustee's Sale 5501 Seminary Road Apt#1114, Falls Church, VA 22041 (Parcel ID: 0623 12S 1114)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated 06/22/2006, in the original principal amount of \$306,000.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Fairfax county, Virginia on 07/05/2006, as Instrument No. 2006021273.002, in Book 18587, Page 2133, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction on 9/4/2024 at 12:00 PM, Fairfax Circuit Court, at the front of the courthouse, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030, the property designated as:

The following described property, situate, lying and being in Fairfax County, Virginia, to wit:

Condominium Unit #1114S in SKYLINE SQUARE CONDOMINIUM, in accordance with the Declaration and Plat attached thereto, duly recorded in Deed Book 5630, at Page 536, et seq., among the land records of Fairfax County, Virginia, and further shown in Exhibits attached thereto, all of which are hereafter referred to collectively as the "Declaration". Together with the exclusive right to use the limited common element hereby made legally appurtenant to and attached to the above-described condominium unit.

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$30,600.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense.

For More Information Contact:

Western Progressive - Virginia, Inc Regus Arlington Ballston, 4250 N Fairfax Drive, Suite 600 Office Number 675 Arlington VA 22203 Telephone #: 866-960-8299 Fax #: 866-960-8298 Email: TrusteeQuote@altisource.com

Run Dates: July 30th, 2024 August 6th, 2024

AD#85174

Legal Notices

DC & Maryland 202-636-4953 Virginia 703-425-0903



The Washington Times

Trustee Sales: Fairfax Co.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 3133 PROSPERITY AVE, FAIRFAX, VA 22031. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated March 19, 2004, in the original principal amount of \$235,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Fairfax County, Virginia, in Book 16016 at Page 0772 as Instrument No. 2004018019.002. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Fairfax County, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA, on September 18, 2024, at 11:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LOT TWENTY-NINE (29), PINE RIDGE, SECTION ONE (1), AS THE SAME APPEARS DULY DEDICATED, PLATTED, AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK C-14, AT PAGE 306, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND AS AMENDED BY DEED RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF DEED BOOK P-14 AT PAGE 5. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwwsales.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 Three 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-371215-1.

July 30, 2024 August 6, 13, and 20, 2024

AD#85417

Trustee Sales: Prince William Co.

TRUSTEE'S SALE 12155 Salemtown Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22192

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

In execution of the Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$175,000.00 dated August 15, 2005 and recorded as Instrument No. 200509160159582, of the Prince William County land records, the appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front of the building housing the Prince William County Circuit Court, 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, Virginia 20110 on June 27, 2024 at 12:00 PM, the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and more particularly described as follows:

All that parcel of land in the City of Woodbridge, Prince William County, Commonwealth of Virginia, as more fully described in Deed Book 2118, Page 232, ID#8193-77-9702, being known and designated as Lot 51, Section 15H, Lake Ridge, filed in Deed Book 1411, Page 1217.

By Fee Simple Deed from Michael A. Epstein, Divorced and Maria Epstein, Divorced as set forth in Book 2118 Page 232 dated 02/25/1994 and recorded 03/02/1994, Prince William County Records, Commonwealth of Virginia.

The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without warranty of any kind.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price or 10% of the original principal amount of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, by cashier's or certified check, 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. Balance of the purchase price must be paid by cashier's check within 15 days from sale date. Except for Virginia Grantor's tax, all settlement costs and expenses are purchaser's responsibility. Taxes are pro-rated to the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. If purchaser defaults, deposit may 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 Trustee does not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit by the Substitute Trustee of the conduct of the auction itself as well as 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, a forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into or the loan was reinstated or paid off; in any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. This communication is from a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE: Lenox Title Trustee Services, LLC, c/o McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC, 3550 Engineering Drive, Suite 260, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lenox Title Trustee Services, LLC, Substitute Trustee c/o Adrian G. Jacobs, Esq. McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC 3550 Engineering Drive, Suite 260 Peachtree Corners, GA 30092 Phone: 404.474.7149 Fax: 404.745.8121 MTG File No.: VA2024-00245

Run Dates: August 6th, 2024 August 13th, 2024

AD#84876

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The Washington Times

Trustee Sales: Prince William Co.

TRUSTEE'S SALE - Real property at 2221 WINDY COURT DUMFRIES, VA 22025 In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$20,000.00 dated September 28, 2022 and recorded in the land records of Prince William County, Virginia, in Instrument No. 202201007285, a default having been made in the indebtedness secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the Front Entrance for the Circuit Court for Prince William County, located at 9311 Lee Avenue Manassas, Virginia 20110, the above referenced property and fixtures or improvements therein, as more fully described as "Lot 26 in the Subdivision of County Ref Lake" on August 13, 2024 AT 10:00 am

TERMS OF SALE: The property is being sold subject to a senior Deed of Trust recorded on March 8, 2005 as Instrument # 200503080036219 in the amount of \$257,000.00 and any senior judgments or liens of record. The property will be sold "AS IS," WITHOUT REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND AND SUBJECT TO ANY ENVIRONMENTAL OR OTHER CONDITIONS, covenants, restrictions, reservations, easements, rights of way, prior liens, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust, if any. Substitute Trustee shall have no obligation to deliver possession of the property or any other obligation as to the premises.

A bidder's deposit of \$5,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required at the time of sale in the form of a certified check or cashier's check from the purchaser or the bid will be rejected. Successful bidder will be required to sign a memorandum of sale at the time of the sale and settle by remitting the balance of the purchase price within fourteen (14) days of sale. If the buyer wishes to use their own settlement company and documentation, there will be a fee of \$300.00 for review of their settlement documents. In the event of default by the successful bidder, the entire deposit shall be forfeited and applied to the costs and expenses of sale and Substitute Trustee's fee according to the Code of Virginia.

All other public charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges to be prorated through date of sale those incurred after the sale date, and all other costs incident to settlement to be paid by the purchaser. In the event taxes, any other public charges have been advanced, a credit will be due to the seller, to be adjusted from the date of sale at the time of settlement. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation that the borrower did not file for protection under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code prior to the sale as well as to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale or whether other legal impediment to title exists. In any such event, the sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Cohn Goldberg Deutsch, 410-296-2550 or www.cgd-law.com re: CGD #460695. Cohn Goldberg Deutsch is a debt collector; any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

BLUE RIDGE TRUSTEES LLC

Run Dates: July 16, July 23, July 30, August 6 Ad#84833

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 14339 NORTH PARK COURT, WOODBRIDGE, VA 22193. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated January 29, 2004, in the original principal amount of \$138,300.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Prince William County, Virginia as Instrument No. 200402020017598. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Prince William County, 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, Virginia, on September 11, 2024, at 9:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LOT 4, GEORGETOWN PARK, AS THE SAME APPEARS DULY DEDICATED, PLATTED AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 879 AT PAGE 460, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwwsales.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 Three 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-370881-1.

August 6, 2024 August 13, 2024

AD#85129

Trustee's Sale 7836 Blue Gray Circle, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (Parcel ID: 7697-11-3812)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated February 10, 2020, in the original principal amount of \$318,986.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Prince William, Virginia in Instrument No. 202002180012517, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction on September 10, 2024, at 01:00 PM in front of the building housing the Prince William County Circuit Court, 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, VA 20110, the property designated as Lot 65, Leed Bays C and D, Paradise, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 1498 at Page 966, among the land records of Prince William County, Virginia. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$32,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of www.glasserlaw.com, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., and/or REO Solutions, LLC, and/or Auction.com-VA, LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 231676-03, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Run Dates: August 6th, 2024 August 13th, 2024

AD#85378

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Trustee Sales: Prince William Co.

Trustee's Sale 2786 Wakewater Way, Woodbridge, Virginia 22191 (Parcel ID: 8290-62-9398) Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated April 19, 2013, in the original principal amount of \$230,100.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Prince William, Virginia in Instrument No. 201304290043318, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction on August 27, 2024, at 1:00 pm in front of the building housing the Prince William County Circuit Court, 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, VA 20110, the property designated as Lot 84, Section 8, Port Potomac, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded as instrument no. 200503010031882, among the land records of Prince William County, Virginia. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. The property will be sold subject to the right of redemption of the Internal Revenue Service. TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$23,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of www.glasserlaw.com, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., and/or REO Solutions, LLC, and/or Auction.com-VA, LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 230844-04, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Run Dates: July 30th, 2024 August 6th, 2024

AD#85099

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 8113 MORNINGSIDE DR, MANASSAS, VA 20112. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated February 20, 2007, in the original principal amount of \$329,500.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Prince William County, Virginia as Instrument No. 200703050027010. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Prince William County, 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, Virginia, on September 4, 2024, at 9:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE SITUATE IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: LOT 7-B, BROOKHAVEN, AS THE SAME IS SHOWN ON PLAT ATTACHED TO DEED OF VACATION, RESUBDIVISION AND REDEDICATION RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 1110, AT PAGE 227, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwwsales.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 Three 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-370209-1.

July 30, 2024 August 6, 2024

AD#85061

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 14425 VILLAGE DRIVE, WOODBRIDGE, VA 22191. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated July 22, 2005, in the original principal amount of \$111,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Prince William County, Virginia as Instrument No. 200507270126463. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Prince William County, 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, Virginia, on September 4, 2024, at 9:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LOT 44, SECTION 2, VILLAGE SQUARE, AS THE SAME APPEARS DULY DEDICATED PLATTED AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 390 AT PAGE 246, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwwsales.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 Three 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-350806-2.

July 30, 2024 August 6, 2024

AD#84999

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Trustee Sales: Prince William Co.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 8527 PINEY PT CT, MANASSAS, VA 20110 In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$260,000.00, with an annual interest rate of 5.375000% dated July 8, 2005, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the County of Prince William as Deed Instrument Number 200507130116416, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Prince William, on the Court House steps in front of Main Entrance for the Circuit Court building for the County of Prince William located at 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, Virginia on September 3, 2024 at 1:00 PM, the property with improvements to wit:

LOT 606 SEC 3 POINT OF WOODS TH

Tax Map No. 33456

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: Conventional. Reference Number 24-295991.

PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.

Run Dates: June 27th, 2024 July 30th, 2024 August 6th, 2024

AD#84963

Trustee Sales: Virginia

Trustee's Sale 2057 Farragut Drive, Stafford, VA 22554 (Parcel ID: 21-B-1959)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated 04/22/2005, in the original principal amount of \$292,000.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Stafford county, Virginia on 04/27/2005, as Instrument No. LR050014875, in Book ---, Page ---, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction on 09/03/2024 at 09:30 AM, Stafford Circuit Court, located at the front of the courthouse, 1300 Courthouse Road, Stafford, VA 22555, the property designated as:

Lot Number 1959, on a plat of Section 6, AQUIA HARBOR SUBDIVISION, recorded in the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of Stafford County, Virginia in Plat Book 5 at Page 11.

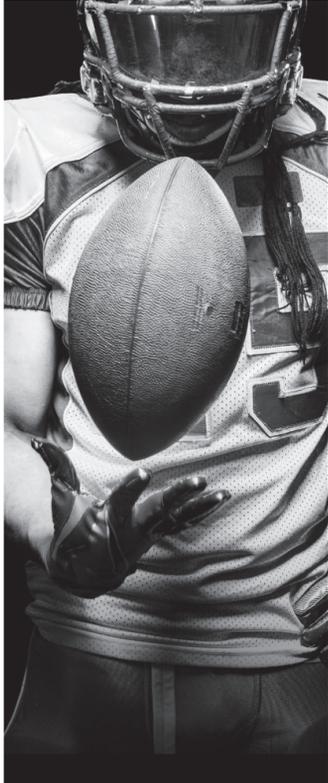
TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$29,200.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense.

For More Information Contact:

Western Progressive - Virginia, Inc Regus Arlington Ballston, 4250 N Fairfax Drive, Suite 600 Office Number 675 Arlington VA 22203 Telephone #: 866-960-8299 Fax #: 866-960-8298 Email: TrusteeQuote@altisource.com

Run Dates: July 30th, 2024 August 6th, 2024

AD#84910



LET'S TALK SPORTS

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Trustee Sales: Virginia

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 42887 EDGE GROVE HEIGHTS TERRACE, ASHBURN, VA 20148. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated April 29, 2015, in the original principal amount of \$485,397.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Loudoun County, Virginia as Instrument No. 20150429-0026757. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Loudoun County, 18 E. Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia, on September 4, 2024, at 2:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LOT 5094, SECTION 11, LANDBAY 5, LOUDOUN VALLEY ESTATES II, AS THE SAME APPEARS DULY DEDICATED AND RECORDED AS INSTRUMENT NUMBER 201403040010440, WITH PLAT RECORDED AS INSTRUMENT NUMBER 201403040010441, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF LOUDOUN COUNTY, VIRGINIA. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwvsales.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 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWV Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-310412-4.

July 30, 2024 August 6, 2024

AD#85078

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 47565 ROYAL BURNHAM TER, STERLING, VA 20165. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated September 29, 2006, in the original principal amount of \$413,500.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Loudoun County, Virginia as Instrument No. 20061003-0084492. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Loudoun County, 18 E. Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia, on September 4, 2024, at 2:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LOT 120, SECTION 20A, CASCADES, AS THE SAME APPEARS DULY DEDICATED, PLATTED AND RECORDED AT INSTRUMENT NO. 200507130075367, (PLAT AT INSTRUMENT NO. 200507130075368), AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF LOUDOUN COUNTY, VIRGINIA. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original 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 may, if 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 or the Mortgagee'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.bwvsales.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 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWV Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-333463-3.

July 30th, 2024 August 6th, 2024

AD#85131

Auctions: Maryland

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents will be sold for cash by CubeSmart Asset Management, LLC as Agent for the Owner to satisfy a lien for rental on August 20, 2024 at approx. 1:00 P.M. at www.storage-treasures.com for the following locations:

- #5404 located at 9641 Annapolis Road, Lanham, MD 20706
#6508 located at 11015 West Ave, Kensington, MD 20895
#6507 located at 13813 Connecticut Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20906
#4248 located at 3129 Marshall Hall Rd, Bryans Road, MD 20616
#4249 located at 14600 Robert Crain Hwy Brandywine, MD 20613

August 6, 2024

Ad#85879

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage cube contents will be sold for cash by CubeSmart Asset Management, LLC to satisfy a lien for rental on August 21, 2024 at approx. 1:00 PM at www.storage-treasures.com for the following locations:

- #542 6104 Allentown Rd, Camp Springs, MD 20746
#570 22465 Indian Bridge Rd., California, MD 20619
#575 11770 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705
#576 3215 52nd Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781
#577 8410 Westphalia Rd., Upper Marlboro, MD 20774
#580 7805 Old Alexandria Ferry Rd., Clinton, MD 20735

August 6, 2024

Ad#85884

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage cube contents will be sold for cash by CubeSmart Asset Management, LLC to satisfy a lien for rental on August 20, 2024 at approx. 1:00 PM at www.storage-treasures.com for the following locations:

- #541 8704 Cherry Lane, Laurel, MD 20707

August 6, 2024

Ad#85882

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The Washington Times

Show Cause Notice

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF FAIRFAX

IN RE: Estate of Daniel F. Sturdivant deceased
Fiduciary No. FI-2021-0000201

SHOW CAUSE ORDER: IT APPEARING that reports of the accounts of Bola Boasmanboon Administrator of the Estate of Daniel F. Sturdivant, deceased ("Estate"), and of the debts and demands against the Estate having been filed in the Clerk's Office, and that more than six months have elapsed since qualification of the Administrator; and IT IS ORDERED that the creditors of, and all others interested in the Estate of Daniel F. Sturdivant, deceased, do show cause, if any they can, at 9:00 a.m. on the 30th day of August, 2024, before this Court at its courtroom against the payment and delivery of the remaining Estate of Daniel F. Sturdivant, deceased, to the Estate distributees and legatees with such refunding bonds or surety as the Court prescribes or the Administrator determines appropriate; and IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the foregoing portion of this Order be published once a week for two successive weeks in The Washington Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Fairfax, Virginia.

Enter: Stephen C. Shannon JUDGE Date: June 31, 2023

I ask for this: David C. Knerr (VSB No. 87713) Richard John Ruddy, Jr. (VSB No. 17407) THE RUDDY LAW FIRM, PC 10427 North Street Suite 200 Fairfax, VA 22030 T: (703) 383-9000 F: (703) 383-9530 E: dknerr@ruddylawfirm.com

August 6 & 13, 2024 AD#85985

VIRGINIA: CITY OF ALEXANDRIA CIRCUIT COURT

IN RE: Estate of Julie Elizabeth Seitz, Decedent

Fiduciary Number: CW21001338

SHOW CAUSE AGAINST DISTRIBUTION

IT APPEARING TO THE COURT that a report of the accounts of Xue F. Connelly, Administrator of the Estate of Julie Elizabeth Seitz, and a commissioner's report of the debts and demands hearing against the Estate have been filed in the Clerk's office of this court and that six (6) months have elapsed since the qualification of the Administrator. On the motion of the Administrator, it is hereby ORDERED that the creditors of and all others interested in the Estate of Julie Elizabeth Seitz do show cause, if any, on the 14th day of August, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. before this Court against the payment and delivery of the Estate of Julie Elizabeth Seitz to the decedent distributees without requiring refunding bonds. It is further ORDERED that the forgoing portion of this order be published once a week for two (2) successive weeks in The Washington Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Alexandria, Virginia. Entered this 30th day of July, 2024.

By: Kathleen Uston Judge, City of Alexandria Circuit Court

A Copy Teste: J. Greg Parks, Clerk By Harrison Hart, Deputy Clerk Certified this 1st day of Aug. 2024

I ASK FOR THIS: Xue F. Connelly Administrator of the Estate of Julie Elizabeth Seitz By Counsel

Xue F. Connelly (VA Bar No. 93443) Rachel E. Davis (VA Bar No. 98164) FRIEDMAN, GRIMES, MEINKEN & LEISCHNER, PLLC 616 North Washington Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 836-9030 (telephone) (703) 683-1543 (facsimile) connelly@oldtownlawyers.com davis@oldtownlawyers.com Counsel for the Administrator of the Estate of Julie Elizabeth Seitz

August 6 & 13, 2024 AD#86062

Estate Alexandria

NOTICE OF INTENDED TRANSFER

State Department Federal Credit Union hereby gives notice that it will transfer \$36,388.63 from the account of Lambert Heyniger 30 days after last publication of this notice.

The funds will be transferred to Nicholas Heyniger, Executor of the estate. The decedent died while domiciled in New Hampshire. Written claim to said funds should be sent to SFCU, 1630 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Attn: William Parker.

Publication dates: 7-23-2024, 7-30-2024 8-6-2024, 8-13-2024 AD#85633

Estate Alexandria

NOTICE OF INTENDED TRANSFER

State Department Federal Credit Union hereby gives notice that it will transfer \$44,381.34 from the account of Lois O. Verner 30 days after last publication of this notice.

The funds will be transferred to Lida M. Verner and Laura K. Browning Personal Representatives of the estate. The decedent died while domiciled in Maryland. Written claim to said funds should be sent to SFCU, 1630 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Attn: William Parker.

Publication dates: 8-6-2024, 8-13-2024 8-20-2024, 8-27-2024 Ad#86042



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5		2	4		8		6	
	1							9
		9			7			5
	4	3		7				6
	8		9	4			1	
2				1		7	8	
	3		6			9		
8							4	
	5		2		1	8		7

JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Rating: Silver

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and the process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

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ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS PUZZLES:

3	8	4	2	6	9	1	7	5
6	7	5	3	8	1	2	4	9
2	9	1	7	4	5	8	6	3
4	1	6	5	2	8	9	3	7
5	3	8	6	9	7	4	1	2
7	2	9	4	1	3	6	5	8
9	4	7	8	3	6	5	2	1
1	6	3	9	5	2	7	8	4
8	5	2	1	7	4	3	9	6

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Countdown

- ACROSS
- 1 IRS regulation experts
  - 5 About the year of
  - 10 Comedian's joke
  - 13 Old Testament's Queen of ...
  - 14 An hr. after midnight
  - 15 Historical period
  - 16 What Moses took from Mount Sinai
  - 19 Crimson and scarlet
  - 20 "... the ramps we watched..."
  - 21 Jazz band horns
  - 22 Keogh plan alternative
  - 23 Dog's sniffer
  - 25 Twangy, as a voice
  - 27 Typical pregnancy period
  - 30 Measure for a marathon
  - 31 Arrived at
  - 32 Oohs and ...
  - 34 Film actor's workplace
  - 35 Gator cousin
  - 38 "To ... it may concern..."
  - 40 TV show hosts
  - 43 Make a mistake
  - 44 Big black-and-white bear
  - 48 Parcel (out)
  - 50 Common workday length
  - 54 Vehicles on snow
  - 56 The ... (tedious feeling)
  - 57 "My country ... of thee"
  - 58 Reputable, informally
  - 60 "... we there yet?"

- 61 Brazilian soccer great
- 62 What Italy's capital is built on
- 65 Allow to ripen
- 66 Praise given
- 67 Historic immigration island
- 68 "Permission granted"
- 69 Fortune-tellers
- 70 Intend (to)

DOWN

- 1 Single piece of a bagel-shaped cereal
- 2 Necklace ornament
- 3 Basics in reading
- 4 ... Paulo, Brazil
- 5 "Hurry up!"
- 6 Trapped by routine
- 7 ... Faire (modern)
- 8 Unmannerly men
- 9 Capital of Jordan
- 10 First Biblical book
- 11 Gallery's retail event
- 12 Auto fuel
- 13 Yo-yo part
- 17 "Single" prefix for rail
- 18 School test
- 23 Goody campfire treat
- 24 Start to melt
- 26 Allow
- 28 And others: Abbr.
- 29 "Quiet!"
- 33 Second-year students
- 36 Source for silver or gold
- 5 "Hurry up!"
- 6 Trapped by routine
- 7 ... Faire (modern)
- 37 Infant's bed
- 39 Former Chinese

By Sally R. Stein, Edited by Stanley Newman

leader ... Zedong

40 Physicians, for short

41 Professors' workplace

42 Shirts' arms

45 Brand of cocoa/fibert spread

46 Teach by repetition

47 Evaluate

49 Border line

51 Elegant beauty

52 Annoy repeatedly

53 At that time

55 Descends slowly

59 Factually correct

61 Untidy stack

62 Pronounce

63 Poem of praise

64 ... and haw (be indecisive)

CREATORS SYNDICATE ©2024 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 08/06/24

MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

JUMBLE/David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PPEYP

AFDRU

TBTNUO

ZOCIRE

THE CAT THEY ADOPTED HAD TURNED INTO THE ...

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

“(Answers tomorrow)”

RUBES/Leigh Rubin

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?... THE SPOON ACTUALLY RAN OFF WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND!

I CAN. I'VE HEARD SHE'S QUITE A DISH.

IN THE BLEACHERS/Steve Moore

YOU'RE LEADING OFF TOO FAR.

B.C./Mastroianni & Hart

YIP.

ROLL ROLL

NEXT TIME, WE'RE DOING 'SAPIENS ONLY!'

AGREED.

LOLA/Todd Clark

HARRY, ARE YOU EVER GOING TO MAKE AN HONEST WOMAN OUT OF MY MOTHER?

THAT SHIRT MAKES YOU LOOK CHUNKY.

HONESTY IS NOT AN ISSUE WITH HER.

RIGHT.

BOUND & GAGGED/Dana Summers

I'M GOING TO TEST YOUR HEART. LOOK AT MY BILL.

ADAM @ HOME/Rob Harrell

SO, FOR YOUR COFFEE COMPANY, DO YOU HAVE TO GO DOWN SOUTH TO FIND UNIQUE BEANS?

NO. I'M JUST GOING TO CREATE A DELICIOUS BLEND OF EXISTING BEANS.

GUATEMALAN BEANS. ANTIQUAN BEANS. COLOMBIAN BEANS.

HOW ABOUT JELLY BEANS?

NOTHING IS OFF THE TABLE, DEAR.

THE BUCKETS/Greg Cravens

GROWN-UPS DON'T ENJOY SUMMER THE WAY KIDS DO.

GRANDPA SAYS IT'S 'CAUSE GROWN-UPS HAVE USED UP THEIR CARTRIDGES.

DID HE SAY "CARTRIDGE," MAYBE?

MAYBE.

ROSE IS ROSE/Pat Brady & Don Wimmer

RANGER RORY WOULD NEVER MEET UP WITH BATMAN!

BATMAN DOESN'T FIGHT CRIME IN SPACE, CORKY!

IT'S JUST AN IDEA.

HOLD ON...

OUR SERIOUS CONVERSATION IS BECOMING A HUMOROUS JOURNAL ENTRY.

HA! HA! HA!

DOGS OF C-KENNEL/Mick & Mason Mastroianni

PET ME! @#%\$!!

HERB & JAMAAL/Stephen Bentley

THIS HEAT WAVE IS SO ISOLATING AND DEPRESSING.

I DON'T WANNA GO ANYWHERE, TOUCH ANYTHING OR HAVE ANY HUMAN CONTACT...

SIGH! I HAVEN'T FELT THIS WAY...

SINCE THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK.

CARPE DIEM/Niklas Eriksson

BROOM-HILDA/Russell Myers

I GOT READING GLASSES. NOW I CAN CATCH UP ON ALL THE NEWS I'VE BEEN MISSING!

OPTOMETRIST

SORRY, NO REFUNDS!

DICK TRACY/Shelley Plegler & Mike Curtis

POOCH CAFE/Paul Gilligan

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

PUTTING SUN-SCREEN ON YOUR NOSE.

A DOG'S NOSE CAN BURN EASILY IN THE SUN.

SNIFF SNIIIF!

I'D RATHER BURN MY NOSE AND STILL BE ABLE TO SMELL HOTDOGS.

STRANGE BREW/John Deering

BOTTOM LINERS/Eric & Bill Teitelbaum

AFTER MONTHS OF WORKING REMOTELY, MY BOSS WANTS ME BACK IN THE OFFICE. BUT I DON'T REMEMBER WHERE THE OFFICE IS!

THE FLYING McCOYS/Glenn & Gary McCoy

DEAR, I TOLD YOU I WAS BUYING A KING-SIZED BED. WHAT'S WRONG?

PARDON MY PLANET/Vic Lee

I NEED YOUR OPINION - MY NEW BOYFRIEND SAYS HE WANTS TO LOG OFF I.M., QUIT TEXT AND THEN CALL ON THE PHONE AND TALK TO ME PERSONALLY. MY DILEMMA IS THAT I DON'T KNOW IF HE JUST MISSES THE SOUND OF MY VOICE OR HE'S NUTS.

BLISS/Harry Bliss

"Right slipper is you. Do not screw this up."

# Boxing agency blames IOC for sex-disputed athlete strife

By VALERIE RICHARDSON  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The rowdiest fight at the 2024 Paris Olympics may be the feud between the International Olympic Committee and the International Boxing Association over a pair of gender-disputed boxers.

Leaders of the IBA placed blame Monday for the women's boxing uproar squarely on the Olympic committee, saying they sent lab results to the IOC after the boxers were disqualified from the 2023 Women's World Championships, but that the IOC did nothing.

The association's criteria for the female category is "An individual with chromosome XX," according to the IBA letter to the IOC dated June 5, 2023.

"The IOC had received this information," IBA General Secretary Chris Roberts said Monday at a press conference in Paris. "Clearly for us, the interesting situation here is that while the IOC had that information previously, they haven't done anything with it because they rely on their own criteria, which from what I'm hearing is the passport."

The lengthy, often raucous press conference came after IOC President Thomas Bach insisted Sunday that the two athletes meet the eligibility criteria for women's boxing, noting that their passports identify them as women.

He also accused the IBA of engaging in a "defamation campaign against France, against the games, against the IOC."

Both fighters — Algeria's Imane Khelif and Taiwan's Lu Yu-ting — are scheduled to compete in the semifinals this week after easily defeating their female opponents in the women's quarterfinals.

Khelif, 25, is scheduled to fight Tuesday in the 57 kg semifinal, while Lin will compete Wednesday in the 66 kg category. Both athletes are guaranteed medals under Olympic rules awarding bronze medals to the losing semifinalists.

The bad blood between the IOC and the IBA predates the Paris Olympics. Last year, the IOC withdrew its recognition of the association after suspending it in 2019 over issues with governance, financing and judging integrity.

The IBA said that it tested four boxers, including Khelif and Lin, at the 2022 Women's World Championships in Istanbul following "many complaints

from several coaches."

The testing completed after the event produced "results that didn't match the eligibility criteria for IBA women's events."

"Khelif won the silver medal in category 63 kg, Lin won the gold medal in category 57 kg," the IBA said in a timeline released Monday.

The athletes were retested the following year before the first bouts at the 2023 championships in New Delhi, and the "findings were absolutely identical to the first test results," said the IBA.

Asked for more details, IBA officials said they received letters from the Algerian and Taiwanese national Olympic committees warning them not to disclose personal information about the athletes, including specific test results, but that the boxers were found to have the "karyotype of male," referring to chromosomes.

"Our problem is that we have two blood exams with karyotype of male," said Dr. Ioannis Filippatos, an obstetrician and president of the European Boxing Confederation. "This is the answer from [the] laboratory. It's not my answer."

The officials insisted they had nothing against Khelif or Lin, or the Algerian and Taiwanese teams.

"The problem is not about Khelif. Khelif is one very good boxer, [a] very talented boxer. She's very good. I respect her," Filippatos said. "But as a doctor, I need to protect the women's category."

Khelif asked critics in an interview Sunday with SNTV to "refrain from bullying," citing the psychological toll on athletes.

"I send a message to all the people of the world to uphold the Olympic principles and the Olympic Charter, to refrain from bullying all athletes, because this has effects, massive effects," Khelif said in Arabic. "It can destroy people, it can kill people's thoughts, spirit and mind. It can divide people. And because of that, I ask them to refrain from bullying."

IOC spokesperson Mark Adams has said "this is not a transgender issue," spurring speculation that the athletes may have a Difference of Sexual Development known as 46, XY, in which individuals are born with ambiguous genitalia but later produce male-level testosterone and undergo male puberty.

## SWIMMING

### Phelps calls for a lifetime ban for anyone who's caught doping

PARIS | In the wake of a Chinese doping scandal, Michael Phelps doubled down Monday on his support for tougher sanctions — including a lifetime ban for anyone who tests positive for a banned substance.

"If you test positive, you should never be allowed to come back and compete again, cut and dry," Phelps said. "I believe one and done."

The World Anti-Doping Agency and World Aquatics have acknowledged that 23 Chinese swimmers tested positive for a banned substance ahead of the Tokyo Olympics. The results were not made public until media reports surfaced this year, with both bodies accepting the Chinese explanation that the positive tests were caused by tainted food.

Nine of those swimmers won medals — several as part of relay teams — in Paris, leading British star Adam Peaty to gripe that the playing field was not even.

Phelps reiterated those sentiments, saying the Chinese swimmers who tested positive should not have been allowed to compete in either Tokyo or Paris.

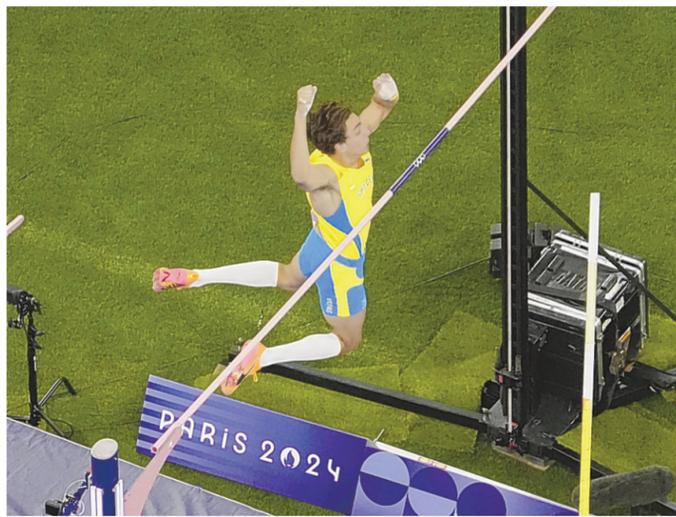
Or anywhere else, for that matter. "If everybody is not going through that same testing, I have a serious problem because it means the level of sport is not fair and it's not even," he said. "If you're taking that risk, then you don't belong in here."

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Vatican rips Olympics for mocking religious beliefs

The Vatican belatedly joined the chorus of voices denouncing the 2024 Paris Olympics opening ceremony featuring an apparent reenactment of "The Last Supper" with drag queens, accusing the Games of mocking widely held religious beliefs.

"The Holy See was saddened by certain scenes during the opening ceremony of the Paris Olympic Games and can only join the voices that have been raised in recent days to deplore the offence caused to many Christians



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sweden's Armand Duplantis, who was born in Louisiana, breaks his own world record Monday, clearing 20 feet, 6 inches for his second-straight gold medal in the pole vault.

and believers of other religions," said the Saturday statement issued by the Vatican press office.

The Vatican's reaction came more than a week after the July 26 opening in Paris, which included a tableau at a long table with more than a dozen drag entertainers — and a child — flanking a woman wearing a halo crown.

The scene culminated with a naked blue man representing Dionysius being served on a platter.

"At a prestigious event where the whole world comes together to share common values, there should be no allusions ridiculing the religious convictions of many people," said the Holy See. "The freedom of expression, which is clearly not called into question here, is limited by respect for others."

## WOMEN'S 3X3 BASKETBALL

### Germany wins gold medal as U.S. takes third place

PARIS | Sonja Greinacher hit a tiebreaking 2-pointer with 30 seconds left, and Germany beat Spain 17-16 for the gold medal in women's 3x3 at the Paris Olympics.

Juana Camilion powered a 3-1 run to put Spain up 15-13 with two minutes to play. But Elisa Mevius and Marie Reichert made consecutive baskets to tie it at 15 with about 90 seconds to go. Greinacher knocked down the

long-range shot to put Germany up by two. Camilion made a basket for Spain with 17 seconds left, and Germany turned it over to give Spain a chance to tie it at the buzzer. But Gracia Alonso's shot was short, giving Germany the victory.

Hailey Van Lith had six points to lead the defending champion U.S. team to bronze with a 16-13 win over Canada. The U.S. won five straight games after an 0-3 start. It made it to the semifinals before falling to Spain 18-16 in overtime earlier Monday.

## POLE VAULT

### Duplantis breaks world record in gold medal performance

SAINT-DENIS, FRANCE | Armand "Mondo" Duplantis broke his own pole vault world record Monday night at the Olympics, clearing 20 feet, 6 inches to cap his second straight gold-medal performance on the sport's biggest stage.

Duplantis cleared the mark on his third and final try. It marked the ninth time the Louisiana-born 24-year-old, who competes for his mother's native Sweden, has broken the record, but the first time at the Olympics.

Duplantis last broke the record April 20 in China.

America's Sam Kendrick won the silver medal and Emmanouil Karralis of Greece took the bronze.

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## TENNIS

**Shapovalov retains ranking points after D.C. DQ appeal**

Canada's Denis Shapovalov will retain his ranking points and prize money after appealing his disqualification from the quarterfinals of the D.C. Open, the ATP announced Monday.

Shapovalov lost his first set 7-6 (5) in a match against American Ben Shelton on Friday and trailed 6-3 in a tiebreaker in the second set when he threw his racket to the court and began shouting at a fan in the stands.

As Shelton was about to serve for triple match point, the 25-year-old Shapovalov again argued with a fan. He was given an unsportsmanlike conduct code violation by the umpire, who then summoned a supervisor.

The ATP announced that the loss of ranking points and prize money, which is automatically applied when a player defaults, was a disproportionate penalty for Shapovalov's actions.

He will, however, have to pay a \$36,400 fine for the violation.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

**Howard coach pitches ownership stake for investors**

Howard University's basketball coach is reportedly pitching a proposal to potential investors in which a 33% stake in the program could be sold for \$100 million.

"College athletics is a full-fledged business now," Kenny Blakeney, the team's coach, told the Washington Post.

Blakeney has met with a private equity firm and spoken with private equity investors, according to the report, which said he is eyeing upgrades to the team's arena and roster and a possible move to a bigger conference. Howard currently plays basketball in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.

The athletic department did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment Monday. The Washington Post report said Blakeney was holding off on more significant discussions with school officials until investors are lined up.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

**Harbaugh denies knowing about sign-stealing scheme**

**EL SEGUNDO, CALIF.** | Chargers coach Jim Harbaugh on Monday said he has no reason to apologize as he continued to deny having any knowledge of the impermissible-scouting operation that triggered an NCAA investigation of his Michigan program during its championship run last year.

"Never lie. Never cheat. Never steal. I was raised with that lesson. I have raised my family on that lesson. I have preached that lesson to the teams I've coached. No one's perfect. If you stumble, you apologize and you make it right," Harbaugh said after practice. "Today, I do not apologize. I did not participate. I was not aware nor complicit in those said allegations. So for me, it's back to work and attacking with an enthusiasm unknown to mankind."

Harbaugh left the Wolverines on Jan. 24 to become coach of Los Angeles, two weeks after he led his alma mater to its first national title since 1997.

Harbaugh could face Level 1 NCAA violations — the most serious the association can levy to an individual — as part of an investigation into impermissible scouting and sign-stealing.

Michigan is expected to receive a notice of allegations from the NCAA soon.

A draft of the notice reportedly includes accusations of rules violations by Harbaugh and other staff members, including Sherrone Moore, who was promoted from offensive coordinator to head coach.

## NFL

**Chiefs make Butker highest-paid kicker in NFL**

**ST. JOSEPH, MO.** | Chiefs kicker Harrison Butker, who made the game-winning field goal in Kansas City's Super Bowl victory two years ago, has agreed on a four-year contract extension that makes him the highest-paid kicker in the NFL.

Butker announced the deal on X, saying: "There's no place I'd rather be than with the Chiefs, excited to finalize a 4 year extension. To the Heights!"

ESPN reports Butker will receive a \$25.6 million extension that includes \$17.75 million guaranteed. Butker has converted 89.1% of his field goals (197 for 221) in seven seasons with the Chiefs. He's made 70% percent (28 for 40) from beyond 50 yards. Butker has been excellent in the playoffs, making 32 of 36 field goals (88.9%) and 62 of 65 extra points (95.4%).

FROM WIRE DISPATCHES AND STAFF REPORTS.

## AUTO RACING

**F1 Arcade race simulators are only part of the experience**

By JIMMY GOLEN

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**BOSTON** | The low hum of a high-tech engine greets you when you first open the door to the F1 Arcade in Boston's burgeoning Seaport District. Inside, the ceilings glow red with the outlines of the world's iconic Formula 1 tracks.

The people behind Puttshack golf and Flight Club darts are turning their attention to F1, combining upscale food and drinks with haptic simulators that bring the bumps and battles of the global motorsports series to fans more accustomed to rush hour traffic.

On race days, locals who can't schlep all the way to Singapore — much less get behind the wheel of an actual F1 car — pack the house for watch parties as the sport's biggest names fight for position.

## BILES

From page B12

Instead, she and good friend and bronze medalist Jordan Chiles bowed to Rebeca Andrade, the Brazilian who has spent the last three years as the best gymnast in the world not named Biles.

"It was just the right thing to do," Biles said. "She's queen."

Then the three Black women posed together on the podium four days after Biles, Andrade and Sunisa Lee, who is Hmong-American, stood in the same spot following the all-around. Their collective success is symbolic of a sport that is becoming more diverse and more inclusive at the highest level, led by someone who still describes herself as "Simone Biles from Spring, Texas who flips."

For a long time, the flipping is what separated Biles from everyone else. Her routines are packed with so much difficulty that a wobble here or a step out of bounds there ultimately hasn't mattered.

It did in what could be the final

routine of her career. Bothered perhaps by a left calf injury she aggravated during qualifying last week, Biles wasn't at her best during a 75-second set that features music from pop icons Taylor Swift and Beyoncé and the hardest tumbling passes ever done by a woman.

Twice at the end of the passes that feature elements bearing her name in the sport's Code of Points, her feet landed on blue boundary, costing her valuable tenths and creating just enough room for Andrade's score of 14.166 to stand.

When a 14.133 and the No. 2 - indicating she was still in second - flashed next to Biles' name, a packed arena that included NFL icon Tom Brady let out an "ooohhhh" of surprise.

Biles was not one of them.

"I'm not very upset or anything about my performance at the Olympics," she said. "I'm happy, proud and even more excited that it's over."

Whether it's fully over, she's not saying. Though Chiles may have offered a hint as they talked to reporters afterward, with Chiles leaning over and

saying under her breath "I'm going to miss you man."

So will gymnastics. The Olympics too.

Biles' 11 career medals at the Games (seven gold, two silver, two bronze) ties Czechoslovakia's Vera Caslavskva for the second-most by a female gymnast in Olympic history.

A chance at making it a dozen ended earlier Monday when Biles fell during the beam final, finishing fifth. She was hardly the only one. Four of the finalists came off during their routines, which were done in a quiet arena that is typically a wall of sound during competition.

Not this time after the International Gymnastics Federation had the in-house DJ hit pause during event finals, which Biles said made it "really weird and awkward."

The silence and intermittent shushing didn't bother Italy's Alice D'Amato, who finished off a breakout Games for the Italians - silver medalists in the team competition - by putting together a steady set that seemed immune to the pressure or the moment. Zhou Yaqin of China

earned silver with a 14.100, just ahead of bronze medalist Manila Esposito of Italy.

Biles praised D'Amato and Esposito for providing "building blocks" that she believes will help inspire young girls in Italy to take up the sport.

It's something Biles has done during her long stay in the spotlight. She's in no hurry to make any decision on if it's time to let someone else step forward.

She offered "never say never" when asked over the weekend if the Los Angeles Games in 2028 are a possibility.

She will be 31 then, an age when most gymnasts have long since retired. Yet considering the gap that still exists between herself and nearly everyone else in the sport — save for Andrade, who pushed Biles as hard as she's been pushed — anything is possible.

That is for later. For now, there is merely appreciation. The critics that pounced after Tokyo have gone quiet. So have whatever inner demons remained.

"I couldn't have asked for a better Olympic Games, a better support system," she said. "Thank you Paris."

## PREGNANT

From page B12

can do deep into pregnancy.

"This is something we're seeing more and more of," says Dr. Kathryn Ackerman, a sports medicine physician and co-chair of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee's women's health task force, "as women are dispelling the myth that you can't exercise at a high level when you're pregnant."

Ackerman notes there's been little data, and so past decisions on the matter have often been arbitrary. But, she says, "doctors now recommend that if an athlete is in good condition going into pregnancy, and there are no complications, then it's safe to work out, train, and compete at a very high level." An exception, she says, might be something like ski racing, where the risk of a bad fall is great.

But in fencing, says the Boston-based Ackerman, there is clearly protective padding for athletes, and in less physically strenuous sports like archery or shooting, there's absolutely no reason a woman can't compete.

It's not just an issue of physical fitness, of course. It is deeply emotional. Deciding whether and how to compete while trying to also grow a family is a

thorny calculus that male athletes simply don't have to consider — at least in anywhere near the same way.

Just ask Serena Williams, who famously won the Australian Open in 2017 while pregnant with her first child. When, some five years later, she wanted to try for a second, she stepped back from tennis — an excruciating decision.

"Believe me, I never wanted to have to choose between tennis and a family," Williams — who won four Olympic golds — wrote in a Vogue essay. "I don't think it's fair. If I were a guy, I wouldn't be writing this because I'd be out there playing and winning while my wife was doing the physical labor of expanding our family. Maybe I'd be more of a Tom Brady if I had that opportunity."

Williams welcomed Adira River Ohanian in 2023, joining older sister Olympia. And Olympia was the name that U.S. softball player Michele Granger's mother reportedly suggested for the baby Granger was carrying when she pitched the gold-medal winning game in Atlanta in 1996. Her husband suggested the name Athena. Granger preferred neither.

"I didn't want to make that connection with her name," Granger said to Gold Country Media in 2011. The baby was named Kady.

The choice to combine motherhood

## LYLES

From page B12

many medals we bring back and the notoriety we get, the fact that hasn't happened, that's crazy for me. I feel like that needs to happen."

The 100 was the biggest hurdle for Lyles to overcome. It is not his best race,

and it's the one he took up shortly after Tokyo with the goal of becoming more than a mere sprinter, but a larger-than-life personality, both on and off the track.

Lyles also figures to feature prominently in the men's 4x100 relay but that's anything but a gimme.

Riddled with poor work with the baton, a lack of consistent training habits, a doping positive and the constant

spectre of trying to beat Bolt, the U.S. has not won, and kept, a single Olympic medal in this event since 2004. It hasn't captured gold since 2000.

The relay is a bigger threat to Lyles' quest to win three gold medals, the way Bolt did in all three of his appearances, than the 200 meters.

Lyles figures to get his biggest challenge in the 200 from Kenny Bednarek, who

finished ahead of Lyles in Tokyo and, more recently, pushed him at a fast Olympic trails that Lyles won in 19.53.

Botswana's Letsile Tobogo, American Erryon Knighton and defending champion Andre De Grasse are also in the mix. One interesting wager would be whether Lyles has more of a chance of losing the race or lowering his American record of 19.31. Bolt's world record is 19.19.

nearby enough to support Aaron Judge and Juan Soto.

But they may have already turned the corner. The Yankees have won seven of their last eight, including a three-game sweep in Philadelphia. They scored 63 runs in those eight games, and their schedule looks favorable down the stretch.

● **Dodgers:** 10-12 in their last 22 games. The Dodgers have struck out 230 times in those 22 games, a high number even in this day and age. The rotation has had room for improvement for a while, and Clayton Kershaw's return hasn't been the answer so far. Los Angeles won the NL West by 16 games last year and by 22 in 2022. The lead is just 4½ right now over San Diego.

They made a significant move at the deadline, bringing in right-hander Jack Flaherty, and Mookie Betts is due back soon from his broken hand.

## MLB

From page B12

● **Orioles:** 18-21 in their last 39 games. Injuries have caught up to the Baltimore pitching staff, and star catcher Adley Rutschman hit .132 in July.

But the Orioles also made some additions to the rotation and bullpen at the trade deadline, and they've gotten a big spark of late from top prospect Jackson Holliday, who is back from the minors for his second stint with the club this year. Holliday struggled mightily at the plate back in April, but in his five games since returning, he's 7 for 18 with two home runs.

● **Yankees:** New York is 17-24 in their last 41 games.

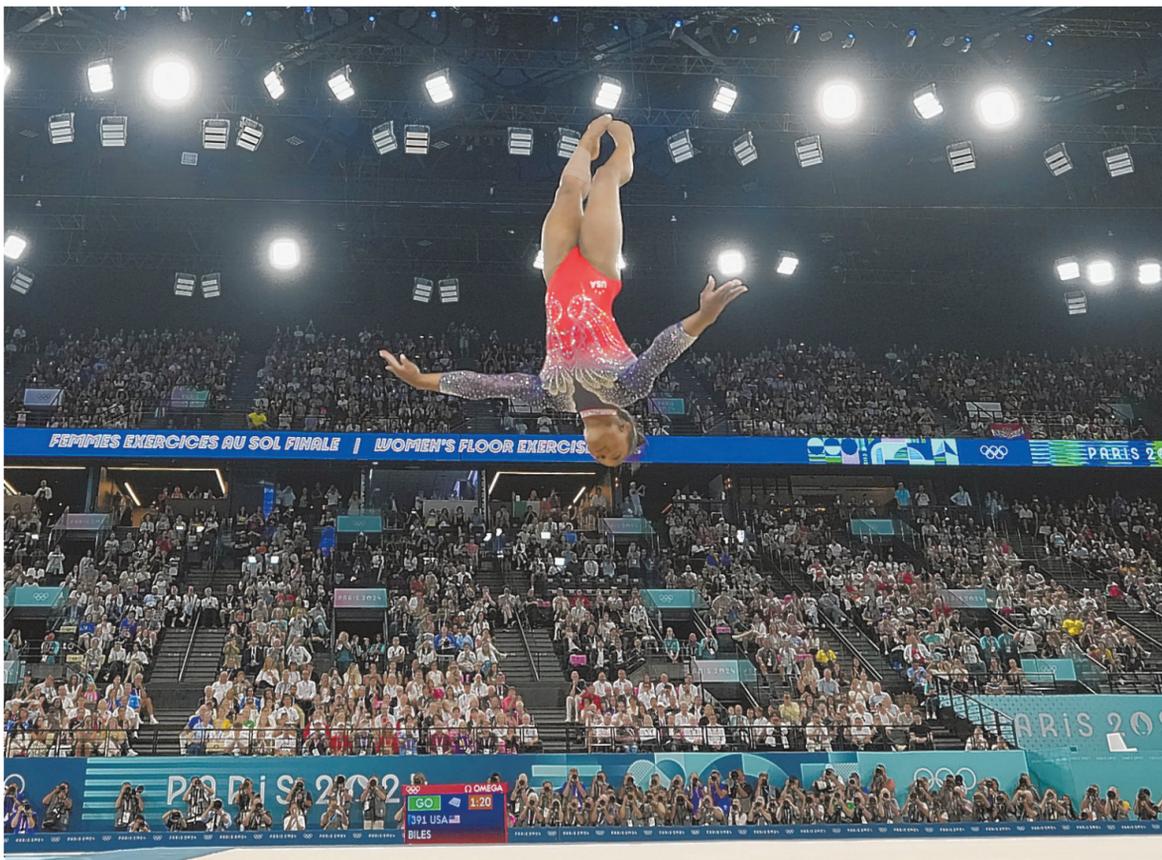
There have been a lot of problems. Every one of the Yankees' starting pitchers has an ERA over 5.00 over the past 41 games. And the offense hasn't done



Orioles catcher Adley Rutschman hit .132 in July and the team went 18-21 in their last 39 games. The Orioles seek a boost from additions like reliever Serathony Dominguez.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## PARIS 2024



American gymnast Simone Biles flips during the women's artistic gymnastics individual floor exercise final Monday at the Olympics in Paris. Biles hopped off the balance beam to miss out on one medal, then stepped out of bounds twice during her floor routine to finish second in the floor exercise.

## Lyles hopeful for encore in favorite event after thriller

### Likely to cruise in 200 meters

By EDDIE PELLIS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**SAINT-DENIS, FRANCE** | All the overhead shots and race replays tell the same story. Noah Lyles only led one time during his Olympic 100-meter sprint for the ages: at the finish line.

There's a good argument that the rest of the Alexandria native's stay at these Paris Games won't be anywhere near as nip-and-tuck.

With the Olympics still abuzz over his .005-second victory in the 100, Lyles didn't have much time to rest before moving to his next event. He is a heavy favorite to advance to the finals of Thursday's 200 meters, his better race, and a race he has not lost since the Olympic final in Tokyo three years ago, where he finished third.

He said he got about four hours of sleep after the big race, after which he returned to the track Monday, where he won the opening heat in the 200 in 20.19 seconds.

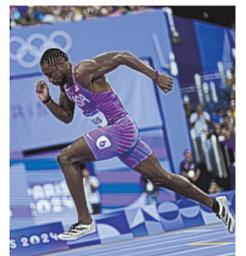
Lyles' willingness — make that, desire — to be the front man for a sport that years for new fans feels like a game-changer to Seb Coe, the World Athletics president who called Sunday's race "if not perfect, about as close to perfect as you can get."

"If I'm wearing a promoter's hat, then him winning last night was important, because he's now creating a narrative that's heading us back into Usain Bolt territory," Coe said. "That's hugely important."

In a typically candid and engaging post-race news conference, Lyles made no secret that he is in this to promote his sport, but also wants more.

He has been a front man for the popular Netflix documentary "SPRINT," and has brought a sense of fashion back to the track, making "walk-ins" a thing and bedazzling his hair with white pearls on race day.

Now, he's got a message for his shoe sponsor, Adidas. "I want my own shoe," he said. "I want my own trainer. I'm dead serious. I want a sneaker. There ain't no money in spikes, there's money in sneakers. I feel like for how



Alexandria native Noah Lyles won the opening heat Monday in the 200 meters in 20.19 seconds.

## Biles caps her 'Redemption Tour' with silver medal in floor routine

By WILL GRAVES  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**PARIS** | The "Redemption Tour" did not end with a golden encore for Simone Biles.

By the time she entered Bercy Arena for the beam and floor exercise finals on Monday, she was drained. Mentally. Physically. All of it. It's what this event does. What this sport does.

No one knows that better than the 27-year-old who has spent the last decade relentlessly propelling gymnastics — both competitively

and culturally — forward.

So when Biles hopped off the balance beam to miss out on one medal, then stepped out of bounds twice during her floor routine to finish second in her signature event for the first time in memory, she shrugged.

Gymnastics happens. Even to the greats. Even to the GOAT.

The woman who didn't think she'd even be here a couple of years ago will leave Paris — and perhaps her final Olympics — with three golds and a silver and something perhaps even more valuable: peace.

"I accomplished way more than my wildest dreams, not just at this Olympics, but in the sport," the 11-time Olympic medalist said. "So I can't be mad at the performances.... Competing then walking away with four medals. I'm not mad about it."

Biles certainly didn't look mad during the awards ceremony after the floor exercise — the first one of her career at a major competition that ended with her looking up at someone else.

» see **BILES** | B11

» see **LYLES** | B11



Egyptian fencer Nada Hafez shared on social media last week after her final event that she competed at the Olympics while seven months pregnant.

## Pregnant athletes push the boundaries of possibility

By JOCELYN NOVECK  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**PARIS** | Many Olympic athletes take to Instagram to share news of their exploits, trials, victories and heartbreaks. After her fencing event ended last week, Egypt's Nada Hafez shared a little bit more.

She'd been fencing for two, the athlete revealed — and in fact had been pregnant for seven months.

"What appears to you as two players on the podium, they were actually three!" Hafez wrote, under an emotional picture of her during the match. "It was me, my competitor, & my yet-to-come to our world, little baby!" Mom (and baby) finished the

competition ranked 16th, Hafez's best result in three Olympics.

A day later, an Azerbaijani archer was also revealed on Instagram to have competed while six-and-a-half months pregnant. Yaylagul Ramazanova told Xinhua News she'd felt her baby kick before she took a shot — and then shot a 10, the maximum number of points.

There have been pregnant Olympians and Paralympians before, though the phenomenon is rare for obvious reasons. Still, most stories have been of athletes competing far earlier in their pregnancies — or not even far enough along to know they were expecting.

Like U.S. beach volleyball star Kerri Walsh Jennings, who won her third gold medal while unknowingly five

weeks pregnant with her third child.

"When I was throwing my body around fearlessly, and going for gold for our country, I was pregnant," she said on "Today" after the London Games in 2012. She and husband Casey (also a beach volleyball player) had only started trying to conceive right before the Olympics, she said, figuring it would take time. But she felt different, and volleyball partner Misty May-Treanor said to her — presciently, it turned out — "You're probably pregnant."

It makes sense that pregnant athletes are pushing boundaries now, one expert says, as both attitudes and knowledge develop about what women

» see **PREGNANT** | B11

### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

## Sailing has been far from smooth for teams at the top

By NOAH TRISTER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The morning of June 26, the Cleveland Guardians and Philadelphia Phillies were on pace for 107 wins. The New York Yankees were on pace for 104, and the Baltimore Orioles and Los Angeles Dodgers for an even 100.

Those five teams still have the top records in the game, but since then, they've all dealt with stretches of mediocrity. Now Cleveland has baseball's best record but is on pace for only 98 wins. The Guardians are the only team left with a winning percentage above .600.

Perhaps it was only a matter of time before regression arrived, but it's been jarring to see so many teams at the top struggle. Here's a look at the challenges

they've faced (stretch records entering Monday).

• **Guardians:** 16-18 in their last 34 games.

Cleveland recently went on a five-game winning streak, so let's not overstate the extent of this downturn. Still, the Guardians' run differential of minus-22 over the last 34 games suggests some issues. They've averaged only 3.71 runs per game over that span as their hitting with runners in scoring position — a major reason for their success — has slipped.

But the Guardians can bounce back because of Emmanuel Clase, Hunter Gaddis, Cade Smith and Tim Herrin — who have combined for 208 relief appearances this year. All have ERAs under 2.00. We've seen some regression

from Cleveland, but that quartet has remained strong.

• **Phillies:** 4-12 in their last 16 games.

When Philadelphia lost to Oakland 18-3 on July 14 it seemed like a bit of a fluke, but the Phillies haven't looked right since. In the last 16 games, Philadelphia's bullpen has an ERA of 7.13, and the Phillies lost All-Star left-hander Ranger Suárez to the injured list due to back problems.

The Phillies will look to recover after giving their bullpen a bit of a makeover, trading Seranthony Domínguez and Gregory Soto and adding Carlos Estevez and Tanner Banks. Zack Wheeler and Aaron Nola remain solid at the top of the rotation.

» see **MLB** | B11



The AL Central-leading Guardians recently went on a five-game winning streak, but they entered Monday with a 16-18 mark in their last 34 games.